GLORY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



The Nativity of our Lord

December 25, 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.

New Year's Eve Service - There will be a regular Saturday Evening Divine Service at 5:00 PM on New Year's Eve, December 31st.

NO Bible Study or Sunday School on Sunday, December 25th or Sunday January 1st. 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 Peace Lutheran, Robbinsdale, and Pastor Steven Mayo Jones.

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, January 8th, 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!

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.

Funeral information for Rev. Bob Yount: The funeral for Rev. Bob Yount will be here, at Glory of Christ, on Wednesday, December 28th. Gathering for family and friends from 10:00-11:00, funeral service at 11:00 with lunch following the service at 12:00. Lunch is provided by Glory of Christ Compassion Circle.

Remember in our Prayers: Idena Hagen, Sean Breininger, Kathy Chadwick (friend of Janet Preus), Lisa Brackmann, Arta Walter, Paul Johnson, Ron Quittem (Father of Jill Larson), Lee Hart, Al Lavanger, Onna Ostendorf (Friend of Jack Teske), Brecken Garding. Loretta Main (Aunt of Stephanie Johnson), CLEF, Lutheran Synod of Mexico, LaValle Berkner (Father of Sarah Miller), Shelby Klapprich (Friend of Jen & Ben Schaumburg), Mike Krause, John Algen (Friend of Mike Krause), Bonnie Steeke (Mother of Debbie Damberg), Family of Marcia Bell (daughter of Ann Olson) and Family of Rev. Bob Yount.

Serving This Sunday: (Christmas Day)

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

Serving Sunday: (January 1, 2016)

Acolyte: Bryce Wikman

Elders: Garry McCreary & Mark Swenson
Ushers: Jim Fahnhorst & Chris Houck
Altar Guild: Beth Schoolman & Brenda Richards

Offering Counters:

Bread Baker:

Bread Deliverer:

Last Week's Attendance

Saturday: 24
Sunday: 190
Advent AM/PM: 33/61
Total: 308
Bible Class: Wed/Sun 28/NA
Sunday School Christmas Program: 137

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 Nativity of our Lord John 1:1-14

Today, God lets us in on a great secret: this little child nestled in the manger is, in actuality, God speaking in the flesh.

This baby is the very Word that brought the heavens and the earth out of nothing.

Through this baby, Mount Rainier was formed, cellular division was designed, the mockingbird sings, and Alpha Centauri shines.

He is the life of all, and not least of all, the life of men.

This child is God's Son, and he seeks to make us sons and daughters too. He has come to share in our life so that we might share in his.

Today, we see the glory of God veiled in swaddling cloths. He is the grace of God towards men.

Today, the Lord has revealed this, eternity's great and unexpected mystery, even to us.

Rejoice.

Nativity of our Lord

Divine Service, Setting Three (page 184)
December 25, 2016

OPENING HYMN #387 – "Joy to the World"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT Ps. 98:1–4; antiphon: ls. 9:6



For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;* and the government shall be upon his | shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,* Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*

break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

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.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;* and the government shall be upon his | shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,* Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

KYRIE - page 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS – page 187

SALUTATION – page 189

COLLECT

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

GRADUAL



To us a child is born, to us a son is | given;* and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,* Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a | new song,* for he has done | marvelous things!

EPISTLE Hebrews 1:1–6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

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

ALLELUIA and VERSE – page 190

HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1–14

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

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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

CREED

Nicene Creed - page 191

SERMON HYMN #384 – "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

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 #624 – "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"

Hymn #373 – "See amid the Winter's Snow"

Hymn #375 – "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"

Individual Prayer for after Communion:

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

O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be, Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.

Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day! My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

NUNC DIMITTIS – page 199

THANKSGIVING - page 200

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS – page 201

BENEDICTION – page 202

CLOSING HYMN #381 – "Let Our Gladness Have No End"