

# GLORY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



## Third Sunday in Advent

December 11, 2016

Rev. Jeremiah Johnson and Rev. Kyle Krueger

Missions Pastor: Rev. John Fehrmann

Visitations Pastor: Rev. Dean Weibel

Church Office: 763-478-6031

[www.gloryofchrist.org](http://www.gloryofchrist.org)

**Welcome all** in the name of Jesus, especially those who are worshiping for the first time with us. Please sign our guest book (make sure to indicate if you would like the Pastor to visit) and accept our invitation to worship with us again.

**Who should commune at the Altar of Glory of Christ Lutheran Church?** According to the Scriptures and the Confessional statements of the church only those should commune who "have been examined and absolved" by the pastor. If you wish to commune at Glory of Christ for the first time, please talk to the Pastor before doing so. Holy Communion is the most intimate expression of Christian fellowship and it is important to the members of Glory of Christ Lutheran Church that all who commune have a common understanding and commitment to the Gospel teachings of the Bible.

**Altar Flower Chart:** The cost of the Altar flowers is \$40 per Sunday and you will be able to take your flowers home with you after the service in a box located on the kitchen counter. In order to have your payment for flowers applied correctly, please use one of the *Designated Offering* envelopes found in your box of envelopes or label the outside of one of your regular envelopes with the words 'Altar flowers'. Janice Hartness is our flower coordinator. If you have any special requests, please contact her at 763-355-5427 by the Wednesday prior. **If you take the black "liners" home, please be sure to bring them back to church by the following Wednesday. Thank You!**

**Saturday Evening Divine Service: 5:00 PM**

**Sunday Schedule: Divine Service 9:00 AM;** followed by Bible Class and Sunday school at 10:30.

**Advent Services:** We have begun our Advent services every Wednesday. We have a morning service beginning at 11:30 am and an evening service beginning at 7:00 pm thru 12-14-16.

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services:** Please join us for our Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm and our Christmas Day service on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**Northwest Suburban Circuit Congregation Prayers** – Each week we will be praying for a congregation in the circuit and for others who have or have had a connection with them. This week, we are asking for prayers for Glory of Christ Lutheran Church and for Pastor Jeremiah Johnson and Pastor Kyle Krueger.

**Thank You!** We thank each of you for your prayers, cards and support as Bill underwent a serious surgery. He is recovering and we are blessed beyond belief because he will not need additional treatment. In addition, we give thanks to God for a successful procedure and for the gift of such wonderful church family. ~ Julie & Bill Anderson

**SAVE THE DATE!** Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, Janet Preus is hosting an Epiphany Party at her home beginning at 4:00 pm. More details to follow, but place this fun event on your calendar!

**Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal!** – All Sunday School children who are participating in the Sunday School Christmas program will have rehearsals on Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 am and go until 11:00 am. Thank You!

**Jr. High/Sr. High Youth Group Bake Sale!** After Divine Service on Sunday, December 18th! Bake, buy or both to support our Youth Group. **[Nut free recipes only please]**. Questions, contact Julie Anderson 612-791-0163 [julesanders@live.com](mailto:julesanders@live.com).

**Youth Event – On Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, the Youth are having a "WhirlyBall" activity.** They will begin with lunch at GOC right after bible study, then devotions, then car pool to WhirlyBall. Please call Julie Anderson - cell 612-791-0163 if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

**Update to the Prayer List:** We have updated the prayer list. If you have the name of a friend or loved one that you would like to place on the list, please let either Pastor Johnson, Pastor Krueger or Brenda know. Once a name is added, it will be removed after 4 weeks unless we are notified to have it remain. Thank You!

**Quilting news:** Pastor Fehrmann received 7 quilts on Thanksgiving eve to take on his trip to Argentina. We had a group of 11 quilters working this past Tuesday. We decided to take December off and start again in January. Dates will be determined later. Thanks to all for your help and support!

**New Sunday Morning Bible Study on Colossians Beginning December 11<sup>th</sup>:** Paul's letter to the church at Colossae has some of the richest Christology (the nature and work of Christ as both God and man) in all of scripture. Christ as the head of the Church is the center of Paul's proclamation. The false teachings in the Colossian church were obscuring the sufficiency of Jesus. These errors were extremely dangerous because they weren't being offered to replace Christ. Rather, they were being offered to supplement Christ as if He wasn't enough. These errors came from within the organized church, not from outside it. Still today, the greatest threats against Christ and His Word come from within the church, when other man-made spirituality or human imagination try to supplement Christ. In our post-modern age, there is great pressure to acknowledge that everyone has some claim on truth and that there is no such thing as truth for all people of all times and places. There is also great pressure to acknowledge the idols of many religions as having a place alongside Jesus Christ. The center of this letter is well confessed by you as you gather in the Divine Service and say, *I believe...in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God,*



At Glory of Christ the pastor typically makes announcements after the service. So the service just starts at the appropriate time without a specific welcome. (The welcome occurs in the service itself when the pastor says "The Lord be with you" and the congregation responds.) To follow the service, you should turn to the page indicated at the top of your bulletin insert. This week the page is 184. Usually we simply work through the service interrupting the process for the singing of hymns, certain prayers and the scripture readings. The prayers are usually printed in the service folder as are the Scripture readings. Hymns are found in the latter half of the Service book. If you are having trouble following the service, you can ask someone nearby and they will help you. You can also comfort yourself with the knowledge that almost everyone has a little trouble following the service the first time through. It gets easier.

**Worship Notes**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**  
**Matthew 11:2-15**

**"John's Doubt and Joy!"**

Today is the third Sunday in Advent... Sometimes known as "Pink Candle Sunday" or "Joy Sunday" or historically it is called "Gaudete Sunday". Gaudete, being the Latin word for "Rejoice". It is on this Sunday that we recognize the true darkness of the world and our hearts and receive the enlightening beaming bright light of Christ that comes shining forth. Faith feeds on the Gospel and in Christ the light of the Gospel breaks through the darkness of our earthly prisons to show us our heavenly hope in the good news, the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. John was left in his prison cell to be content with the good news of the gospel. John's doubt was to find joy in the gospel being preached. Especially the facet of the gospel that says Jesus' kingdom is not of this world. In Christ we find the joy of contentment in our Advent waiting. The whole life of the Christian is an Advent of sorts where we wait for our God to come and rescue us. For now, the darkness remains, that God may use it to fix our attention on His brilliant beaming light in pure darkness with the hope of a new heaven and a new earth.

**Third Sunday in Advent**  
***Divine Service, Setting Three* (page 184)**  
**December 11, 2016**

**OPENING HYMN #406** – *"To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord"*

***Baptism of Isaac Josiah Thurk*** – page 268

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**INVOCATION** – page 184

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** – page 184

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT** Ps. 71:14–18; antiphon: Phil. 4:4



Rejoice in the Lord | always;\*  
again I will say, | Rejoice.

**I will hope con- | tinually\***

**and will praise you yet | more and more.**

**My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation | all the day,\***  
**for their number is past my | knowledge.**

**With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD | I will come;\***

**I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.**

**O God, from my youth you have | taught me,\***

**and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.**

**So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- | sake me,\***

**until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all | those to come.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord | always;\*

again I will say, | Rejoice.

**KYRIE** – page 186

**SALUTATION** – page 189

### COLLECT

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.

**☩ Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 35:1–10

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

<sup>2</sup>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.



## **EPISTLE** James 5:7–11

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **ALLELUIA and VERSE** – page 190

## **HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 11:2–15

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>7</sup>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? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."<sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **CREED**

**Nicene Creed** – page 191

**SERMON HYMN #849** – *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"*

## **SERMON**

**OFFERTORY** – page 192

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**PREFACE** - page 194

**SANCTUS** – page 195

**LORD’S PRAYER** – page 196

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** – page 197

**PAX DOMINI** – page 197

**AGNUS DEI** – page 198

**The Distribution Hymns:**

**Hymn #346** – *“When All the World Was Cursed*

**Hymn #629** – *“What Is This Bread”*

**Hymn #636** – *“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

**Individual Prayer for after Communion:**

*(It is suggested that you pray this in your pew after returning from the altar.)*

For Your consoling supper, Lord,  
Be praised throughout all ages!  
Preserve it, for in ev’ry place  
The world against it rages.  
Grant that this sacrament may be  
A blessed comfort unto me  
When living and when dying.

**NUNC DIMITTIS** – page 199

**THANKSGIVING** – page 200

**SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS** – page 201

**BENEDICTION** – page 202

**CLOSING HYMN #338** – *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*