



Messiah
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Church of the Lutheran Confession

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December 31, 2017

Christmas 1

Welcome to our visitors! We appreciate your joining our worship family this morning, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor at 414-427-9337.

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

Today's Worship

"The Word became flesh..." (Jn. 1:14)

Preparation: Read Ps. 2, page 123 in the red hymnal.

The Liturgy: Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement.

Hymns: 105, 91, (79), 138, 715.

Readings:

Isaiah 45:20-25... There is only one Savior-God. Trust in anyone or anything else for enduring hope and life leads only to eternal death.

Psalm: Page 26 in the Worship Supplement.

Colossians 3:12-17... God has given us new Christmas clothes to wear every day.



Sermon: Luke 2:21-40

LIVE IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

- I. In praise and peace.
- II. In thanks and witness.



New Year's Eve service tonight

There is no better way to close out one year and begin another year of God's grace than by gathering in Jesus' name to receive Word and Sacrament. The service begins at 7 p.m.

Thanking God for a precious gift!

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, the Lord blessed Aaron and Jennifer Mueller with the birth of a daughter, *Emily Grace* (7 lbs. 15 oz.; 20 in.). Emily was received into the Lord's kingdom by Holy Baptism later the same day.

2018 Bible reading plan

The Scripture readings which will be printed each week in the bulletin are arranged in chronological order and will lead you through the entire Bible in 2018.

Wednesday Bible class

Midweek Bible class resumes January 10.

Mission fields to remember in prayer

Nepal – Sanju Bhitrakoti, Raju's wife, was diagnosed with gestational diabetes. She has been admitted to the hospital twice over the past couple of months. Most recently she spent twelve days being treated with medication and an IV. They are expecting their baby on January 15.

Tanzania – Pastor Nathanael Mayhew (CLC Bd. of Missions secretary) and Missionary Ohlmann will be leaving for a three week visitation to Tanzania on January 8th. They will spend time visiting and training pastors in the Arusha, Moshi, and Makanya districts. They will also be hosting a general pastoral conference in Moshi and will visit new contacts in Dar es Salaam.

D.R. Congo – The CCLC has purchased land for the Holy Trinity Lutheran Bible Institute and has begun making bricks for the construction of a new building. This building will be built in phases over the next few years. This project will be partially funded through a grant from the CLC Mission Development Fund. Eventually the building will provide classrooms, library, offices, and dormitories for students preparing for the ministry. There are currently seven students enrolled in the three year program.

Zambia – Pastor Ibrahim is considering the possibility of moving from Lusaka to Livingstone so that he can spend more time training the pastors and leaders there.

India/Asia – The CLC-India, BELC-India, CLC-Myanmar, National Lutheran Church of Myanmar, and the Himalayan CLC of Nepal are all making preparations for the 2018 Joint Asia Pastoral Conference scheduled for early February. This conference will be held in Nellore where the BELC has a congregation. Pastor Tim Daub is making plans to attend as well. Missionary Ohlmann will be in India during this time and will also be privileged to attend.

Myanmar – Part-time Visiting Missionary David Koenig and Missionary Ohlmann will visit Myanmar in late February. Seminars will be held with both church bodies that we work with there. The National Lutheran Church is located in Yangon on the South-East border and the CLC-Myanmar is located on the South-West border.

Nepal – Following the Myanmar visit, Missionary Ohlmann will be in Nepal for a few weeks in early March to work with the pastors and leaders of the HCLCN.

Individuals in Senegal, DR Congo, Haiti, Zimbabwe, and Bangladesh continue formal Online Theological Studies correspondence courses.

Looking Ahead...

- ♣ **Today:**
7:00 P.M: New Year's Eve service with Holy Communion.
- ♣ **Tuesday:**
11:00 A.M: Brenwood service.
1:00 P.M: School staff.
- ♣ **Wednesday:**
6:30 P.M: Bd. of Education.
- ♣ **Next Sunday:**
Lord's Supper.
12:15 P.M: Public school confirmation class.
- ♣ **January 11th:**
7:00 P.M: Bd. of Elders.



FINANCES:	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Budgetary Offerings:	\$6,173.00	\$152,852.00
Sunday School:	\$4.00	
Budgetary Needs:	\$6,314.00	\$164,164.00
Over/(Under) Budget:	(\$141.00)	(\$11,312.00)
Missions:	\$75.00	\$1,595.00
MDF:	\$55.00	\$1,484.00
Attendance last Sunday: 55,82. 12/24 evening: 146. 12/25: 116.		

Church Cleaning: Jan 6-12 :
Church: E. Nelson, Serba.
School: Gescheidle, Starr.
January Ushers: 1st: K. Ackerman, S. Mielke.
2nd: T. Garvens, M. Traub.
New Year's Eve: J. Lisak, S. Lisak.

Daily Bible Readings:

M- Gen 1-3:24.
 Tu- Gen 4:1-5:32; 1 Chron 1:1-4; Gen 6:1-22.
 W- Gen 7:1-10:5; 1 Chron 1:5-7; Gen 10:6-20; 1 Chron 1:8-16; Gen 10:21-32.
 Th- Gen 11:1-26; 1 Chron 1:24-27; Gen 11:27-14:24
 F- Gen 15:1-17:27.
 Sa- Gen 18:1-21:7.

FOR
GOD
so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that
whosoever
believeth in
Him should
not perish,
but have
everlasting
Life.
JOHN 3:16

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR TODAY

Isaiah 45:20-25 NKJV

“Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you who have escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge, who carry the wood of their carved image, and pray to a god that cannot save. Tell and bring forth your case; yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, a just God and a Savior; there is none besides Me.

“Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by Myself; the word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath. He shall say, ‘Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength. To Him men shall come, and all shall be ashamed who are incensed against Him. In the LORD all the descendants of Israel shall be justified, and shall glory.’”

Colossians 3:12-17 NKJV

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Luke 2:21-40 NKJV

And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He

was conceived in the womb.

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “*Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD*”), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “*A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.*”

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.”

And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

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