

ST. LUKE'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 7:00 p.m.

208 11th Street E.

Lemmon, SD 57638

We are affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC).

Richard Kanzenbach

Pastor

Midweek Advent I

Rhonda Tomac, organist

December 2, 2020

WELCOME!

“When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the Law, to redeem them that were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons!”
--- Galatians 4:4-5 (KJV)

Hymn 68 The Advent of Our King!

P: O Lord, let the words of my mouth

C: And the meditation of my heart

P: Be acceptable in Your sight,

C: O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

P & C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be eternally. Amen.

Psalm 24 *The LORD is the holy Creator. Only those who have a clean heart (forgiven and willingly serving) stand before Him. Welcome Him, with open gates!*

P: The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness,

C: The world and those who dwell therein.

P: For He has founded it upon the seas,

C: And established it upon the waters.

P: Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord?

C: Or who may stand in His holy place?

P: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

C: Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.

P: He shall receive blessing from the Lord,

C: And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

P: This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him . . .

C: . . . Who seek Your face. Selah [musical interlude].

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!

C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors!

C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory! Selah

Hymn 73 vv. 1-4 (melody 3) Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates!

Old Testament: Isaiah 7:1-16 (selected verses)

King Ahaz of the nation of Judah was a descendant of good King David, but was not a godly man. The kings of the neighboring nations of Syria and of Ephraim were about to attack King Ahaz and Jerusalem. God sent the prophet Isaiah to encourage Ahaz, but he refused to trust the LORD! Isaiah warned: There will be a better son and a better king than you, who will not be born from your royal family, but born by a miracle to a virgin. He will rescue the people. His name will be “Immanuel—God with Us.” Ahaz, you are done.

vv. 2-4a

P: And it was told to the house of David, saying, Syria’s forces are deployed in Ephraim! *[as allies]*.

C: So his heart and the heart of his people were moved, as the trees of the woods are moved with the wind.

P: Then the Lord said to Isaiah, Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-Jashub your son, at the end of the aqueduct from the upper pool, on the highway to the Fuller’s Field, and say to him:

C: Take heed, and be quiet.

P: Do not fear or be fainthearted for *[because of]* these two stubs of smoking firebrands.

vv. 7-9

C: Thus says the Lord God: It shall not stand, nor shall it come to pass.

P: For the head of Syria is Damascus *[capital]*, and the head of Damascus is Rezin *[king]*.

C: Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be broken, so that it will not be a people.

P: The head of Ephraim is Samaria *[capital]*, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah’s son *[king]*.

C: If you will not believe, Surely you shall not be established.

vv. 10-14

P: Moreover the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying,

C: Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God; ask it either in the Depth, or in the height above.”

P: But Ahaz said,

C: I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord!

P: Then he *[Isaiah]* said, Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?

C: Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name IMMANUEL ! *[God with us]*.

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:5-23 When the time was just right, the Lord was ready to send His Son. First there would be a forerunner to prepare the hearts of the people—John the Baptist. John’s birth was by a miracle of God to the aged priest Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth who was also well along in years.

Hymn 66 Hark the Glad Sound!

Sermon: Matthew 11:23-30

SEARCHING FOR REST IN ADVENT

And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for you.

At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.

All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Hymn 93 O Lord, We Welcome Thee!

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Benediction

Hymn 73 v. 5 (melody 3) Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates!

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THE ADVENT WREATH: The Advent wreath is a Christian custom used in preparation for Christmas. Its origins appear to be from Lutheran circles in Germany during the 1800's. Originally one candle was lit each day to point children ahead to the great day of Christmas. Many modifications have been made. We now have one candle for each week of Advent with one candle for Christmas. Various meanings and points of devotion exist regarding each of the candles.

THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (VIOLET—the color of repentance): The "Prophecy Candle" begins the period of waiting. It reminds us of the Old Testament promises/prophecies of the coming of the Savior from sin. With humble hearts of repentance awaiting the Savior from sin, we think back to the many believers before us who waited patiently and longingly for the promise of the coming Savior to be fulfilled.

