

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 24th at 5:00 pm and our Christmas Day service on Sunday, December 25th 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 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 New Life (Neej Tshiab) Lutheran, worshipping at Redeemer Lutheran, Robbinsdale, and Pastor Yia Lo and Pastor Jonny Vang.

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!

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 17th 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.

Youth Event – On Sunday, December 18th, 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

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"

Vs. 1-4

¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The 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.

C **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

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

⁷To 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.

C **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.

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

¹⁸Now 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. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but 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.

G **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 blessed 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”*