

1st Sunday Of Advent

December 1, 2024



Joseph's Story

Our Sunday School Class is going to be continuing their advent season series today. Their reading is from Matthew 1:18-24.



Christmas Caring Tree

As you entered into church you may have seen our Caring Tree in the narthex. It is decorated with tags that have the names of Food Pantry clients. Please take a tag, purchase a gift, wrap it, attach the tag from the tree and return it to church on or before Dec. 15. We would love for you to join us in making an impact in someone's life this Christmas season.



Christmas Eve Choir Needed!

We are beginning to gather our SATB Choir to get ready for our Christmas Eve Service. If you are interested in joining voices with others in our congregation to sing praises unto the King this Christmas season, please join us for practices beginning today after our church service. Any questions about the SATB Christmas Eve Choir can be directed to our Music Director, Linda Morey.



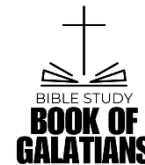
Healing Service – Our Lady of Mercy

Our Lady of Mercy Church will be hosting their annual Healing Service on December 2 @6:30PM. If you have never attended this service, show up and be ready for the Holy Spirit to meet you.



Because of Bethlehem – Elna Morton

Elna's Tuesday morning Bible Study meets at 9:30-10am for prayer followed by the study, 10-11:30am. December 3, 10, 17 and January 7 they will be reading "Because of Bethlehem" by Max Lucado. Everyone is welcome. Let Elna Morton know you want to join so she can have the materials for you.



Galatians Bible Study

Starting on December 3, we will be adding another Bible Study to our rotation. Every Tuesday at 6PM Christa Craven will be leading a study of the book of Galatians. If you are interested in attending, please sign up in the narthex. If you have questions, please contact Christa Craven for more details.



Advent Bible Study – Diane Senger

We have an Advent Bible Study led by Diane Senger available. For 4-weeks (11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18) we will gather from 6:30-7:45PM in the multipurpose room to read "Because of Bethlehem" by Max Lucado. See Diane Senger with any questions!



NO DONUT SUNDAY

We will not be getting our donut fix in the month of December. But no need to worry! We're having cake instead! On December 15, following the service and Christmas Pageant, we will gather in the fellowship hall to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

Opening Worship Song.....*"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

Welcome & Invocation.....*Jim Loeffler*

Prelude.....*"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus".....Linda Morey*

Old Testament Reading (Jeremiah 33:14-16).....*Penny Gotham*

Praise & Worship.....*"Emmanuel, Praise is Rising"*
"Come Emmanuel"

Advent Reading.....*Crosby Family*

Prayer.....*Sue Fuller*

Kids' Talk.....*Phil Gotham*

Hymn #196.....*"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

Offertory/Offering.....*"Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming"....Linda Morey*

Doxology/Blessing of Gifts

New Testament Reading (Luke 21:25-36)

Message **LOOKING FORWARD**

Communion.....*"What Feast of Love"*

Responding to God's Love.....*"In Christ Alone"*

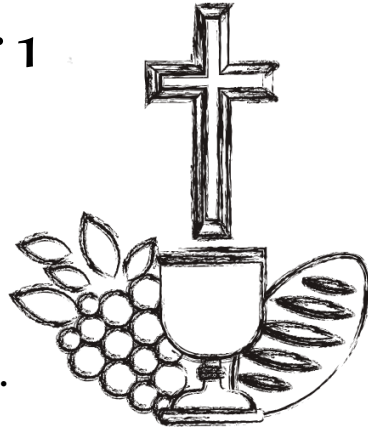
Benediction/Blessing

Exit Song.....*"Sing To The King"*

Please sign the attendance pad and pass it along!

Communion

Sunday, December 1



The Lord be with you,

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breathe of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when Justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.

You scatter the proud in imagination of their hearts and have merc o those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant, to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.

He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross.

By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new convent by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciple, and said "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciple, and said; "Drink from this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said; "Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Chris, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ' offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, and with each other and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father now and forever.
Amen.

First Sunday of Advent

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Reader One: From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.



Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.

Reader Two: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here – days when God’s kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

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