

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

**4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
(Christmas Eve a.m.)**

Ruth Wiechmann, Organist

December 24, 2023

WELCOME!

*The next day John [the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said,
"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

---John 1:29

ORDER OF SERVICE: Hymnal, page 5

Hymn 105 vv. 1-6 Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men!

On Page 7: **The Kyrie** will be read by the Pastor.

In place of the **Gloria in Excelsis—Hymn 105 vv 7-8**

"Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men!"

EPISTLE: Philippians 4:4-7. As we await Christ's return at the end of time (and also this year's celebration of His birth at Bethlehem!), Paul says:

Live joyfully in the forgiving Savior! Rejoice!

There is no reason for rudeness and harshness.

There is no reason for being anxious.

Turn to the Lord in prayer.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus!

Realize that in Jesus you are safe regardless of events in the world around you.

GOSPEL: John 1:19-28. John the Baptist did not claim to be the Messiah or try to draw attention to himself. His role was to prepare hearts for the Lord for He takes away sin. May we during this Advent and Christmas, turn attention away from ourselves, to the Savior.

THE APOSTLES' CREED: Hymnal, page 12.

Hymn 95 Savior of the Nations! Come!

SERMON: HAGGAI 2 : 3 – 9

THE GREATEST GLORY IS IN CHIRST !

Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?

Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel! says the LORD. And be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest! And be strong, all you people of the land! says the LORD. And work, for I am with you! says the LORD of hosts. According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you! Do not fear!

For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land! And I will shake all nations, and they shall come! [to] The Desire of All Nations. And I will fill this temple with glory! says the LORD of hosts. The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine! says the LORD of hosts. The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former! says the LORD of hosts. And in this place I will give peace! says the LORD of hosts.

Offering

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Hymn 94 vv. 1-3 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

Benediction

Hymn 94 v. 4 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

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CALENDAR:

Today **5:00 pm** CHRISTMAS EVE Children's Service.

Tomorrow: **10:00 am.** CHRISTMAS DAY worship

Sun. 12/31 10:30 am. NEW YEAR'S EVE worship 9:30 B.Cl. & S.Sch.

ALTAR POINSETTIAS: Thank you to Rhonda Tomac, and Dwight and Debbie Wenner,

THANK YOU RECEIVED: From the Lemmon Live Center East for the carolers last Sunday!

CHRISTMAS CARD: “Our yearly Christmas card is on the bulletin table in the entry area. Please take one or more as you wish (we can print more). A truly blessed Christmas to you in Jesus, true God and true man, our Savior!” ----
Pastor and Judy K.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN’S SERVICE:

This evening during “Silent Night,” small candles with drip-cups will be lit among the congregation. Please keep the candles upright to avoid dripping wax on the benches and floor. Please be cautious with the fire. Thank you.

THE 4TH ADVENT CANDLE (VIOLET): The “Angel Candle” reminds us of the final advent (arrival) of our Lord and Savior at the end of the time. He will come in glory with all His holy angels for the Great Resurrection and the Final Judgment—salvation for His people and condemnation for those who despise Him.

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

CHURCH CLEANING: Your faithful labors are much appreciated!
December 31: Rhonda Tomac January: John and Myrna Erhardt

CHRISTMAS --- *from CLC Daily Devotions, 12/15/17 :*

Every year at Christmas, we hear about the same gift: *God sent forth His Son ...* Can you imagine opening a package every year for thirty years and finding a pair of socks, always the same kind and color? Even though they were expensive and warm, how easy it would be to yawn and say, “Yep, here are the socks again.” You might quickly lay them aside and look for something that was a surprise, something a bit more spectacular. “God sent forth His Son” -- No surprise there.

So how can you enjoy Christmas with the same warmth of faith and love you had at the beginning? Well, think of those socks again. What if they

were the only socks you received each year? What if your feet had been freezing for a month and a half now. Then you might enjoy the socks more, might not be able to get them on fast enough! And knowing that the pair of socks was coming, you would not shop for other socks—least of all worthless socks! The fact is, that when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, His One and Only Son---to give His life in place of ours.

Let us put on Christ swiftly! When only cold death awaits without Him, can we yawn and lay Him aside like an old garment? Or go out and “shop” for some good intentions or victorious living over faults, pains, and sufferings to give us “standing” before God? The blood of Jesus alone cleanses us from all sin. What a gift! There is nothing we need more! There is nothing more surely given to us. May all of our Christmas celebrations point to this gift, and so increase our appreciation of Him!”

ST. LUKE’S ON THE WEB:

For live videos of our service (streamed) on Facebook. Go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/lemmonlutheran>

For St. Luke’s webpage, go to <https://lemmon.clclutheran.org/>.
Bulletins, sermons, and videos of services are available there.. Also available are St. Luke’s contact info., location, schedule, Bible confession, and the like.

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