## GLORY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



## Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 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

**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.

**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.

**New Year's Eve Service** – There will be a regular Saturday Evening Divine Service at 5:00 PM on New Year's Eve, December 31<sup>st</sup>.

NO Bible Study or Sunday School on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> or Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>. Regular Divine Service will take place on those Sundays 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 New Life (Neej Tshiab) Lutheran, worshipping at Redeemer Lutheran, Robbinsdale, and Pastor Yia Lo and Pastor Jonny Vang.

**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!

**Calling all Instrumentalists!** Glory of Christ will once again have pre-service music on Christmas Eve in the Narthex. Please be to church by 4:15 pm to warm up and we will begin playing at 4:30. Look for an email from Brenda. All Christmas music will be provided that day.

**Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal!** – All Sunday School children who are participating in the Sunday School Christmas program will have one more rehearsal THIS Saturday December 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 <u>julesanders@live.com</u>.

**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!

New Sunday Morning Bible Study on Colossians Has Begun: 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, 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.

Remember in our Prayers: Idena Hagen, Sean Breininger, Kathy Chadwick (friend of Janet Preus),

Lisa Brackmann, Arta Walter, Rev. Bob Yount, Paul Johnson, Ron Quittem (Father of Jill Larson), Lee Hart, Al Lavanger, Onna Ostendorf (Friend of Jack Teske), Bill Anderson, Brecken Garding. Loretta Main (Aunt of Stephanie Johnson), CLEF, Lutheran Synod of Mexico, Leroy Reinke, LaValle Berkner (Father of Sarah Miller), Shelby Klapprich (Friend of Jen & Ben Schaumburg), Mike Krause and John Algen (Friend of Mike Krause), Family of Marcia Bell (Daughter of Ann Olson), Family of Carol Walden (Grandmother of Barbie Gruenhagen), and Bonnie Steeke (Mother of Debbie Damberg).

#### **Serving This Sunday:**

Coffee Servers: Jon Burns & Brenda Richards

Acolyte: William Rolf

Elders: Garry McCreary & Mark Swenson
Ushers: Jonathan Schultz & Leonard Albers

Altar Guild: David & Gayle Barnaby
Offering Counters: Heath & Danielle Brolsma

Bread Baker: Cheryl McCreary
Bread Deliverer: Carl Hartness

#### Serving Saturday: (December 24, 2016 - Christmas Eve)

Acolyte: Isabel Schaumburg
Ushers: Isabel Schaumburg
Jerry Malo & Brian Malo,

David Barnaby & Ben Schaumburg

#### Serving Sunday: (December 25, 2016)

Acolyte: William Rolf
Processional: Austin Corey

Elders: Garry McCreary & Mark Swenson
Ushers: Jonathan Schultz & Bob Strom
Altar Guild: Karen Swenson & Brenda Richards

Offering Counters: Craig & Charlotte Smith

Bread Baker: Charlotte Smith Bread Deliverer: Craig Smith

#### **Last Week's Attendance**

 Saturday:
 22

 Sunday:
 155

 Advent AM/PM:
 32/47

 Total:
 256

 Bible Class: Wed/Sun
 31/60

 Sunday School:
 32

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 Fourth Sunday in Advent Matthew 1:18-25

### "Prenatally Presiding Prince of Peace"

Joseph hears about Mary's pregnancy and considers his options. One he probably did NOT consider, was a virgin-born Savior. The miracle of Joseph hearing and obeying God's word led to the naming of Jesus and leads to the wonderful nativity of Christ we will celebrate in the coming days. What a change God's word brought to Joseph's thinking and life! One minute he was going to quietly slide out of the picture and the next he becomes the one God uses to move the Christmas story forward. As you consider all the options the world gives you daily do you consider a Virgin-born savior? A savior who is God in the flesh, who is Immanuel, God with us? God's one and only option was a Virgin-born savior, and He has chosen to come and save you. He is Immanuel, God with you. God chose Joseph to be a listener and doer of His word as it cried out above the options of his reason, logic and senses. He does the same for you this Advent. By your baptism into Christ's death and resurrection you have become a part of salvation history, being a part of the redeemed who have received God's word.

## **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Divine Service, Setting Three (page 184)
December 18, 2016

**OPENING HYMN #357 –** "O Come, O Come Emanuel"

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**INVOCATION –** page 184 **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION –** page 184

#### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**INTROIT** Ps. 130:5–8; antiphon: ls. 64:1



Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\* that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,\* and in his | word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,\* more than watchmen for the | morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,\* and with him is plentiful re- demption.

And he will redeem | Israel\*

from all his in- | iquities.

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.

Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\* that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

**KYRIE** – page 186

**SALUTATION** – page 189

#### **COLLECT**

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 7:10–17

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### **GRADUAL**



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

#### **EPISTLE** Romans 1:1–7

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### **ALLELUIA and VERSE –** page 190

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 1:18–25

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.
- **G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

#### **CREED**

Nicene Creed – page 191

SERMON HYMN #357 - "O Come, O Come Emanuel"

Vs. 5-7

**SERMON** 

**OFFERTORY** – page 192

OFFERING - "Come, Emanuel" - Choir

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 #512 - "At the Name of Jesus"

Hymn #355 - "O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"

Hymn #628 – "Your Table I Approach"

#### **Individual Prayer for after Communion:**

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

O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

**NUNC DIMITTIS** – page 199

**THANKSGIVING** – page 200

**SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS –** page 201

**BENEDICTION** – page 202

**CLOSING HYMN #341 –** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"