

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK  
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066  
[www.immanuel-lcms.org](http://www.immanuel-lcms.org)

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577  
Thailand Missionary: Rev. Carl Kaye

Organist: Sara Sorenson  
Acolyte: Emily Duden

**The Second Sunday in Advent**

**December 4, 2011**

**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: #344, "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Invocation

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

Old Testament Reading ..... Isaiah 40:1-11  
Epistle ..... 2 Peter 3:8-14  
Holy Gospel ..... Mark 1:1-8  
Nicene Creed ..... back cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #345, "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!"

Sermon: "A Little Fire and Brimstone"  
Offering

Prayer of the Church  
P: Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

Confession and Announcement of Grace

P: As we prepare to come to the Holy Supper of the Lord, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence for self-examination.)*

P: Holy and Gracious God,

**C: I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I implore Your forgiveness. By the power of the Holy Spirit, grant that I may amend my sinful life.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, remission of all your sins, and the grace to live a new life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer ..... back cover of the hymnal

Words of Institution

Peace

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

**C: Amen.**

Distribution Hymns:

#623, "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

#606, "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

#515, "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Post-Communion Prayer  
Benediction

Closing Hymn: #343, "Prepare the Royal Highway"

Silent Prayer  
Announcements  
Postlude (offered by Emily Duden)

### **DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK**

Monday:		No Ladies Quilting Project in December
Tuesday:	TBA	Board of Elders
Wednesday:	4:30PM	5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
	5:30PM	7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
	6:30PM	Advent Midweek Supper
	7:30PM	Advent Midweek Worship
	8:15PM	Choir
Friday:	10:30AM	KWNG Recording Session
Saturday:	9:00AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
Next Sunday:		Third Sunday in Advent
	9:00AM	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00AM	Fellowship Time
	10:30AM	Worship
	3:30PM	4-H Gathering
	6:00PM	Church Bowling Night

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

Today	- Kristin Franks
Monday	- Kelsey Reding, Jerry Stehr
Tuesday	- Steve & Maureen Alms
Friday	- Bob & Mary Langhans
Saturday	- Jerry Holm

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Phillip Sorenson, Melissa Barbey, Fred Voth, Wendy Suiter, Barb Vieths, Janis Thomford, Margie Stumpf (recovering from a heart attack), and Willard Holst (recovering from several heart attacks).

### **2012 Offering Envelopes**

Envelope packets for 2012 are on the table in the narthex. Please pick them up as you leave today.

### **Advent Midweek Services and Suppers**

Everyone is welcome to attend the Wednesday night Advent suppers and services. The supper is at 6:30PM and the service is at 7:30PM. We still need volunteers for one of the Advent suppers. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. This year's preaching series is entitled: "Songs of the Savior from Luke." This Wednesday's focus is on Zechariah's Song: The Benedictus.

### **Bottles for Babies**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Bottles for Babies Project. All outstanding bottles are now due back at church. You may still write a check today and put it into an empty bottle if you would like to contribute to our local crisis pregnancy center. Checks should be made out to New Beginnings. Thank you for your care and compassion.

### **Christmas Project News**

Immanuel is again participating in the Goodhue County Christmas Project and was designated to help two families and one adult. A poster in the narthex displays what items we need. You are asked to take a post-it note from the Christmas tree bearing the name of an item and write your name in the space underneath. Please bring your unwrapped items to church and place them under the Christmas tree in the fellowship hall. All donations need to be received by December 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your consideration and care for others. If you have any questions, please see Bobbie Langhans.

### **Sunday School Christmas Program**

Thank you to Nikki Scheele and Leslie Germann-Hutter for coordinating the Sunday School Christmas program again this year. The event will be held on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and support the children of our congregation.

### **Building Pledge Dedication Sunday**

Your building pledges for the 2012 year will be dedicated next Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, during the worship service. You may also mail your response cards to church if you so desire. Additional forms and envelopes will be available next week in case you forget to bring your response card to church. God has given us a great space for ministry. It's a blessing to all of us. Dedication Sunday is an occasion to celebrate this!

### **Youth Sleigh Ride**

Pastor would like to take a group of youth (and any interested church members) to Lowes Creek Tree Farm on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, for a one-hour old-fashioned moonlight sleigh ride. The cost is \$8 per person if we get at least 12 people. Otherwise, the cost is \$9 per person. The tree farm features food and other attractions as well. We will leave church at 4:00 PM; the sleigh ride is at 6:00 PM. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board.

### **"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, December 11**

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

**"Waiting for Jesus; Living Relentless Lives of Grace!"**

**Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz**

God's grace is relentless, always there, forgiving, encouraging, and empowering our lives in Him.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-24)

### **Explanation of the Small Catechism – Review**

#### ***What is cursing by God's name?***

Cursing by God's name is A) blaspheming God by speaking evil of Him or mocking Him; B) calling down the anger and punishment of God upon oneself or any other person or thing.

#### ***What is swearing by God's name?***

Swearing by God's name is taking an oath in which we call on God to witness the truth of what we say or promise and to punish us if we lie or break our promise.

### **Life Quotes**

**December 4** "Of all of the Greek words used for child, brephos connotes a baby or very small child. That's the word attributed to Elizabeth: 'The brephos leaped in my womb for joy.' We see the same word in the next chapter: 'Ye shall find the brephos wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And in 2 Timothy 3:15 Paul uses the same word: 'From a brephos thou hast known the holy Scriptures ...' The same word is used for a child in the womb, a child newly born, and a child sometime after birth." *Col. John Eidsmoe, Lutherans For Life board of directors – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life – [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*