

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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December 18, 2022

9:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING HYMN: "The Advent Of Our King" LSB #331

The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

O Zion's Daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let a faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning Day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION

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

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Congregation: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Congregation: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" LSB #352

Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept His word
And at last to us did send Christ,
the sinner's help and friend.

What the fathers most desired,
What the prophets' heart inspired,
What they longed for many a year,
Stands fulfilled in glory here.

Abram's promised great reward,
Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord--
Him of twofold race behold--
Truly came, as long foretold.

As Your coming was in peace,
Quiet, full of gentleness,
Let the same mind dwell in me
Which is Yours eternally.

Bruise for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.

Then when You will come again
As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

FIRST READING: Psalm 4

Reader: Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

**Congregation: You have given me relief when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**

Reader: O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah

**Congregation: But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.**

Reader: Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah
Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

**Congregation: There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!"**

Reader: You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**Congregation: In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 5: 1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Reader: This Is the Word of The Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:22-27

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to: St. John The 14th Chapter

Congregation: Glory to You, O Lord.

Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” 23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

25 “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY: “O Come, O come, Emmanuel” LSB #357

O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty power to save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high
and cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease
and be Thyself our King of Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

SERMON

Pastor Jesus Morales
“A No Regret Advent: Week 4 – Angels and Peace”

OFFERING/PRAYER CARDS - *The offering plate is located on the rear table for you to place your offering in as you enter or leave church. **When the offering is received, an usher will bring it forward, along with any prayer cards, to the altar. If you have any prayers to include, please pass them to the usher as they come forward.** For those who are worshipping at home, you may continue to mail your offerings to the church office, Christ Our*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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 power and salvation transcends the nations and kingdoms of the world. Lead us to Your heavenly kingdom, where in divine glory and freedom from sin His name is worshiped and glorified. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, with the saints gathered before Your throne from every nation, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, singing:

SANCTUS

People: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth. Even when creation rebelled against You, You gave Your only-begotten Son into death that we might be saved and set free from the lasting consequences of sin and eternal death. By Your Spirit, prepare our hearts to receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in faith.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD
1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray...

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift. As Christ has forgiven us and set us free, we rejoice in our independence from all we ever need

fear. Grant Your holy and life-giving Spirit that we may serve You as we seek to end divisions, overcome prejudice, and seek justice. Grant that we live in peace with one another through the peace You have restored in our relationship with You; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the God of peace, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bring peace, calm, and hope to your week.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Prepare the Royal Highway" LSB #343

Prepare the royal highway;
The King of kings is near!
Let every hill and valley
A level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
Foretold in sacred story;

Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

God's people, see him coming:
Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you!

Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

Then fling the gates wide open
To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet every nation
Its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
all nations now adore Him!

Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
For kindness to abounding:

Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

Church Announcements

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST PIANIST, SARAH MAYER, TO CHRIST OUR SAVIOR THIS MORNING! She will be filling in for Sojung for the next few weeks while Sojung visits her family and welcomes a new grandson, born last Saturday! We are fortunate to have Sarah back with us and thank her for sharing her musical talents with us. Sarah is the leader of the J.U.A. (Joy in Us, Always!) Ensemble, which played at yesterday's Christmas Concert! Thank you, Sarah, and blessings to you and your family!

A BIG THANKS TO OUR ALTAR GUILD for their beautiful decorations of the church sanctuary for Christmas! The seasonal banners, candles, Nativities, Christmas wreaths and Christmas tree – and all the other decorations – add to the warmth and soft glow of the season as we celebrate as a church family the joy of Christmas in our hearts and homes!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CHRISTMAS FLOWER DECORATIONS!! You are helping to make our church beautiful at this joyous time of year as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus!

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE NEW NATIVITY SET BY THE CHRISTMAS TREE? That beautiful Nativity set was graciously donated to the church by Al Albeiter and his family to give glory to God as we celebrate the season of Advent and Christmas! This beautiful gift will be enjoyed by our congregation this year, and for many years to come. We sincerely thank Al and his family for their generosity to the church!

YOUR NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023 ARE NOW AVAILABLE, SO PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK YOURS UP! The envelopes are located on the table as you exit the church, listed in alphabetical order. We thank you all for your offerings to further the work of our church in God's Kingdom.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS ANGEL GIVING TREE!

TODAY IS THE DAY ALL THE GIFTS WILL BE DELIVERED TO OUR NEEDY FAMILIES.

Your generosity in buying and wrapping gifts, or contributing cash and gift cards, will definitely help brighten the holidays for these needy families in our local area. Thank you for sharing the Christmas spirit of giving in such a very special way!!



THE 2023 FLOWER CHART IS NOW ON THE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD! REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS AS A REMEMBRANCE OR ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS – If you would like to place flowers on the altar to mark a special occasion or give Glory to God, there's a sign-up calendar on the bulletin board in the church entrance to reserve a date. Just sign your name, date and occasion –

and take an envelope for payment of \$30 per Sunday, with checks payable to The Altar Guild. Flowers are yours to take home after the service.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS – Please pray for the following individuals who are in need of your prayers:

Healing or receiving medical treatment:

Tonda Boutan

June DuBois

Pat Gengler

Charleen Smith, Dawn Wolter's mother

Anne Rumchaks and Joey Basile, Susan Mosteller's friends

Shirley Dring

Edward Dring, Shirley Dring's son

Dianne, Shirley Dring's daughter

Al Arbeiter

Dawn Ziemer

Dave Larson

Monica, Mary Larson's sister

Jeff, Rebecca and Joshua Lasky

In the military:

Randy, nephew of Susan Mosteller

And all cherished members who are currently shut in or resting at home.

PASTOR JESUS IS NOW HOLDING A NEW MEMBER CLASS FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING CHRIST OUR SAVIOR. The class currently meets at church on Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, and it features a 12-week course titled "God Connects." It helps to answer questions such as, *Why Jesus?... Why the Bible? ...Who is the Holy Spirit?*, as well as provide valuable information about our church doctrine and the Christian life. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see Pastor Jesus and he will give you more information about joining this class, or tell you when the next class may be scheduled. *Note: if you are transferring membership from another LCMS church, your attendance at this class is not mandatory, but would be a great refresher and chance to have your questions answered! Pastor Jesus will be very happy to facilitate the transfer for you.*

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE 9 AM SERVICE ARE NEEDED! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED TO BRING TREATS! If you would like to help with our fellowship of coffee and treats on Sunday morning after our 9 am service, we would love to have you bring a treat for our members! The coffee and water is provided, but we need volunteers who can provide a sweet treat (coffee cake, cookies, muffins, breads, etc.) to share with everyone. Interested? There's a sign-up sheet on the back table where you can sign up for the date you want to help. Thank you!!

PLEASE NOTE PASTOR JESUS' CONTACT INFORMATION – Pastor Jesus is available to minister to our congregation's needs at any time and welcomes the opportunity to serve you. He is available 24/7 to provide pastoral care, prayer, or information. He also makes congregation home visits or visits members in the hospital or nursing facility, or administers Holy Communion at home. If you have a need or want to request a visit, please contact him at 1-630-518-1517 or jesusmorales466@yahoo.com.

WITH WINTER APPROACHING – OUR BLESSING BOX CONTINUES TO BE A BLESSING TO OUR COMMUNITY! If you are able, please consider picking up a few items during your regular shopping trips to help those less fortunate and dropping off items for our Blessing Box. *The most needed items currently include all kinds of paper products, disposable baby diapers, feminine products, personal care items, and detergents and sanitizers. Non-perishable food items, including pasta, rice, beans, baking items, tuna, canned meats and sauce are also appreciated.* With winter approaching, gloves, mittens, socks and hats can also make a difference. Please keep in mind that during extreme temperatures, freezing may occur. Cash contributions are also welcome. Thank you all for your generosity and support!

OUR BENEVOLENT FUND provides confidential emergency assistance to members who are in need of financial, spiritual or other temporary support, such as housing assistance, help paying for medical or prescription expenses, or help during hard times due to lack of employment. Please contact Pastor Jesus in person to discuss your needs, or you may contact him by phone at 1-630-518-1517.

PLEASE NOTE OUR SPECIAL FUNDS ARE CONTINUING IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.

We thank our members for their generosity in supporting our various special funds that are helping us in our ministry at Christ Our Savior. Donations in any amount are gratefully accepted – just indicate the fund and the amount of your donation on your check or offering envelope when you place it in the offering plate. The funds include:

PARSONAGE FUND
PARKING LOT FUND
BLESSING BOX FUND
BENEVOLENT FUND

We sincerely appreciate your support and generosity!

REMEMBER TO BRING IN YOUR POP TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE! The aluminum tabs you pull to open soda, soup and other cans are recycled by United Scrap Metal, who buys the pop tabs at a market rate and makes an additional contribution to Ronald McDonald House. There's a large collection bottle on the back table for your convenience. Thanks so much for your help in collecting tabs and making a big difference!

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT PRAYER CARDS ARE LOCATED IN THE CHURCH PEWS AND CAN BE USED FOR PRAYERS ON SUNDAY MORNING. An usher will collect these cards during the service, and they will be presented to Pastor Jesus during our offering, when they will be added to our congregation prayers. If you would like a prayer shared with all members via email or on the "Prayer Corner" church website, contact Deb Odefey (1-630-209-9918) for the "Prayer Chain" and she will make sure your prayer request is communicated to our church family.