

Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, 2019
7:30 am Service



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OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Peter Kufahl, Pastor + 507-822-3606

Marlene Rieck, Director of Music and Children's Ministry -715-891-0991

Anna Reineke – DCE Intern

Vonna Goddard - Choir Director

Vicki Holewinski - JuBELLation Director

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

We Welcome All who are worshiping with us today. All guests please fill in your complete address. Peace be with you in Christ.

Attention Visitors: Thank you for joining us in Worship today. We invite you to pick up a gift bag, found by both entrances into our church.

Communion is Served at the 7:30 AM Worship Services on the 1st & 3rd Sundays and at the Sunday 10:00 AM Service on the 2nd & 4th Sundays

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Our Savior in the belief that here God offers His very Body and Blood in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. We are happy to welcome to the Lord's Table those who embrace this understanding of the nature of the sacrament, repent of sins, and seek to forgive and love as Christ forgives and loves us. We believe that such participation is a statement of fellowship and agreement with our church body and its teachings. As the bread and wine are distributed, white grape juice is also available in the individual cup tray for those that prefer an alternative to the red wine. If you have any questions, we ask that you talk with the pastor or one of the elders prior to the service.

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HEARING ASSISTANCE: Our church is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an elder for a receiver. **Large Print Orders of Service with Hymns** are available.

YOUR CHILDREN MATTER TO GOD AND US! A cry room is available for **infants and toddlers** if needed during worship services. The cry room is located close to the front door of the church next to the sanctuary, with live streaming of the service on a TV screen. **A staffed nursery for ages 6-36 months is available during the education hour in the cry room and during the 10 am worship service in the lower level.** Young children can choose one "Jesus Bag" to take with them into church. Please return the bag to the narthex after worship. Children may take a **children's worship bulletin** as they enter church. The yellow bulletin is for ages 3-6 and blue is for ages 7-12.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – All children ages 2 to grade 8 are invited to join us for Sunday school from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. in our lower level. We look forward to seeing you! For more information call Marlene Rieck at (715) 891-0991.

YOUTH BIBLE CLASS – Youth (9-12th graders) are invited to our youth Bible class in our youth room located in our lower level. For more information see Anna Reineke or Brenda Husing.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Look Joyfully!

December 15, 2019 7:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Our faces tell a lot about what's going on inside. Some days we might be gloomy. But when we hear truly joyful news, it changes us from the inside, a smile adorns our face, and we join our friends in rejoicing. Isaiah prophesied abundant joy when the Messiah would come, which He did centuries ago. In our resultant joy, we can wait patiently for His return, James encourages in the Epistle: as "the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth." Though our Lord will return as judge, Isaiah promises, "He will come and save you." Now there's great news to put a smile on your face!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" LSB 515

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

She (Mary) will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.
Matthew 1:21

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Philippians 4:4; Matthew 11:5; Isaiah 35:1; Psalm 146:2*

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;
People: again I will say, Rejoice.
Pastor: The dead are raised up,
People: and the poor have good news preached to them.
Pastor: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
People: the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus.
Pastor: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
People: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 35:4, 6; James 5:8*

Pastor: Isaiah wrote that the coming of the Messiah would mean change as great as having "waters break forth in the wilderness."
People: Help us value the water of our Baptism and the Word of God. Give us strength and faith in our ongoing troubles.
Pastor: When nothing appears to change, and our Lord's return seems too far in the distant future, James urges, "Be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."
People: Help us grow in patience, especially in times of disappointment when we would have preferred our Lord to have returned yesterday.
Pastor: When our Lord returns, although He "will come with vengeance" to judge those who have opposed him, Isaiah promises, "He will come and save you."
People: Forgive us, Lord, for our sins of thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: Through His entire life, from birth through death and on to resurrection, Christ Jesus paid for all your sins when He came so long ago. When He comes through Word and Sacrament today, it is to assure you that we are at peace with God. And when He returns it will be to lead us to heaven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
People: **O Lord, Emmanuel, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
People: **O Lord, Wisdom from on high, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
People: **O Lord, Branch of Jesse’s tree, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
People: **O Lord, Key of David, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
People: **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” LSB 357 V. 1 & 5

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers
People: **and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation;**

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 35:1–10* (Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah.)

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.
³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall

be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *James 5:7–11* (Patience is needed as we await the Lord’s return.)

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11:2–15* (John the Baptist’s disciples ask if Jesus is the Christ.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

² When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written, “‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” ¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" LSB 348

SERMON "Patience Stinks" James 5:7-11

CREED *Nicene Creed* (Creed can be found on the screens and on the back cover of the hymnal.)

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

Pastor: let us pray to the Lord

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

At the end of the prayer:

People: **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 161

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI LSB 163

DISTRIBUTION

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” LSB 338

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*
People: **Amen.**

HYMN “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” LSB 803

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

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IN HIS SERVICE

<u>Elder/Helper</u>	Early – Don Secord, Dick Cherney Late – Steve Kolling
<u>Ushers</u>	Early – Marv Jarvis, Sue Frank, Mark Olson, Bob Merz Late – Andy Ellenberger, Gerhard Becker, Bill Reckling, Gerald Yetter
<u>Greeters</u>	Early – Carol Johnson Late – Hilde Becker
<u>Readers</u>	Early – Sue Frank Late –
<u>Acolytes</u>	Early – Anna Westfall Late – Matthew Wilson
<u>Media Operators</u>	Early – Jonah Walker Late – RJ Behrens
<u>Altar Care</u>	– Kathy Greif, Mara Rothenbach
<u>Nursery</u>	- Education Hour – Katrina Kadlec Late Service – Laura Lorenz

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***THE MISSION OF OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH IS TO EQUIP AND ENCOURAGE FOLLOWERS
OF CHRIST TO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS WITH PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND IN THE
WORLD SO THAT ALL MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.***

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This week at Our Savior:

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| Monday | 16 | 9:00 am Newsletter Articles Due
10:00 am Staff Meeting |
| Tuesday | 17 | 6:00 pm JuBELLation Choir
7:00 pm Choir |
| Wednesday | 18 | 9:30 am Quilters
10:00 am Aging with Grace
4:00 pm WOW
5:30 pm Confirmation
6:30 pm Advent Service |
| Thursday | 19 | 9:00 am Bible Study
5:45 pm Back in the Swing of Things
6:00 pm Ultreya |
| Friday | 20 | Office Closed |
| Saturday | 21 | 7:00 am Men's Interdenominational Bible Study, ER Firestation |
| Sunday | 22 | 7:30 am Worship
8:45-9:45 Sunday School, HS Bible Study, Adult Bible Study – Nursery Available
10:00 am Worship celebrating Holy Communion – Nursery Available |

ATTENDANCE: Early: 94, Communion: 91, Late: 223, Sunday Bible Study: 10, Sunday School: 48,
Sr High School Bible Study: NA, Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study: 6, Tuesday
Bible Study: 10, Wednesday Morning Bible Study: 3, Thursday Evening Bible Study: 7

RECORD OF OFFERINGS

Offerings YTD (thru 11/30/19) \$ 354,887.39

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|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Budgeted YTD Offerings | \$ 389,190.11 |
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Under Budget \$ -34,302.72

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| James Strook Memorial | \$ 1,050.00 |
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God's richest blessings to you on YOUR special day!

Birthdays:

15 – Elaine Peter 16 – Carla Klein, Dave Goddard, Eliyanah Welch
17 – Holly Nier, Raymond Hutts, Shirley Merz 19 – Patrick Heck 21 – Mark Rehorst

Anniversaries:

21 – Jay & Rebecca Shifra

[illegible]

Prayers For Our Families – Without a doubt, one of the most important aspects of our relationship with the Lord our God is our prayer life with Him. We are instructed to pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17), and to pray for one another (James 5:16). For we are under attack from the devil and his minions constantly, and we need the best protection we can get! At Our Savior, we are blessed to be surrounded by families whom our Lord has called to walk together in the light of Jesus. Each one of our families has good days and bad, and each one of our families deserves our prayers. Each Sunday we will be praying for members of Our Savior. Those whom we will be praying for are selected at random from our membership roster, and don't be surprised if you will be receiving a phone call from Pastor Kufahl to let you know that your family will be in our prayers this week. We encourage you to use this list in your personal, daily prayers as well. Each one of us is precious in God's sight. May our Lord open our eyes to see the gift that each family is!

*David Aggen, Kayla Chaplin, Peggy Hansen, LaNora Kleerup,
Joyce Loyd, Daryl & Robin Nikolaus, Devin Sauvola, Jack & Jan Toivonen*

Our Savior Email List - If you have not yet subscribed to our email list, follow the link on our website to sign up. If you are signed up and did not receive it, please check you spam folder and then make sure oursavioreagleriver@gmail.com is in your address book. Gmail users – these emails will appear in your “promotions’ tab.

Disaster Relief - To help our brothers and sisters whose lives have been disrupted through the recent flooding, call 1-888-930-4438, or text LCMSDISASTERS to 41444, or mail a check to The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 with "Disaster Relief" written in the memo.

Nursery Volunteers needed! Loving high school students and adults are needed to care for infants and toddlers during our education hour and 10 am worship services. This is a great way to serve our visiting families and help parents grow in Christ through Bible study and worship. Please contact Mandy Kersten (920-212-0192) or Marlene Rieck if you have questions or are interested in helping.

2020 Offering Envelopes – Next years offering envelopes are on the table in the narthex. Please note, we have renumbered the envelopes so please be sure to not use your new envelopes until 2020.

Purple Wristbands – Harrison (Harry) Meyers, is the grandson of Curt Gerard, Congregation Chairman of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Iron River. Harry has cystic fibrosis. Please take a wrist band (located at the Welcome Center) and pray for Harry. New drugs are currently being discovered but only for children 2-12. If you would like to donate, that is also appreciated. If you would like to donate to offset his medical expenses, please make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Harry Meyers. Thank you, Pastor Chuck Sheffler.

Watch Us On Facebook - With two weeks in the books, our live streaming is good to go! You can find us on the Our Savior Facebook page, and we hope to have a link up soon on our website.

We are also in need of someone to assist in running the laptop for this opportunity. If you are interested in learning how to do this, please contact Pastor Kufahl as we are in need of your help!

Come, Lord Jesus – With all the preparations that are taking place for the Christmas celebrations, we encourage you to take some time on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 for God to prepare your heart and life through His Word in our Advent services. See you there!

Sunday School Reminders - Today is our Christmas party during the education hour. We do not have Sunday school on December 22nd & 29th. We will resume on Sunday, January 5th. Please remember coins to purchase baby chicks for a family in need, our current mission project. Thank you! Blessings on your Christmas celebration!