

Second Sunday in Advent

Second Sunday in Advent December 4, 2022 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church 3509 SW Burlingame Rd. Topeka, KS 66611 785-266-6263 www.christlcms.org Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor Amanda Adams, DCE Kyle Johnson, TLS Principal



As We Gather

Please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.



Welcome and Opening Prayer

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People LSB 347 1 "Com - fort, com - fort peo - ple, ye My ye peace," thus Speak 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot ting out each the 3 Hark, her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert long was crook - ed; Make 4 Make ye straight what the rough - er saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark-ness. Mourn-ing dark mis - deed; All that well de-served His an - ger He no Call - ing sin - ners and near, to re - pen-tance, Since the plac - es plain. Let your hearts be and hum - ble, true be -Speak ye 'neath their load. Je - ru - sa - lem sor - rows' to more will heed. She see or hath suf - fered man - v a day. King - dom is here. that warn - ing o - bey! now О cry fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord Of the waits Tell that peace that for them; her her griefs have passed Now her a - wav: God will change her pre - pare for God Let the val levs Now wav; a Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall sins Ι cov - er And her war - fare now is pin - ing sad - ness In to ev er - spring - ing glad - ness. hills rise to meet Him And the bow down to greet Him. see the to - ken That Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt That His Word is nev - er bro - ken. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Stand

Divine Service Setting One, page 151

+ Confession and Absolution +

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, "To absolve of sin and wrongdoing," more specifically, to affirm God's forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

InvocationMatthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation 1 John 1:8–9 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?

Confession of Sins LSB 151

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution [John 20:19–23] LSB 151

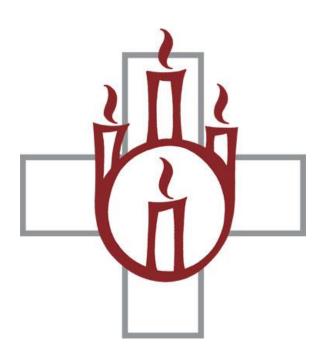
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

- **P** In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
- make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- **P** Seek the LORD and his strength;
- seek his presence continually!
- P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
- c his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
- P O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
- children of Jacob, his chosen ones!
- **P** He is the LORD our God;
- **C** his judgments are in all the earth.
- P He remembers his covenant forever,
- the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- **P** In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
- **C** make straight in the desert a highway for our God.



Kyrie Mark 10:47 152

A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to greet." "Collect" (KAH-lekt), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also "collects" the message of the day's Gospel reading.

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 11.

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,

and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,

and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;

and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together;

and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,

and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy

in all my holy mountain;

for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD

as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes

Choir

CCLI Song # 5632516
Joel Raney
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Epistle Romans 15:4–13

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 15.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

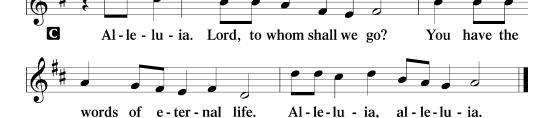
¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Hebrew word meaning "praise the LORD." Also spelled "Hallelujah".





Holy Gospel Matthew 3:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

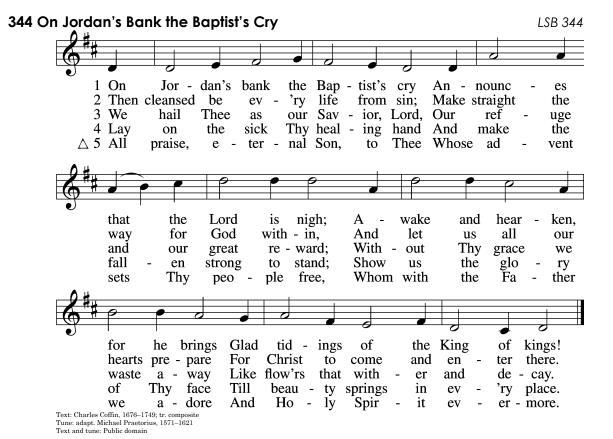
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education, at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.



Sermon



Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving through Vanco at bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS for a one-time or recurring gift. You may also download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS. Direct links and additional information are available on the church website (christlems.org/giving).



For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

Stand

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."

- ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.



Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



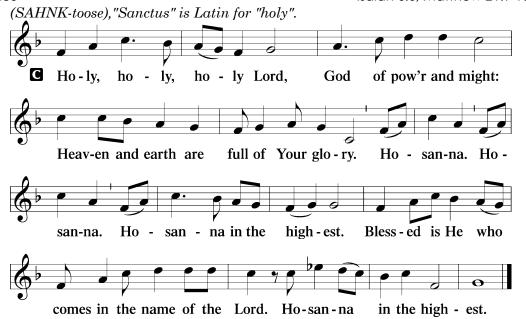
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

161

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19 163

(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

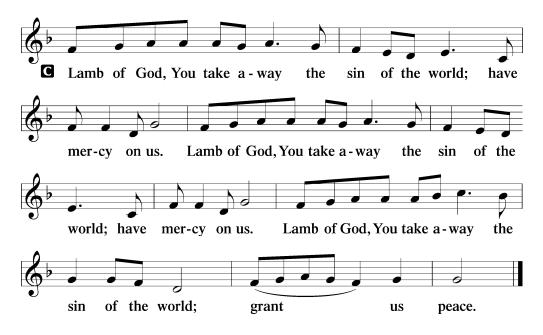
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Agnus Dei John 1:29 LSB 163

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."



Sit

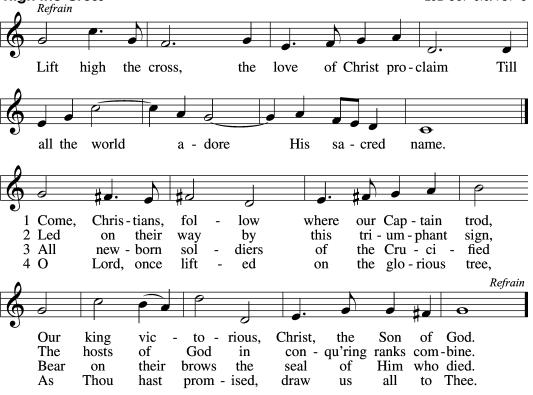
Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.





LSB 837 sts. ref-6



- Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell 5 Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain
- So shall our song of triumph ever be: 6 Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain $_{\rm Text:\ George\ W.\ Kitchin,\ 1827-1912;\ rev.\ Michael\ R.\ Newbolt,\ 1874-1956,\ alt.}$

Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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LSB 936



In - iq - ui - ty

is

peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

for - giv - en.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842

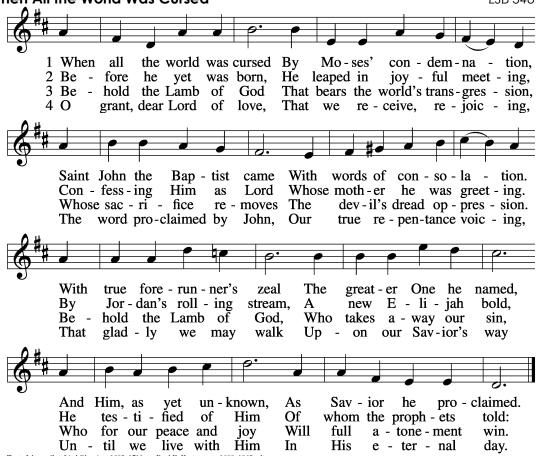
grace for all where - by

foot - steps on the path Of

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Tune: Public domain



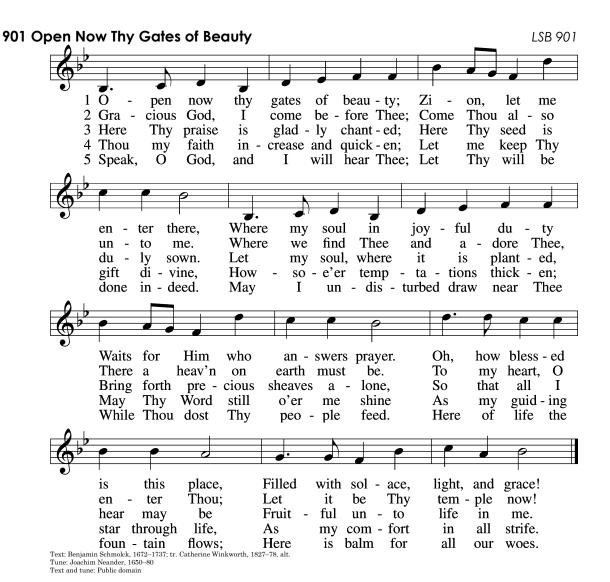


Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.

Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629-1701

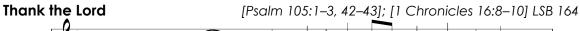
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Stand







C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benediction Numbers 6:24–26 166

A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Sit

348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris ing morn When Christ, vic to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo-rious morn Shall dawn up-on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky. And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes. The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 4th	9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Voters Meeting Youth (4 th -12 th grades) Christmas Movie Day
Monday December 5th	9:00 am	LWML Christmas Caroling
Tuesday December 6th	4:00 pm	TLS Fundraiser at Culver's
Wednesday December 7th	6:00 pm	Confirmation Advent Meal Advent Midweek Worship Service Choir
Thursday December 8th	•	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Study
Friday December 9th		
Saturday December 10th		Women's Monthly Bible Study at Lois' home Children's Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
Sunday December 11th	9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Children's Christmas Program Christmas Potluck College/Young Adult Group (18-25) Bowling

Celebrating

Birthdays: Linda B., Lillian C., Elijah M. (4th); Denny J., Aaron K. (5th); Jennifer A., Carolyn C., Jayel M. (6th); Jason A., Aleah B., Delaney S. (8th); Joshua A., Ann-Marie B. (9th)

Baptism Birthdays: Wayne K., Aaron K. (5th); Glenna B., Eric C., Kinley G. (6th); Madeline J. (7th); Benjamin A., Eddie M. (8th); Erin B., Bob T. (9th); Carolyn C., Sharon L., Terry L., Justin M. (10th)

Anniversaries: (none this week)

-- Announcements --

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Romans (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) Tree of Life (Basement Small Group) – Basement Meeting Room A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through 6^{th} grade) — Upstairs Education Wing Youth (7^{th} - 12^{th} grades) — Basement Youth Room

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Book of Daniel – Thursdays at 7 PM – Basement (This class does NOT meet on the first Thursday of each month.)

<u>Advent Meals & Advent Midweek Worship Services</u>

Join us on Wednesdays for our weekly 6:00 PM Advent Meals and 7:00 PM Advent Midweek Worship Services. A free will offering will be taken at Advent Meals, with proceeds going to Christ Youth. Sign up in the coffee lobby if you would like to bring dessert! Our midweek worship services for this Advent season will have the theme "O Come, Emmanuel." We hope you'll join us!

Advent Devotions

Pick up your FREE devotions for the season at the back of the sanctuary, courtesy of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Both regular print and large print are available.

Children's Christmas Program & Potluck

The Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 11th at 10:30 AM. (The 8 AM time slot that day will still be a full worship service with communion.) A potluck lunch will follow the program – so bring a dish to share!

Bible Reading Challenge

Our current Bible Reading Challenge is THE BIG ONE – reading the entire Bible in a year! Pick up a reading calendar in the coffee lobby or download from our website. We just started last Sunday, so it's not too late to catch up!

Voters Meeting - TODAY!

Our annual voters meeting to discuss budget and other topics will be on Sunday, December 4th at 11:45 AM. All members are encouraged to attend!

Youth Christmas Movie Day – TODAY!

4th -12th grade youth are invited to join us on Sunday, Dec, 4th at 11:45AM for a movie, devotion and Christmas fun. Lunch will be provided, feel free to bring a snack to share! (Parents – you can drop off youth in the basement and then attend the Voters Meeting!)

-- Announcements --

LWML Christmas Caroling

All are welcome to join the ladies of LWML for some Christmas caroling on Monday, Dec. 5th. Meet at church no later than 9:45 AM if you would like to carpool – otherwise meet up with us at 10 AM at McCrite and/or 12 PM at Thornton Place. We will reconvene for lunch in the church basement when we are through. Questions? Contact Pauline Calwell or Adair Hartman.

TLS Fundraiser at Culver's

Enjoy dinner and/or dessert from Culver's this Tuesday (December 6th) from 4-10 PM. Be sure to mention Topeka Lutheran School when you order, and TLS will receive 20% of the sales we generate.

Christmas for SLI

LWML is once again supporting SLI this Christmas. They would love your help collecting gifts for the residents. Please bring items by Dec. 7th (unwrapped.) Items needed: Men's and Women's lotions, soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner; Toothpaste, Men's After Shave, Men's socks size 6-10 or 10-13, Men's underwear sizes L or XL; 38-40 Boxers, Women's underwear sizes 7, 8, or 13 OR items from the display board in the coffee lobby. Thank you for your support. If you have questions, please contact LaJean.

College/Young Adult Group Christmas Gathering

Our College & Young Adult Group (ages 18-25) will meet on Sunday, Dec. 11^{th} at 1:30 PM to go bowling. (This is in place of the December 4^{th} activity previously announced.)

Breakfast with Santa

A free event for the whole family! Join us on Saturday, Dec. 17th from 9 AM to 11 AM in the gym here at Christ. Enjoy a pancake breakfast and fun activities at your table. We'll call your number when it's time to see Santa so you don't have to stand in line all morning. Don't forget to bring your camera for a photo! *Volunteers are also needed for this event – please sign up in the coffee lobby.*

Zoo Lights

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 18th anytime between 5:30 PM and 8:30 PM at the "Children's Party House" shelter in Gage Park for some free hot cocoa and treats! Then enjoy the Zoo Lights with your family and friends. Tickets for the Zoo Lights may be purchased online through the Topeka Zoo website (topekazoo.org/zoolights). Purchasing tickets in advance is recommended, as the event often sells out throughout the season.

-- Announcements --

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Carolyn S., Jen (Donna B.'s niece), Barbara K., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Kim (friend of the Micheels), Dick H., Penny (Marty K.'s coworker's wife), Betty H., Sammi (Carol J.'s friend's granddaughter), Burnell M., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Chris G., Sharon H., Lila N., and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of Topeka Lutheran School and the Jr. Wildcats. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.





By the Preaching of Repentance, We Are Prepared for the Coming of the Lord

"John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent'" (Matt. 3:1–2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John's work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, "a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots" (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is "a signal for the peoples" (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. "With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips" (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the "root of Jesse" comes to us, "even he who arises to rule the Gentiles" (Rom. 15:12), that "we might have hope" and be filled "with all joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:4, 13).

Worship Attendance - Sunday, November 27th

8:00 AM -- 63 10:30 AM -- 67

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs: Offerings Received – Week of 11/27	$\begin{array}{cc} \$ & 8,337 \\ \$ & 4,217 \end{array}$
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Nov 2022)	\$ 397,408
Offerings Received (Jan-Nov 2022)	\$ 384,968

Matthew 3:1-2 – "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.