

## Third Sunday in Advent December 15, 2019

**Matt. 11:10 – “This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ ”** John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus’ ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out his disciples to preach “repentance and the forgiveness of sins.” We never outgrow the need for repentance – examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive His forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** is sponsored this morning by LaVerne & Mary Hadley in memory of Sara Hadley. Thank you.

**JESUS BIRTHDAY PARTY** for the Sunday School children is today after the Children’s Christmas practice at 11:30. You can pick your children up at 12:15.

**VESPERS** – Today we will have a Vespers Service at 6:00 PM. Come if you can’t make church in morning.

**MONDAY BIBLE CLASS** 9:00 AM. We will discuss the Old Testament lesson (Isaiah 40:1-11). Come join us.

**CONFIRMATION-** 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade at 4 PM. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade at 6:10 PM.

**SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNION** this Wednesday at 1:00 PM. This is for any member that cannot come to the Lord’s Supper on Sunday morning.

**ADVENT SERVICE** this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

**CHOIR –** We will practice after the Advent service. Come and join us.

**LWML DINNER MEETING** this Thursday at 6:00 PM.

The hostesses will provide the main dish for everyone, and the rest of the members are asked to bring your favorite salad or dessert. Don’t forget your own table service!

**REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Pam Hansen +Renee Hansen +Arnold Stratmann +Kendra Voss +Dixie Schmitt +Don Fehd +Jamie Fink +Jennie Dellinger +Lillian Green +George Abbas

**NEW ADDRESS:** Robert Heilskov, Apple Valley #11, 1724 Central Ave E, Hampton, IA 50441

**Reading the Scriptures with the Confirmands** This week the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders are reading Matthew 27 & 28. You are invited to join us as we read and reflect on God’s Word. Reactions and reflections will be posted on Wednesday on the bulletin board in the narthex. – Vicar Kroonblawd

**Building Healthy Families:** Is there an “invisible” elderly person living in your neighborhood? Look around with new eyes to see someone who is lonely, unable to do for themselves or has a need. This person might live down the road, across the street or maybe in a care center in your town, just out of your eyesight. Ask God to give you not only eyes to see them, but also courage to step out of your comfort zone to help. He will give you both! *Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2* Lutheran Family Service is Iowa’s only Recognized Service Organization (RSO) by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) for Pregnancy Support, Adoption Services, Family Wellness, Mental Health & Marriage Counseling. Find help at **LutheranFamilyService.org**

**“I would suggest** that when we begin our Christmas preparations next year each of us spend a bit of time remembering those whose festival is not tinsel and toys, presents and packages. Let us ask the Lord to preserve the Savior’s followers who are hated and persecuted because our Lord of life is hated.” *Pastor Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

**“Speak tenderly”** in Isaiah 40:1-2 is literally “speak to the heart.” More than nice-sounding words, all of the Good News encapsulated in the first and second coming of Jesus speaks powerfully to those with struggling and burdened hearts. The life issues give us opportunity to speak this Good News to matters of the heart, especially those considered “controversial” and “divisive.” *Prayer: Thank You for touching our hearts with the Good News! Help us share it with all who deal with matters of the heart. Amen.*

**YOU CAN TEACH LAYPEOPLE THEOLOGY...**Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s teachings include: Adam & Eve, Katie Luther, An Introduction to the Book of Galatians, Holy Baptism and more. You can listen live or at your convenience at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) and on the LPR mobile app.

**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN** – There is a list of items (gray paper) that Orphan Grain Train will take on the bulletin board across from the mail boxes.

**FRUITS OF OUR FAITH:** Dec. 8: 130; Visitors 2; Sunday School 24; Pastor 14; Vespers 3; Monday Class 11; Advent 54.

**Organist:** Karen Tripp **Acolyte:** Hudson Hansen  
**Pianist:** Jo Ellen Arends

**Greeters:** Marvin & Jan Rodemeyer  
Joyce Koch  
Lynn & Jo Ellen Arends

**Ushers:** Jim Showalter, Jason Fink, Eli Fink, Jack Showalter, Jacob Showalter, Matt Showalter

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

**Today – 9:00 AM** Worship  
**10:15 AM** Sunday School  
**11:30 AM** Jesus Party  
**6:00 PM** Vespers

**Monday, Dec. 16 9:00 AM** Bible Class

**Wednesday, Dec. 18 1:00 PM** Special Needs  
Communion  
**4:00 PM** 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> Confirmation  
**6:10 PM** 8<sup>th</sup> Confirmation  
**7:00 PM** Advent Service  
Choir after Advent Service

**Thursday, Dec. 19 6:00 PM** LWML Dinner Meeting

**Sunday, Dec. 22 7:30 Lutheran Hour on KLMJ, 104.9 FM** –“**Here to Stay**” Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler So long as there is time, God won't leave us alone-even if we say that's what we want. The message of Christmas is that God has come to be with us and He's here to stay. How do we know? Dr. Michael Zeigler says God has given us both direct and indirect signs that point us toward this truth. (Matthew 1:18-25)

**8:00 AM** Bible Class  
**9:00 AM** Worship Service  
**10:15 AM** Sunday School  
**10:45 AM** Children's Christmas Practice  
**10:15 AM** Radio Broadcast on KLMJ  
**11:30 AM** Jesus Party  
**6:00 PM** Vespers Service  
**7:30 PM** Spanish Lutheran Hour on KLMJ



**Dec. 18 7:00 PM** Advent Service  
**Dec. 19- 6:00 PM** LWML Dinner Meeting  
**Dec. 22 -6:00 PM** LYF Lock-In  
**Dec. 24 6:00 PM** Children Christmas Eve  
Service  
**10:00 PM** Candlelight Service  
**Dec. 25 9:00 AM** Christmas Day Service

Holy Communion

**COUNTRY VIEW NURSING FACILITY CHRISTMAS** – There is a paper on the bulletin board with a list of items that they can use at the Care Center for the residents. Please have items to Country View by noon on **Wednesday, Dec.18.**

**Sunday, today at 3:00PM** – Decorah Lutheran Church, 309 Winnebago Street, Decorah 80 Luren Singers and guest instrumentalists prepared a musical message of hope and healing to share with you from a variety of selections proclaiming the good news of Advent and Christmas. A free-will offering will be divided among the Decorah Community Food Pantry, Decorah Community Free Clinic and the Nordic Fest New Sound System.

**SCRIP** – Donna Spetman is at a table in the entryway by the bulletin board. She has scrip cards (they are like debit cards) to help St. Paul's school. Good gift ideas. Stop and see her.



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9:00 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Sunday School & Bible Study  
Pastor: Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen  
Vicar Cory Kroonblawd

Welcome to all who worship with us today. It is our prayer that you will grow through your experience with the Lord and His Word. Join us for fellowship after the worship service. Please fill out the card in the worship insert. Thank you.

***Communion- St. Paul reminds us to examine ourselves before taking the Lord's Supper. Communicants are required to be members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Congregation. We do this out of pastoral concern and in Christian love. If you have any questions, please see Pastor before worship.***

