

Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 16, 2018



Christ Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)

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The Mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to help all people know Jesus as their Savior and grow in relationship with Him.

Third Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 16, 2018
Setting Three

HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"..... LSB 338

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

INTROIT

Ps. 146:5-8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4

P: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C: Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

P: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

C: who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

P: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

C: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.



☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION & COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



HYMN "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord".....LSB 352 vs. 1-3

All Along the Watchtower (part 1)

Savior of the Nations, Come

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,

That the Lord chose such a birth.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

6 **For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.**

7 **From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.**

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All Along the Watchtower (part 2)

HYMN "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord".....LSB 352 vs. 4-6

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The Lord your God is in your midst, a Mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing." ¹⁸ "I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7th chapter.



☑ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 7:18-28

¹⁸ The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹ calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰ And when the men had come to Him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, ‘Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹ In that hour He healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind He bestowed sight. ²² And He answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³ And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.”

²⁴ When John’s messengers had gone, 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? ²⁵ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.”

²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☑ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN "O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide" *LSB* 355 vs. 1,4,6,7

SERMON

OFFERTORY

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

CLOSING COLLECT

P: Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit, and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: 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.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

HYMN "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" Tune: *LSB 442*

**O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best.**

**Love caused Your incarnation;
Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation**

Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race.

Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n.

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Acknowledgments

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*All Along the Watchtower" written by Brad Rogers

THIS WEEK AT CLC — (12/16/18-12/23/18)

Sunday: Worship (Children's Christmas Program), 9:00am; Education Hour, 10:30am

Wednesday: Bible class, 8:30am; Quilters, 9:30am; 2nd year Confirmation, 5:00pm; 1st year Confirmation, 6:00pm; Little Lambs Christmas Program, 5:30pm

Thursday: Bethesda Work Day, 1:00pm; Advent Worship/HC, 6:30pm

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; Education Hour, 10:30am

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (Week ending December 9, 2018)

General & Building Funds: \$9,728.50; Blessings: \$18.00

Attendance: Thursday: 60; Sunday: 144

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS AND VISITORS: We are glad you are here! We invite you to join us for fellowship following the service. Bathrooms are located upstairs on each end of the fellowship/Bible study area.

CHRISTMAS WEEK SERVICE TIMES: Sunday, December 23, 9:00am; Monday, December 24, 4:00pm; Tuesday, December 25, 9:00am; No worship Thursday, December 27

THE GIVING TREE – This year we will be assisting a young family whose infant son, Noah, has serious medical issues. Noah has already undergone surgery to address a cleft palate and will need more medical care in the future. We are collecting monetary gifts to assist Noah's family with their medical bills as well as to help with their day-to-day living expenses. Please make all checks directed toward Noah and his family out to **Christ Lutheran Church** and write "**Giving Tree**" in the memo line. Place your gift in the offering plate or give it to Pastor Wetmore.

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES CONTINUE Thursday evening as Pastor Swanson from Rib Mountain Lutheran shares the message: "Jesus is the Son of Solomon".

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS FOR CHURCH SERVICES / ACTIVITIES: Please check Channel 9 TV's website, the CLC website or Facebook page, or call the church at 715-848-2040 and press option "6".

Ladies Guild Human Care for December will be going to the Open Door. Hats and gloves are being collected.

"LIFE QUOTES" from Lutherans For Life

"We love children as they can remind us of the simple fact of love's openness and embrace of new life and communion of one person with another. Children can open up our hearts to this. That our society now treats children the way it does is a dark shame, another sign of its separation from God. Regardless, we confess that Jesus Christ, Son of God, has come in the flesh and preach these glad tidings to all."

James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James –
(www.lutheransforlife.org)