



SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Christ Lutheran Church
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December 4, 2022

Christ Lutheran Church
Christ Lutheran Mission Statement
As members of Christ Lutheran we - Gather in Worship,
Grow in God's Word, Serve in Jesus' name.
2nd Sunday in Advent with Holy Communion
December 4th , 2022

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We are glad that you are here to worship with us today! Please sign the pew booklets in the pews. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself and sign our guest book in the narthex along with the pew booklet.

Masks, hand sanitizer and distance seating are available. Please take every measure to feel safe.

**Please stand as you are able. ❖ Please be seated.*

Prelude: Jeff Iverson

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

❖Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Candle of Faith: [Light two blue candles.] Read aloud:

“Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE.”

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

Prayer: “Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our soul. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. **Amen**

***Gathering Song:** “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist Cry” **ELW # 249**

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God’s name forever. Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings, **We confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst ,a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away .Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie ELW pg. 138

This is the Feast ELW p.140

Prayer of the Day: Stir up our hearts, **Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Special Music: "O Come, O Come Immanuel" Clarinet Solo: Becky Peterson, Accompanist: Vicky Harris

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding ,the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.⁵Righteousness shall

be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness the king's son;

²that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³**that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.**

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

⁵**May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.**

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

⁷**In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**

¹⁸Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!

¹⁹**And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen.**

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might

glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; ¹⁰and again he says, Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; ¹¹and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; ¹²and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here ends the readings. Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

***Gospel Acclamation** **“Alleluia, Lord to whom...” pg. 142**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel: Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord, we say: Praise to you, O Christ.

❖ **Sermon** *Pastor Elizabeth*

***Hymn of the Day**

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

ELW # 264

***Apostles Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession: Lord, in your mercy, Hear Our Prayer.**

***Sharing of the Peace: The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

STEWARDING GOD'S GIFTS

We offer to God what is God's own

Offering

[Please remember to send your much appreciated and needed weekly tithes and offerings.]

[Children are invited to come forward to place their offering in "Christ's Well".]

***Hymn** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Raise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Offering Prayer: Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice .We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***The Great Thanksgiving ELW pg. 144**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

***Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

✦Distribution of Communion "Lamb Of God" ELW # 146

[As we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, all who believe they receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the form of bread and wine, forgiveness of sin and renewal therein are welcome at this table. It is the meal of all the Baptized. Please follow the direction of the Ushers.]

Communion Hymns: ELW #'s 247, 711, 253, 246

***Prayer after Communion: Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

****SS children may leave the service now to attend Sunday School***

Temple Talk

Benediction God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" **ELW # 246**

Dismissal: Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Jeff Iverson

A special thank you to all who helped assist with our worship service today:

Organist : Jeff Iverson

Lector: Cheryl McDougall

Cantor: Vicky Harris

Head Usher: Dave Meyer

Greeter: Joanne Chrast

Ushers: Duane McDougall & Brian O'Donnell

Acolyte: Xander Johnson

Communion Assistants:

Mike Sundblad, Bonnie Hahn, Jodi Braband

Special Music: Becky Peterson & Vicky Harris

Altar Guild: Bonnie Hahn, Jodi Braband

Please lift these people up in prayers this week. Is God moving your heart to send a card to a loved one in your own family? Janice Engel, Brenda Starkey (sister-in-law of Pastor Elizabeth's brother), Denise Landin, Pat Ley (aunt of Pastor Elizabeth), Peter Mellesmoen (brother of Dave Mellesmoen), Sandra Brenhaug, Lisa Busche (daughter of Mike and Jann Savre), Allen Nelson (brother of Charlotte Dittmer), Kelly Higgins, Joy Macheel (daughter of Jon and Jodi Braband), Lloyd Duenow (father of Brad Duenow), Bill Heuer, Marilyn Ueland, Kristen Heldt, Richard Dolezal, Lois Tritz, Brent Lindemann (stepfather of Audrey Howell), LaDonna Oberlin, Stanley Butcher (brother of Deb Heuer), Mary Entinger, LuAnn Harms, Marlys Rehmann, Dori Swedberg (mother of Katherine Grant), Lisa Style, Brian Mikolichek, Carol Carver, and Gary Brown (friend of Joanne Chrast).

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Sunday Dec. 4th , Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9 am, SS after worship, SS Christmas Program rehearsal @ 11 am, Holiday healing Connection @6:30 pm in the Narthex.

Monday Dec. 5th: Televised Worship Service @ 3:00 p.m. on Channel 10. Mission Team Mtg. @ 5 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 6th , Women's Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. Conference Pastors Luncheon @ 12 noon, Women's NA meeting @ 5:30 pm.

Wednesday, Dec. 7th Worship Service @ 2:00 p.m. on Channel 10; Bell Choir @ 5:30 pm, Confirmation from 5:50 to 7:00 pm; Choir @ 6:10 pm, Abundant Table @ 5 pm -6 pm, Advent Wednesday Night Worship Service

Thursday, Dec. 8th , Men's Bible Study @ 9:00 am in the narthex, Rachel Circle @ 9 am in the Conference room.

Friday , Dec. 9th, Church Office closed!

Sunday, Dec. 11th, Worship Service with SS Christmas Program and Holy Communion @ 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study Lessons

Women's Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. **Men's Bible**

Study meets Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the

Narthex. All men and women from Christ Lutheran are invited to attend.

Scripture lessons from the upcoming Sunday Worship Service are the subject of the Bible Study. **Lessons for this week will be** Isaiah 35:1-10;

Psalms 146:5-10, James 5:7-10; and Matthew 11: 2-11.



Worship Assistants Needed for Holiday Services

Worship Assistants are needed for Christmas Eve Worship Services. Signup sheets are available in the Narthex. If you will be attending one of these services, please sign up to be an usher, lector, acolyte, greeter, or communion server. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Join us for Wednesday Evening

Advent and Christmas Worship Services

Wednesday Evening Advent Worship Services begin on Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Advent Worship Services will continue on December 7th and 14th.



A D V E N T

Christmas Eve Worship Services with candlelight and Holy Communion will be at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 24th.
Christmas Day Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Abundant Table on December 7th



Abundant Table free meal will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 7th. Join us for fellowship and a delicious holiday meal. Doors open at 4:30 with serving from 5:00 to 6:00. Menu

includes catered roast beef and mashed potatoes and gravy from Unhinged Pizza, green bean casserole, salad, bread, and Christmas cookies. We hope you can join us. Servers and clean-up volunteers are needed. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. Christmas cookie donations are needed. We are in need of 16 dozen. They need to be dropped off at the church basement by 4:00. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex.



Holiday Healing Connection

Holiday Healing Connection

A gathering for those who have experienced loss. A time to come together to share stories of grief and loss as well as joyful memories and hope. All are welcome to join us in the narthex for fellowship and refreshments on Sunday evening, December 4th from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Sponsored by the Fellowship Team. Contact the church office if you have questions.

Christmas Project – Gift Return Deadline is December 11th

The Missions Team is again doing the Christmas Project in coordination with UCAP. We will have tags on the Missions board for you to take with gift items listed. These are suggestions of what that child needs or wants. You can buy as many or as few as you want. You can also make a monetary donation if you prefer. Make the checks payable to UCAP (United Community Action Committee) with Christmas project in the memo line. **The toys need to be in by December 11th.** As always, thank you for your continued support of this mission. *The Mission Team*



Women's Christmas Brunch on Thursday, Dec. 15th at 11:30 a.m.



Women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join us for a catered brunch. All are welcome! Each December, Christ Lutheran women have a party. This year, we will be gathering on Thursday morning, Dec. 15th at 11:30 (NOTE THE TIME CHANGE). Don't be shy, we welcome all women

to attend this holiday fellowship.

When: Dec. 15th **Time:** 11:30 a.m. **Where:** Christ Lutheran Narthex

Please bring a women's personal care product to donate to the McLeod Food Shelf. This gathering is in place of our monthly December coffee. If you need a ride, call the church office at 320-864-4549. We will be happy to pick you up!

Good Shepherd Church presents "Christmas Memories" featuring Jack Noenning and The Community Strings on Sunday, December 18th at 3 pm and 7 pm. Free will offering. Bring a non-perishable food item for the local food shelf.

