

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

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Ruth Wiechmann, organist

December 3, 2023

ADVENT 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)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the Book of Revelation those who stand righteous before God are identified as those who lived through days of evil on this earth, yet who have had their robes washed white in the blood of the Lamb. The blood of Jesus does not wash anyone's physical garments, but washes souls white, pure, spotless, sinless before the Father in heaven. In the Lord's Supper each is assured and comforted that this washing is his, that his sins are forgiven. By Jesus' miracle, He shares with each communicant His very (His true) body and blood—in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Here there is personal comfort that by faith in the crucified Jesus, sins are forgiven and each is spotless before God!

ORDER OF SERVICE: Hymnal, page 15

Hymn 55 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come!

On page 17: **Th Kyrie** is read by the pastor.

Hymn 63 v. 5 “On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”
in place of the the **Gloria**

EPISTLE: Romans 13:8-14 When we ponder God's mercy to us in Christ, we are moved to love the Lord and to love those around us whom He also loves. In fact, “love” is the fulfilling of God's commandments. Our flesh, however, does not want to do so. The flesh wants to indulge self! ---- Beware! The return of the Savior is fast approaching! Do not let Him find you serving sin in “darkness.” Serve the Light; serve Jesus! ---- This Advent season as you prepare to celebrate the Savior's first arrival on earth, do not build your Advent and Christmas on desires of the flesh—drunkenness, strife, immorality, jealousy, etc. Put off the sins of darkness. Put on the armor of light!

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-9 Christmas and Palm Sunday: 1.) Just as Jesus entered life on this earth in all humility, merely a little baby lying in a cattle manger; so also He entered Jerusalem prior to His death, in all humility, riding a donkey, a beast of burden. 2.) The night of His birth, the angels of God praised Him, “Glory to God in the highest!” The day of His ride into Jerusalem, the crowds proclaimed, “Hosanna! to the Son of David (*Come! Save us, now! O descendant and heir of King David.*)” He came in love. 3.) Jesus enters our hearts today humbly and quietly, without fanfare, through His Word. During this Advent season, hear His simple Word and welcome Him with your “Hosannas,” of faith, joy, and praise! --- The Savior is here!

NICENE CREED, p. 22

Hymn 65 vv. 1-3 When Sinners See Their Lost Condition!

SERMON: MATTHEW 11:28-30

EVERYONE NEEDS REST !

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.

OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER:

PRAYERS

Hymn 65 vv. 4-6 When Sinners See Their Lost Condition!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

VISITORS, please note that our congregation does not practice “open” communion. Communion is an expression of oneness with the Lord and also oneness in faith and teaching with each other. Differences in Bible doctrine do separate. Therefore, we have a “close-knit” communion practice. Respectfully we ask that only members of St. Luke’s and sister CLC congregations come forward. Be assured, we are not judging your heart or your faith in Jesus. God knows the heart. For questions, please visit with the pastor. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

Distribution Hymn 304 An Awe-Full [Awe-Filled] Mystery Is Here!

Benediction

Hymn 66 vv. 4-5 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes!

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Edward Larson: Edward’s medical team at Mayo unexpectedly called him back to Rochester last week for further testing. However, the tests have not indicated that his condition is genetic. He is back home in Lemmon. We thank the Savior for all His blessings and pray that Phil, Erica, and all the family are blessed with faith, trust, and strength in the Lord..

Matt & Kelly Skjoldal and Jacob: The Skjoldal family has had a very difficult time this past Friday and Saturday. We ask that the Lord give them faith to trust His love, His power, and His wisdom, even when His ways run counter to ours. In Jesus we have eternal life and we are best cared for in this life.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Today	12:15	1 st Children’s Rehearsal	Choir Rehearsal after service.
12/06	Wed.	FIRST MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE	
		7:00	Worship in the church basement (meal precedes at 6:00)
12/10	Sun.	10:30	Worship 9:30 Sun.Sch. & B.Class
12/13	Wed.	SECOND MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE	
		7:00	Worship in the church basement (meal precedes at 6:00)
12/17	Sun.	10:30	Worship with COMMUNION. 9:30 S.Sch. and B.Class

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE REHEARSALS BEGIN TODAY:

Sundays, December 3, 10, 17. Children eat in the church basement after service before rehearsal begins. Rehearsal lasts no more than an hour.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: The choir will rehearse after service while the children are eating. All invited. Thank you.

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 a candle was lit each day in Advent to point children ahead to the great day of Christmas. Modifications have been made. We now have one candle each week and a fifth candle at Christmas. Various meanings and points of devotion are ascribed to each of the candles.

THE 1ST ADVENT CANDLE (VIOLET—the color of repentance): The “Prophecy Candle” begins the period of waiting. It reminds us of the Old Testament promises/prophesies of the coming of the Savior from sin. With humble hearts of repentance awaiting the Savior, we think back to the many believers before us who also waited patiently, longing for the promise of the Savior to be fulfilled.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES: As an aid to preparing hearts for Christmas, special Advent services will be held the next three Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.—December 6, 13, and 20. A soup and sandwich supper at 6:00 will precede the services. Services will be in the basement.

ADVENT SEASON: The four Sundays before Christmas are the Sundays of Advent. The word “advent” means “arrival” or “He is arriving.” During Advent we prepare **our hearts** for celebrating Christ’s birth; that is, His first arrival on earth. as a babe. He, the eternal Son of God, took human flesh and blood to serve as our substitute in life, and in death on the cross in order to triumph for us at the empty tomb! He meets our every need. During Advent we also look ahead to Christ’s second coming as well, His arrival in glory at the end of time, to take us to the bliss of heaven! His second Advent means eternal life is at hand! Whether it is Christ’s first or second Advent, let us prepare spiritually, lest the glory of the day be lost to us, and we be lost to it. How to prepare? Realize what Jesus has done for you. In humble repentance for your sin, cling to Jesus by faith for full forgiveness and life. And do not deny Him, but serve Him from your heart each day! Then the day will be so special, “The Savior comes!”

CAROLING AND CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Caroling is scheduled for Sunday, December 17.

1:30-4:30 Caroling 5:00 Church Christmas Party

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

ADVENT CALENDAR BY EMAIL: Pastor Daub of Prince of Peace, Hecla, will be sending by e-mail, a “Martin Luther Advent Calendar,” a devotion each morning from December 1-24 via e-mail. The devotions provide a “window” into the Christmas season in the Luther household. We see roots of many of our own traditions in the Reformer’s passion to teach and live the Gospel. Please contact: **pastor_daub@hotmail.com**. Thank you.

DECEMBER CHURCH CLEANING: Thank you for your time and effort!
3 and 10---Katie W. 17---Jodi L. 24---Rhonda T.