

Messiah Lutheran

Church and School
Church of the Lutheran Confession

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December 6, 2015

Advent 2

Good morning! We appreciate your joining our worship family, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you are looking for an altar at which to commune, please speak to the pastor beforehand. He will be happy to provide you with the information you would want and need.

Sunday family worship: 8:00 and 10:45 A.M.
Choir: 9:10. Sunday School: 9:30. Bible class 9:45 A.M.

Today's Worship

*"He will go on before the Lord...to make ready
a people prepared for the Lord" (Lk. 1:17).*

Preparation: Read Ps. 24, p. 128.

The Liturgy: Page 15ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal.

Hymns: 56, 61, 701, 306, 63.

Readings:

Malachi 3:1-4... There is more to Jesus' coming than His quiet, unassuming birth. He is like a refiner's fire and launderers' soap.

Philippians 1:3-11... We share the same precious fellowship in which St. Paul rejoiced, that of believers united by faith with Jesus and one another.

Advent Candle Verse

*A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
The fruit of God's design. (LSB 342:2)*

Sermon: Luke 3:1-6

GET READY!

- I. Listen to God's call.
- II. Clear the clutter.
- III. See God's salvation.



Thank you

We thank all those who helped with decorating the church last Sunday, especially the mouse catchers!

Come and sing!

Everyone is welcome to join our caroling party this afternoon and share the good news of the Christ-Child through familiar, beloved hymns and carols. We will meet at 4 p.m. for a brief warmup. We will sing at the Hales Corners Care Center, Regency Senior Center (home of Annette Traub), and at the Bajanen home. We'll wrap things up with a chili supper. Bring your favorite chili and a plate of treats.

Congratulations!

Mr. Matthew Fiechtner and Miss Cora Gerbitz have announced their engagement. A summer wedding is planned. We pray for the Lord's guidance and gifts for their new life together.

Young adults

A Young Adults meeting will be held next Saturday, December 12th, at 6 p.m. at Lauren, Lydia, and Abby's apartment. Pizza, devotion, and games are planned. Contact Steve Mielke for more information.

Professor gifts

One way in which we praise God and express our thanks for the gift of His Son is through our gifts of love to others. We would like to gather a gift for the 12 professors who serve our church body at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire. Monetary gifts may be placed in the designated box in the hallway. Make checks out to "Messiah."

Advent Service

Wed.  7 p.m.

O Come,
Emmanuel!
"O Come, LORD"

Looking Ahead...

♣Today:

9:30 A.M: Christmas Eve practice.

12:15 P.M: Public school confirmation class.

4:00 P.M: Caroling and chili supper.

♣Tuesday:

6:00 P.M: Bd. of Elders.

7:00 P.M: WinGS meeting.

♣Wednesday:

7:00 P.M: Advent service.

♣Thursday:

5:00 P.M: Adult information.

6:30 P.M: Church Council.

♣December 15th:

7:00 P.M: Bd. of Property.

7:00 P.M: Bd. of Education.

♣December 17th:

11:00 A.M: Arbor View Bible class.

♣December 18th:

6:00 P.M: Public school confirmation class.



CLC news

● **Commissioning service:** Pastor Peter Evensen will be commissioned as a CLC foreign missionary in a service to be held at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 18th, at Messiah, Eau Claire.

● **2016 MHT:** Applications are currently being accepted until January 8th for next summer's Mission Helper Trip to India. More information and an online application can be found at: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/2016-india.

● **Maintenance position available:** With the retirement of Ron Porath at the end of March, Immanuel Lutheran College will have a vacancy in the position of a full-time maintenance man. Interested applicants may direct inquiries about the position, applications, and resumes to ILC president, Prof. Steve Sippert (steve.sippert@ilc.edu or 715-836-6620). The deadline for applications is January 10.

● **Retirement:** Pastor Walt Schaller of Detroit, MI, has announced his retirement.

● **Immanuel Christmas events:** As Christmas approaches, these are a few upcoming Immanuel (ILC) events: On Sun., Dec. 13th, 3 pm, there will be the piano/organ recital at the campus fieldhouse. The highlight of the music department will be the Christmas concert at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire on Fri., Dec. 18th, 7:30 pm. This will include the flute choir, band, mass choir, and tour choir. The choir portion of the event is considered a sacred worship service as the students sing the Christmas Gospel message. This is always a spiritually edifying concert to help one focus, even in the midst of the busy holiday season, on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The concert ends the busy finals week for the students.

FINANCES:

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Offerings:	\$4,539.00	\$133,122.00
Sunday School:	\$2.00	
Budgetary Needs:	\$6,403.00	\$140,866.00
Over/(Under) Budget:	(\$1,864.00)	(\$7,744.00)
Missions:	\$0.00	\$1,420.00
(In addition to budgeted amount)		
MDF:	\$90.00	\$803.00
ILC Building Fund:	\$30.00	\$1,780.00
Kinship:	\$15.00	\$396.00

Attendance last Sunday: 101, 50. 12/2: 64.

Church cleaning: Dec. 13:

Church: *Bailey, A., J., B. Mueller.*

School: *Marita, D. Mueller, Altom, Starr.*

Dec. ushers: 1st: *M. Plockelman, E. Nelson.*

2nd: *J. Arndt, T. Fletcher.*

Advent (Dec. 2,9,16): *K. Abrahamson, J. Mueller.*

Christmas Eve: *S. Mielke, J. Mielke.*

Christmas Day: *T. Blue, C. Blue.*

New Years Eve: *J. Lisak, S. Lisak.*



Prepare the Way!

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR TODAY

Malachi 3:1-4 NKJV

“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts.

But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness.

“Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years.”

Philippians 1:3-11 NKJV

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and

confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6 NKJV

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: *“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”*

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