

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

200 11th Street E.

Lemmon, SD 57638

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

Richard Kanzenbach

Pastor

Rhonda Tomac, organist

December 11, 2022

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT WELCOME!

"The LORD your God will raise up unto you a Prophet, like me, from your midst, from your brethren. Him shall you hear." -- Deuteronomy 18:15

OPENING PRAYER

Hymn 99 Now Are the Days Fulfilled!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION [washing away] OF SINS:

Luke 18:9-14

P: He [Jesus] spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

C: Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

P: The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers,

C: Or even as this tax collector. I fast [skip food] twice a week. I give tithes [a tenth] of all that I possess.

P: And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying,

C: God, be merciful to me a sinner.

P: I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [declared not guilty] rather than the other.

C: For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

To helpless humble sinners, by God's mercy in Christ, you are forgiven!

Hymn 61 vv. 1-2 Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People!

Isaiah 40:1-8 (KJV)

P: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God,

C: Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem;

P: And cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned:

C: For she hath received of the LORD's hand double [double blessing] for all her sins.

P: The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD,

C: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

P: Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low:

C: And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

P: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:

C: For the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

P: The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry?

C: All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field:

P: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it:

C: Surely the people is grass.

P: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:

C: But the Word of our God shall stand forever.

Hymn 61 vv. 3-4 Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People!

EPISTLE: I Corinthians 4:1-5 To judge the hearts and motives of others is not wise. Each is answerable to God alone and is God's servant and steward. This truth applies to pastors and congregations. God will expose each heart at the Last Day and will deal with each. When Christ returns, He will judge.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11 John the Baptist spent the last days of his life unjustly imprisoned. John sent messengers to Jesus, "Are You the One?" Jesus responded, "Look at what I am doing." --- The same question is still asked today. "Is Jesus of Nazareth the One?" He never set up an earthly kingdom. He came to establish a spiritual Kingdom, bringing spiritual healing, mercy and forgiveness through His own blood. By faith in Christ, God's Kingdom is yours. Even the simple believer is greater than John the Baptist!

APOSTLES CREED (Hymnal, p. 12)

Hymn 63 vv. 1-4 On Jordan's Bank

SERMON: MATTHEW 2:23 to 3:10

COMFORT AT ADVENT

And he [Joseph] came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight. Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he

said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not think to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Hymn 63 v. 5 On Jordan’s Bank
OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER:

ADULT CONFIRMATION:

Matthew Skjoldal
Welcome! The Savior’s blessings!

PRAYERS and THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymn 89 vv. 1-4 To Thee My Heart I Offer!

Benediction

Hymn 89 v. 5 To Thee My Heart I Offer!

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THE 3RD ADVENT CANDLE (PINK): The “Shepherd Candle” reminds us that Jesus came into the hearts and lives of the shepherds the night of His birth. He entered their hearts through the Gospel message of the angels. They saw Him in the manger. He enters our hearts through the message of His Word. We see Him with eyes of faith. The third candle (pink) is a candle of JOY!

MIDWEEK ADVENT: Midweek Advent services are Wednesday evenings. A soup and sandwich supper is served at 6:00. Worship follows at 7:00, also in the basement. This Wednesday will be the third midweek service.

CHILDREN’S REHEARSALS: After service the children will have time to eat a sack lunch, followed by their Christmas Eve rehearsal. Also next Sunday.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: The choir will rehearse today and next Sunday while the children are eating their lunch prior to their rehearsal. Thank you.

CHANGE! CAROLING AND CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY:
Sunday, December 18. 1:30-4:30 Caroling 5:00 Church Christmas Party

LIST FOR CHILDREN’S BAGS: If you wish to help supply items for the children’s bags, please use the sign-up sheet at the guest book. Thank you!

THANK YOU: To Debbie Wenner for the Christmas cross of winter greens!

CALENDAR:

12/14 WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT SERVICE

7:00 Worship--in basement 6:00 Soup and sandwich supper

12/18 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT with COMMUNION

10:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Class & Sunday School

11:45 Choir Practice 11:45 Sack lunch for children

12:15 Children's Rehearsal

1:30-4:30 Caroling

5:00 Christmas Party at church. All invited.

12/21 WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT SERVICE

7:00 Worship—in basement 6:00 Soup and sandwich supper

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

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP: Sunday, December 25, **10:00** am.

ILC'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT-WORSHIP-SERVICE:

Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m. (central), livestreamed at ilc.edu/tv.

PASTOR MICHAEL EICHSTADT UPDATE: "Thank you for the prayers over the past couple of weeks. . . . I received the heart ICD device via a minor surgical procedure last Friday and was discharged Sat. afternoon. The ICD device monitors heart activity, and stimulates the heart if an abnormal rhythm is detected. . . . May the peace of God in Christ keep us all safe until His second Advent." -- Pastor M. Eichstadt

CLC GENERAL FUND: The CLC General Fund operates synod missions, Immanuel campus (plus tuition), as well as other endeavors to proclaim salvation in Jesus. November offerings were \$100,905 vs. disbursements of \$112,782. The General Fund, which operates from July 1 to June 30, stands at a five month deficit of -\$110,756. Our Reserve Fund is used to make up any shortfall at the end of each June. The Reserve Fund stands at \$196,324 and may well be depleted at the end of next June. We ask the Lord to give us love for the Savior and commitment to spreading the Gospel. May He give us wisdom to do so prudently. (General Fund offerings are often called "CLC Mission offerings" or "CBP offerings"—cooperative budget plan.)

CALL NEWS:

Pastor Rob Sauers, Fond du Lac, WI, *has accepted the* call to Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL.

Pastor Tim Daub, Hecla, SD, has received the dual call to serve Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran, Tacoma, WA.

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