

# ST. LUKE'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 10:30 a.m.

208 11<sup>th</sup> Street E.

Lemmon, SD 57638

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

*Richard Kanzenbach*

*Pastor*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

Ruth Wiechmann, organist

December 20, 2020

## ADVENT WELCOME !

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. . . . **And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the father, full of grace and truth.**"

---- John 1:1-4 & 14.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*What is a sacrament? A sacrament is a special or sacred act, which:*

- 1) Was instituted by Christ—i.e., commanded by the Lord*
- 2) Has earthly elements—i.e., uses earthly, physical substances*
- 3) Uses, together with the earthly elements, the Word of God*
- 4) Offers, conveys, and seals to the sinner forgiveness of sins.*

*The two sacraments are Holy Communion and Holy Baptism, although the Bible does not say "two." Marriage, for example, does not give forgiveness. Marriage is not a sacrament. Confirmation was not commanded by God. Confirmation is also not a sacrament. Etc.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE:

Supplement, page 12 with Holy Communion.

**Hymn 713** Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We!

**EPISTLE: Philippians 4:4-7. SUMMARIZED.** As we await the celebration of Christ's birth on earth, and as we await His return at the end of time, Paul's words are fitting. Live life with JOY in your forgiving Savior! There really is no reason for the adopted child of God in Christ, to mope and be gloomy. Being gentle to all, put away anxiety. Turn to the Lord in prayer. The peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus! ----- In Him you are safe regardless of events around you.

**PSALM 96** Sing to the Lord! (Supplement, page 26)

**GOSPEL: John 1:19-28. SUMMARIZED.** John the Baptist did not claim to be the Messiah. He knew that his role was to prepare hearts for the Lord. --- May we also, during Advent and Christmas, turn attention away from ourselves to the Savior. May we ourselves be so prepared.

Hymn 709 God Loves Me Dearly!

SERMON: Matthew 13:1-9 and 13:18-23

**ADVENT SEEDS FOR CHRISTMAS HARVEST**

*On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying:*

(ROADSIDE) *Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some SEED fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.*

(GRAVEL) *Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.*

(THORNS) *And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.*

(GOOD SOIL) *But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear! . . .*

*Therefore hear the parable of the sower:*

(ROADSIDE) *When anyone hears the WORD of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.*

(GRAVEL) *But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the Word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the Word, immediately he stumbles.*

(THORNS) *Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the Word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word, and he becomes unfruitful.*

(GOOD SOIL) *But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the Word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Hymn 73 vv. 1-3 Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken!!

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*VISITORS , please kindly note that our congregation does not practice “open” communion. Communion is an expression of oneness—certainly oneness with the Lord, but also oneness in faith and teaching with one another. Differences of Bible teaching do separate. In keeping with the unity expressed in the Lord’s Supper, we practice a “close-knit” communion. We ask that only members of St. Luke’s and sister CLC congregations come forward. Be assured, we are not judging anyone’s heart or faith in Jesus. God alone knows the heart. For further questions, please visit with the pastor.*

### **Communion Distribution Hymn 85 “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

NOTE: The speaker saying, “From heaven above to earth I come” in verses 1-5, is not Jesus, but the angel sent by God on the night of Jesus’ birth to tell the shepherds that the Christ [Messiah], the Savior, was born.

Benediction

**Hymn 73 vv. 4** Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken!!

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**CHILDREN’S REHEARSALS:** After the service, children will have time to eat, and then rehearse for Christmas Eve. This is the last rehearsal before Thursday, the session may run a little longer, 12:15-1:30

**CHOIR REHEARSAL:** While the children are eating , any who wish to sing in the Christmas Eve choir, please join the practice. No parts, just melody.

**THE ADVENT WREATH:** The Advent wreath is a Christian custom used in preparation for Christmas.

THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CANDLE is the “Prophecy Candle.” It reminds us how the Old Testament people who heard the prophecies of Christ waited patiently for Him.

THE 2<sup>ND</sup> 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 3<sup>RD</sup> CANDLE is the “Shepherd Candle.” It reminds us that Jesus came into the hearts and lives of the shepherds the night of His birth. A candle of JOY (pink).

THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ADVENT CANDLE (VIOLET) is the “Angel Candle.” It reminds us of the final advent of Lord and Savior, coming in glory, with all His holy angels, for Judgment and Rescue of His people, at the end of the age.

NO WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICE this week.

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

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

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BAGS: Thank you to those who are providing items and time for the children's Christmas Eve bags!

THANK YOU'S RECEIVED: The Bill Erharts and both Live-Centers extend Thank You's for the carols and carolers last Sunday afternoon!

CHRISTMAS CARD: Please take a card from the bulletin table—special Christmas greetings from the Kanzenbachs.

2021 CHURCH CLEANING LIST: Next year's church cleaning list is available in the entrance, next to the bulletins. We thank the cleaners for their time and efforts to keep the Lord's House clean and provide a pleasant atmosphere for worship! "Whether you eat, or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31).

CLEANERS FOR DECEMBER:

L. Bubbers, K. Christman, R. Wiechmann, J. Olsen

CLEANERS FOR JANUARY:

M. Erhardt, all month.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

12/24 Thu. 4:00 Christmas Eve Worship (Children's Service)  
12/25 Fri. 10:00 Christmas Day Worship  
12/27 Sun. 10:30 Worship. 9:30 B.Class & S.Sch.  
01/03 Sun 10:30 Worship with COMMUNION 9:30 B.Class & S.Sch.

CALL NEWS:

**Pastor David Ude**, Appleton, WI, has been called by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY.

**Pastor Michael Eichstadt**, Hales Corners, WI, has been called by Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN.

**Retired Pastor John Klatt**, Watertown, SD, has accepted the vacancy-pastor call by Redeemer, Bowdle, SD, and Zion, Ipswich, SD.

**Teacher Paul Tiefel III**, Eau Claire, WI, has been called to serve as principal and upper grade teacher by Messiah, Hales Corners.

**Pastor Michael Gurath**, Phoenix, AZ, has returned the call to Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY.

**Pastor Del Maas**, Mapleton, ND, and Ponsford, MN, has returned the call to Redeemer, Bowdle, and Zion, Ipswich, SD.

**Pastor Sam Rodebaugh**, Winter Haven, FL, has returned the call by Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN.

**Teacher Matt Thurow**, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has returned the call to teach grades 4-8 and serve as principal for Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC.

**Church 605-374-5692**

**Parsonage 605-374-5104**

**Cell 605-413-2292**

