

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 III

Ruth Wiechmann, organist

December 16, 2020

WELCOME!

“The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken.” Deuteronomy 18:15.

Hymn 55 Come Thou Precious Ransom!

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 102 *The Old Testament child of God, afflicted by enemies and by the Lord's anger against his sins, prays that the Lord would rescue Zion / Jerusalem—a name for the Old Testament believers and church—and would also rescue him.*

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to You.

C: Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble;

P: Incline Your ear to me;

C: In the day that I call, answer me speedily.

P: For my days are consumed like smoke,

C: And my bones are burned like a hearth.

P: My heart is stricken and withered like grass,

C: So that I forget to eat my bread.

P: Because of the sound of my groaning

C: My bones cling to my skin.

P: I am like a pelican of the wilderness; I am like an owl of the desert.

C: I lie awake, and am like a sparrow alone on the housetop.

P: My enemies reproach me all day long;

C: Those who deride me swear an oath against me.

P: For I have eaten ashes like bread,

C: And mingled my drink with weeping,

P: Because of Your indignation and Your wrath;

C: For You have lifted me up and cast me away.

P: My days are like a shadow that lengthens,

C: And I wither away like grass.

P: But You, O Lord, shall endure forever,

C: And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.

P: You will arise and have mercy on Zion;

C: For the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come.

P: For *Your servants* take pleasure in her stones,

C: And show favor to her dust.

P: So *the nations* shall fear the name of the Lord,

C: And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

P: For the Lord shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory.

C: He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, and shall not despise their prayer.

P: This will be written for the generation to come,

C: That a people yet to be created may praise the Lord.

P: For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary;

C: From heaven the Lord viewed the earth,

P: To hear the groaning of the prisoner,

C: To release those appointed to death,

P: To declare the name of the Lord in Zion,

C: And His praise in Jerusalem,

P: When the peoples are gathered together,

C: And the kingdoms, to serve the Lord.

P: He weakened my strength in the way;

C: He shortened my days.

P: I said, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days;

C: Your years are throughout all generations.

P: Of old You laid the foundation of the earth,

C: And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

P: They will perish, but You will endure;

C: Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;

P: Like a cloak You will change them, and they will be changed.

C: But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.

P: The children of Your servants will continue,

C: And their descendants will be established before You."

Hymn 74 Once He Came in Blessing

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 10:33 – 11:10

Enemies would oppress and defeat Judah; they would chop down Judah like a tree chopped down to the stump. However, these oppressors themselves would be chopped down by the LORD! Then a little shoot would grow up from Judah's stump and from Jesse's family. The little shoot would become a great tree again, a kingdom of righteousness, security, and peace! This little shoot is JESUS who was born from the family of Jesse and Jesse's son King David!

P: See the Lord , the LORD Almighty will lop off the boughs with great power.

C: The lofty trees will be felled, the tall ones will be brought low.

P: He will cut down the forest thickets with an ax.

C: Lebanon will fall before the Mighty One.

P: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;

C: From his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

P: The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him—

C: The Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

P: The Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

C: And He will delight in the fear of the LORD.

P: He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes,

C: Or decide by what He hears with His ears;

P: But with righteousness He will judge the needy,

C: With justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

P: He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,

C: With the breath of his lips He will slay the wicked.

P: Righteousness will be His belt,

C: And faithfulness the sash around His waist.

P: The wolf will live with the lamb,

C: The leopard will lie down with the goat,

P: The calf and the lion and the yearling together;

C: And a little child will lead them.

P: The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together,

C: And the lion will eat straw like the ox.

P: The infant will play near the hole of the cobra,

C: And the young child put his hand into the viper's nest.

P: They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain,

C: For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as waters cover the earth.

P: In that day, the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples!

C: The nations will rally to Him, and His place of Rest will be glorious!

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-8 John the Baptist preached “baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.” He urged the people to repent of their sins in preparation for meeting the Lord, to be washed clean from sin by God’s blessed washing of baptism, and to put sin away from their lives. He told them not to rely on the faith that their fathers had. True for us as well!

Hymn 272 When All the World Was Cursed, Saint John the Baptist Came!

Sermon: II Corinthians 5:20 – 6:2

NOW IS THE TIME!

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. For He

made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him!

We, then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time. Behold, now is the day of salvation!

Hymn 91 vv. 1-4 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord!

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Benediction

Hymn 79 Rejoice! Rejoice! This Happy Morn!

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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: Thursday, December 24, 4:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP: Friday, December 25, 10:00 am.

THE ADVENT WREATH: .

THE 1ST CANDLE is the "Prophecy Candle." It reminds us how the Old Testament people who heard the prophecies of Christ waited patiently for Him.

THE 2ND CANDLE is the "Bethlehem Candle." It reminds us how God's Son humbly came to this earth to be born of a woman at Bethlehem to be our Savior!

THE 3RD CANDLE (PINK) is the "Shepherd Candle." It reminds us that Jesus came into the hearts and lives of the shepherds the night of His birth. Just as He entered their hearts through the message of the angels and then seeing Him in the manger, so He enters our hearts through the message of His Word and our seeing Him by faith. It is a candle of JOY (pink)!

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE: There will be no service next Wednesday. Christmas Eve is on Thursday.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BAGS: Please use the sign-up sheet—it is at the guest book—if you wish to help supply items for the children's bags, or if wish to help fill the bags. Thank you!

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