

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066
www.immanuel-lcms.org

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577
Russian Missionary: Rev. Jonathan Muhly

Organist: Sara Sorenson
Acolyte: Kayla Stumpf

Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2012

VISITORS – WE WELCOME YOU to this house of prayer this morning. May you feel at home among friends as we worship together. We invite you to sign your name in the guest book in the back of the church and hope you will return again soon.

This morning we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar, a feast of forgiveness in which we partake of the true body and blood of Christ along with the visible elements of bread and wine. The Bible gives specific instructions about the Lord's Supper. As it can be received to one's spiritual blessing or to one's spiritual harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), the Lord's Table must be approached with sincere faith and a Biblical understanding. That's why all who are new to the Lutheran faith are instructed about this sacred meal before attending the Lord's Supper. Moreover, this Sacrament is also a testimony of our oneness in what we believe (1 Corinthians 10:17). Therefore, we welcome to the Holy Supper all confirmed members of Immanuel and those confirmed members of sister congregations with whom we are in fellowship through unity in teaching (LCMS and TAALC). All guests who wish to receive the Sacrament are asked to speak with Pastor Sorenson before the service. The faith that we believe and confess is a beautiful gift of God. If you are new to Immanuel, we warmly welcome and encourage you to learn about this faith.

Prelude
Welcome
Ring of the Bell
Opening Hymn: #515, "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection and personal confession)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit of the Day, prayed responsively worship insert
Collect of the Day, spoken by Pastor

Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20
Response

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gradual of the Season, prayed responsively worship insert

Epistle Philippians 4:4-7
Response

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia #952

Holy Gospel Luke 7:18-28

Responses

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Nicene Creedback cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #360, "All My Heart Again Rejoices"

Sermon: "Over You He Rejoices and Sings"

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayerback cover of the hymnal

Words of Institution

Peace

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

C: Amen.

Distribution Hymns:

#813, "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng"

#737, "Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing"

#443, "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Rejoice, the Lord is King!" Text: Charles Wesley

Tune: Darwall's 148th Lutheran Worship #179

1)

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore;

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice; again I say, Rejoice!

2)

Our Savior Jesus reigns, The God of truth and love;

When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice; again I say, Rejoice!

3)

His kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n;

The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus giv'n:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice; again I say, Rejoice!

4)

He sits at God's right hand Till all His foes submit

And bow to His command and fall beneath His feet:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice; again I say, Rejoice!

Chimes/Silent Prayer

Announcements

Postlude

Holiday Potluck - Today

The Fellowship Club and Ladies Aid are co-sponsoring a potluck today immediately following the worship service. Come and share in the good food and fellowship. We will sing some Christmas songs and do a fun gift exchange. Those who participate in the exchange should have a wrapped \$5 gift (man for man, lady for lady). A collection will be taken and sent to those in our congregation who serve in the military (David Banitt, Leah Dicke, Amanda Dupre, and Chad Meyer). If you are unable to attend the dinner but would like to give a donation, there is a collection basket at the back of the church this morning.

Goodhue County Christmas Project

All donations for the Christmas Project are due today! Please place your items under the tree in the fellowship hall. If you wrapped your items, please make sure to identify to whom your gifts are to be given. If you have questions, please speak to Bobbi Langhans.

Final Evening of Advent Midweek Activities

Pastor Sorenson will conclude his preaching series, "Christmas with Martin Luther," this coming Wednesday night. His topic this week is: "Manger at Bethlehem." Service is held at 7:30 PM. Come early at 6:30 PM for the Advent Midweek Supper. Vicky Hoffman will be our host.

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Today: ***All Christmas Project Donations Due!***
11:15AM Ladies Aid/Fellowship Club Christmas
Potluck – Everyone Invited

Wednesday: 4:30PM 5th/6th Grade Confirmation
5:30PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation
6:30PM Advent Midweek Supper
7:30PM Advent Midweek Service
8:15PM Choir

Friday: St. Thomas, Apostle: Jdgs. 6:36-40;
Eph. 4:7, 11-16; Jn. 20:24-29
10:30AM KWNG Recording Session
5:30PM Board of Elders (Rescheduled)

Saturday: 9AM-11AM Sunday School Christmas Practice

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Advent
Christmas Project Donations Due!
8:45AM Sunday School Christmas Practice
9:00AM Sunday School and Bible Class
9:45AM Fellowship Time
10:00AM Worship
5:30PM Sunday School Christmas Program

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Today - Kim Frazier, William Langhans
Tuesday - Mary Augustin, Patricia Schmitz
Thursday - Linda Rehder
Friday - Carol Koester, Tyler Ballman
Saturday - Herman von Knobelsdorff

IN OUR PRAYERS

Melissa Barbey, Willard Holst, Fred Voth, Donna Edquist and Jeanette Falkner (sister of Donna Meyer).

"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, December 23

8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)

"Something Special Happened Here"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
Pastor Ken Klaus takes us to Bethlehem and the place where God began to make good on the promise He made to redeem a world of lost sinners. (Luke 2:6-15)

Life Quotes

December 16 "What happened in that Bethlehem stable was nothing less than the personal arrival of the One who will keep you and me out of hell. For millennia, men and women had lived and died, waiting and hoping that this day would come ... (Micah 5:2) ... Isn't it just like God to do His world-changing work in a little town, in the middle of the night, in an animal shelter? May the light streaming from the stable touch your face this Christmas and make you smile." *Rev. Mark Jeske, Time of Grace – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Holiday Worship Schedule

Please note the many opportunities still available to worship your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, during the Advent and Christmas Seasons:

Advent Midweek #3: Wednesday, December 19th - 7:30 PM (Fellowship Hall)

Fourth Sunday in Advent: December 23rd - 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Sunday School Christmas Program: December 23rd - 5:30 PM (Sanctuary)

Christmas Eve: December 24th - 4:00 PM (Candlelight Sanctuary)

Christmas Day: December 25th - 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Congratulations Pastor Sorenson

Our minister, the Rev. Lowell S. Sorenson, has been invited to serve on the Board of Directors of the New Beginnings Pregnancy Center (First Choice Clinic) in Red Wing. He will serve as the Pastoral Representative on the Board. He was selected for this position based on his unswerving pro-life position and defense of preborn children, as well as his heart for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Catechism Review

What do the Scriptures teach about Christ's life, suffering, and death?

They teach that Christ A) endured poverty, contempt, and persecution in His earthly life; B) suffered great agony of body and soul under Pontius Pilate; C) died in excruciating agony on the cross.

What do the Scriptures teach about Christ's burial?

They teach that Christ's body was buried in the tomb and remained there until the third day, without decaying in any way.