

Therefore you also be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour
you do not expect." Matthew 24:44



LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(Grades K-8)

CLC - Church of the Lutheran Confession

134 21st Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

(920) 922-7421

10:00 am Service Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:00 am

Pastor Dave Naumann

Principal Dave Bernthal

Teacher Amy Osborne

Teacher Karen Strike

Fdllutheran.com

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2008

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 85 (front of the hymnal p. 140)

The Hymns: 55, 705, 127:3, 75, Fields are Peaceful and

White

O Lord Jesus Christ, as we celebrate Thine advent on this first Sunday of the church year send Thy Holy Spirit to open our hearts to receive Thee. Come with Thy blessing upon our congregation, giving faithfulness to our pastor and teachers and success to their efforts, bestowing upon all our members brotherly love for one another and a zeal to spread the Gospel. Keep our Church of the Lutheran Confession free from error and strengthen the bond of fellowship within it. Finally, come Lord Jesus! Amen..

Bells – Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn 55

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, page 5 – Congregation Stands)*

PASTOR In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

PASTOR Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) Who made heaven and earth

PASTOR I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

PASTOR Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore

we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

CONGR. (sing) Amen. *(congregation is seated)*

THE INTROIT

Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often from the Psalms.

P: Unto You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul:

C: O my God, I trust in You.

P: Do not let me be ashamed:

C: Do not let my enemies overcome me.

P: Let no one who looks to you for help:

C: Ever be ashamed.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me to follow in Your paths.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (Hymnal, page 6)

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life. (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

"Glory to God in the highest" (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world. Receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

PASTOR The Lord be with you.

CONGR. (sing) And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The main thoughts for the day are "collected" together in this prayer.

PASTOR Let us pray.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE BIBLE LESSONS

God speaks to us.

The Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword

against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. 5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

PASTOR Here ends the Old Testament Reading. We continue with the responsive reading of:

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: All those who look to You for help:

C: These shall never be ashamed, O Lord.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me Your paths. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Show us Your mercy, O Lord:

C: And grant to us Your salvation. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The New Testament Reading comes from Matthew chapter 24, beginning there in the 37th verse.

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 24:37-44 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

PASTOR Here ends the New Testament Reading.

CONGR. (sing) Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Congregation stands for:

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (Hymnal, page 12)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 705

THE SERMON

Romans 13:11-14 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Theme: "THE TIME IS NOW!"

I. To wake up

II. To get dressed

III. To look forward to a new day

THE OFFERTORY

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

(Hymnal, pages 12-13) (sing)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. While the ushers present our offerings at the Lord's Altar, we stand and sing the offering hymn 127:3:

**As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King!**

PRAYERS - (Pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - (All)

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.

Hymn 75

Congregation stands for:

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

PASTOR:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

CONGR. (sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

The Closing Hymn (standing)

LEISE RIESELT DER SCHNEE

Words and arrangement by Gerhardt Mueller 1964

1. Fields are peaceful and white,
Christmas shines through the night,
Snowflakes like jewels appear,
Joyfully, Jesus is here!
2. Carols echo on high,
Clear as stars in the sky,
Angels from heaven appear,
Joyfully, Jesus is here!
3. Sin's dread curse now is gone,
Peace with God through His Son,

Freed from all sadness and fear

Joyfully, Jesus is here!

4. Sing and let us rejoice,
Join with glad heart and voice
Come, with the shepherds draw near,
Joyfully, Jesus is here! Amen.

*** Silent Prayer ***

Verbal Announcements --- Ushers dismiss by row

Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

- TUE** 10:00 am LM Church Service at the Lutheran Home
6:00 pm Luther Memorial Ladies Christmas Party
- WED** 9:00 am Women's Bible Reading
10:30 am First Midweek Advent Morning Service
7:00 pm First Midweek Advent Evening Service
- FRI** 1:00 pm 75er's Christmas Party
7:00 – 8:00 pm Family Gym Night at Theisen School
- SUN** 9:00 – 9:45 am Children's Christmas Eve practice
11:00 am Church Decorating
- TV CHURCH** – Today's Service replayed on Cable TV Channel 19
Tuesday at noon, Friday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 3:30 pm.

TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON Parents, relatives, and friends may like to know what is being taught to the children of our congregation in Sunday School. Today our children heard about Paul's Second Missionary Journey – **Acts 15:36-18:22**. For a family devotion at home, open your Bible and read the account!

TODAY'S BIBLE CLASS We are studying a paper being written for the 50th anniversary of the CLC by Pastor David Lau. It is a Bible based paper that explains our origins as CLC Lutherans. Join us!

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” 1 Peter 3:15

TUESDAY LADIES' CHRISTMAS PARTY December 2. Punch is served at 6:00 pm, potluck at 6:30 pm. This year's theme: "Handel's Messiah." Ladies of Luther Memorial Team 2 please see the sign up sheet to find out how you can help with this fun event!

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES The first of three midweek services is scheduled to begin this Wednesday with a service in the morning at 10:30 am and a service in the evening at 7:00 pm. In these services we praise our God for His coming to earth the first time and look forward to His second coming which He has promised is very soon. We all have priorities this busy time of year - let's put these services at the top of the list!

75'ERS CHRISTMAS PARTY This year's gathering will be on Friday, December 5th. Please note that this year's party starts at 1:00 p.m. All members of Luther Memorial 75 years and over are welcome and encouraged to attend.

GYM NIGHT This year we are renting Theisen Gym for one hour, 7:00 – 8:00 pm Fridays on the following dates. December 5, 12; January 2, 9, 16, 23; February 6, 13, 20, 27; March 6. Our young people will be practicing for the upcoming Grade School Basketball tournament next March. There is usually an adult volley ball game going on. The whole congregation is invited. As always, a basket for donations will be set out to help cover the rental fee. Please bring balls, frisbees, and anything else with which kids (and adults) of all sizes can have fun and exercise!

CHRISTMAS CARDS Boxes of Christmas cards are still available in room #1 (the meeting room). The price of each box is found on the back of each box. Payments may be made to Mrs. Bernice Mueller.

CHRISTMAS BOXES Your gifts of money to our Luther Memorial Called Workers, our Immanuel Lutheran College Professor Gift Boxes, and also our CLC Foreign Missionary can be put in the appropriate boxes in the back of the church.

CHILDREN'S PRACTICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

This year we are having practice in place of Sunday School for the first three Sundays in December. We begin this Sunday December 7th 9:00 – 9:45 am. Mr. Dave Bernthal is our director. Non-day school children (preschool - grade 8) have been included in the service and will be receiving their assignments. May the Lord bless us all once again with the message of our Savior's birth!

THIS SUNDAY DEC. 7 - CHURCH DECORATING 11:00 A.M. Your help is needed following the church service next week to decorate our wonderful house of worship for the Christmas season. With everyone helping, we'll be done in an hour, so please stay if you can! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** With the snow season upon us, we are seeking volunteers to clear the sidewalks and entryways of our church and school. Snow blowers and shovels are provided. If you act fast, you can get this free early morning exercise by signing up for the first or last half of the winter month of your choice on the bulletin board.

BUS FOR THE ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT A "coach" bus has been chartered to attend the Immanuel Lutheran College Christmas Concert being held at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire on Friday December 19. We will be leaving at 2:00 pm from the church, the bus will stop at a McDonald's for food, the concert is at 7:30 pm. Leaving at 10:00 pm we arrive back here in Fond du Lac around 1-2:00 am. The bus has 47 seats and an onboard bathroom. The cost will be \$20 for each passenger (\$10.00 one way). This would be a good way for ILC students to get home. Please see the bulletin board to sign up.

GRADESCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT Information may be found online at www.clclutheran.com/tourney It is suggested that hotel reservations be made soon!

FUNDS TO REMEMBER WITH YOUR PRAYERS AND OFFERINGS General Budget; Missions, LM Building Fund; Student Aid Fund; Academic Center Fund (ILC). Other synod and local funds are listed on the bulletin board. Envelopes are available on the registry table.

SERVICE TODAY Ushers: Team 4 Wayne Wischnefski, Alan Kottke, Chris Sabel, Ron Haensgen, Mark King, Joel Delarme. Organist Adrienne F.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES Available ushers. Organist Rhoda E.

NEXT SUNDAY Ushers: Team 1 Lowell Boelk, Rodney Kern, John Scheberl, David Dexter, Jim Fillmore, Tom N., Organist Adrienne F.



BIBLE NUGGETS – YOUR BAPTISM MATTERS! As you read and read our Bible Readings in today’s service, please consider a little background information. Genesis. 8 reveals that Noah, along with a few others, was preserved in the ark during the time of the Flood. Also, [it reveals] how he let a raven fly out, which never returned; contrarily, a little dove returned to the box with an olive branch, v. 8. This is a type of holy Baptism.

1 Peter. 3:20-21 – *“Through which (Noah’s ark) a few, that is, eight souls, were kept by means of water; so also water now saves us in Baptism, which is signified by the former.”* Just as only those who were in the ark were kept alive through the Flood, while contrarily all the others perished, so also we may be preserved to eternal life only through the Sacrament of holy Baptism, since we become members of the Church through it. So also the hellish, black raven of the devil must abandon the baptized person; and conversely the Holy Spirit comes upon him and brings peace and comfort to his conscience – just as He descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove at His Baptism. *A Comprehensive Explanation of Holy Baptism and the Lord’s Supper* by Johann Gerhard, p. 17-18

GIVEN TO THE LORD – FROM THANKFUL HEARTS Attendance: - 140

(This is an unofficial summary. For the official summary, speak to the Financial Secretary)

Budgetary	weekly	for the fiscal year	
Received	\$2,747 (\$4,312 needed)	\$158,752	
Non-budgetary			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$120	balance	\$3,537
Debt Retirement Fund	\$0	balance	\$325
LM Building Fund	\$25	mortgage	\$33,766
Missions (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)			
Budgetary	weekly	year to date	
Received	\$835	\$20,054	
Non-budgetary			
CLCI Orphanage	\$5		
Luther Memorial School	\$10		

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

**“Behold, I am coming quickly!
Hold fast what you have,
that no one may take your crown.”
Revelation 3:11**

The Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. 5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

PASTOR Here ends the Old Testament Reading. We continue with the responsive reading of:

THE GRADUAL

P: All those who look to You for help:

C: These shall never be ashamed, O Lord.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me Your paths. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Show us Your mercy, O Lord:

C: And grant to us Your salvation. Hallelujah!

The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 24:37-44 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Old Testament Reading for 1st Sunday in Advent Isaiah 2:1-5

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the prophet Isaiah gives us a beautiful picture of the church of Jesus Christ in its New Testament fulfillment, when people from all nations will know the God of their Salvation. The end result will be the heavenly Jerusalem, a place of perfect peace and fellowship with God. We read...

The New Testament Reading: Matthew 24:37-44

Are you ready for Christ's coming? The Apostle Paul encourages us to "put aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" He echoes Isaiah's words, "Let us walk in the light of the LORD!" We read...