



delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

**PASTOR:** This ends our Old Testament Reading.  
Blessed are they that hear the Word of God  
and keep it. Hallelujah!

**CONGR: (sing)** *Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

**PASTOR:** The New Testament reading is from Matthew  
chapter 3, beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

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

### New Testament Reading

Matthew 3:1-12 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" 4 And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto 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 fire. 12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

**PASTOR:** This ends the New Testament Reading

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

### THE NICENE CREED

*We boldly confess what we believe. (Hymnal, page 22)*

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who procedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

### The Hymn 710

#### THE SERMON

Romans 15:4-13 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. 5 Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, 6 that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. 8 Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers, 9 and

that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: "For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name." 10 And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!" 11 And again: "Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!" 12 And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Theme: "THE CHRISTCHILD BRINGS US TRUE UNITY"

- I. That gives glory to God (5-6)
- II. That reaches out to others (7-12)
- III. That fills us with spiritual blessings (13)

### **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.*

### **THE GENERAL PRAYER**

(Pastor)

### **THE CONFESSION OF SINS**

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

**PASTOR:** Having now heard the Word of God, I invite the congregation to kneel or stand and make confession of your sins.  
(kneelers are available under the pews on the right side of church)

**ALL:** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless

**mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**PASTOR:** If this is your sincere confession, then answer by saying "yes."  
**CONGR: Yes.**

**PASTOR:** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called servant of God's Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Arise now in peace. Let us continue our Communion service.

### **THE PREFACE/ PROPER PREFACE**

*Now we approach the second high point of the liturgy, the Sacrament, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood. We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration. (Hymnal p. 24-25)*

**PASTOR:** The Lord be with you.  
**CONGR: (sing)** ***And with thy spirit.***

**PASTOR:** Lift up your hearts.  
**CONGR: (sing)** ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***  
**PASTOR:** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.  
**CONGR: (sing)** ***It is meet and right so to do.***

**PASTOR:** It is truly meet, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### **THE SANCTUS**

*Latin: "Holy." We join our voices to the angels who sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy" round about His throne and we welcome Him with the Palm Sunday multitude who sang, "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!" (Hymnal, page 26)*

**CONG: (sing)** ***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.  
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He  
that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.***

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

PASTOR: 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;  
**CONG: (sing) For Thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory forever and ever, Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

(Pastor)

*The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His sacramental body and blood for all time*

PASTOR: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Take, drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**CONGR: (sing) Amen.**

## **THE AGNUS DEI**

*Latin: "Lamb of God." As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to think only of that Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary's cross. (Hymnal, page 28)*

**CONGR: (sing)**

***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.***  
***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.***  
***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.***

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

Those who are members here at Luther Memorial or are members of a sister church in the CLC and have announced their intention to partake of the Lord's Supper may now come forward to receive the Sacrament at the direction of the ushers.

***A special note to our visitors: The Bible tells us to be "perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Corinthians 1:10). Holy Communion is therefore both a communing with God and a public statement that those communing together believe the same thing. For this reason we ask that anyone who has not established this unity through membership in a CLC congregation first schedule a meeting with the pastor before communing. We hold this position in loving obedience to the Word of God, not in judgment of anyone's Christian faith, sincerity, or standing before God.***

**Hymn(s) sung during the Distribution: 85**

## **THE NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Latin: "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)  
(Hymnal, page 29)*

**CONGR: (sing) Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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.**

PASTOR: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

**CONGR: (sing) And His mercy endureth forever.**

PASTOR: (Prayer)

**CONGR: (sing) Amen.**

## **THE BENEDICTION**

*The blessing given by God for 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) 91:5-6

\*\*\* Silent Prayer \*\*\*

# A n n o u n c e m e n t s

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

**TODAY! CHURCH DECORATING 11:00 A.M.** Your help is needed following the church service to decorate our wonderful house of worship for the Christmas season. With everyone helping, we'll be done in about an hour, so please stay if you can!

**PRAISE GOD!** To the many people who helped with last week's festivities at the Evening Ladies Christmas party and the 75ers' Christmas party, the congregation thanks you for sharing your God-given time and talents! You are appreciated.

**CAROLING** Beginning at 2:00 pm Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Once again this year we plan on singing some Christmas favorites to our shut-ins. All are welcome, young and old, just bring your voice! Bring the whole family and make some blessed memories for your children.

**WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES** Please be encouraged to get your share of Advent blessings from Jesus Christ by attending our Second midweek service this Wednesday. Last weeks attendance was low - 67 in the morning service and 27 in the evening. Your Savior and I will be looking for you – please come!

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Following service Today - Christmas Decorating of the church

**TUE** 6:30 pm Church Council

**WED** 10:30 am Second Midweek Advent Morning Service  
7:00 pm Second Midweek Advent Evening Service

**THU** 4:30-6:00 Non Day School Confirmation

**FRI** 7:30 – 8:30 pm Family Gym Night at Theisen School

**SAT** 10:00-11:30 am Children's Christmas Eve Practice

**SUN** 9:00 – 9:45 am Children's Christmas Eve practice  
11:00 am Pre-Schoolers' Christmas Party

**TV CHURCH** – Today's Service 'replayed on Cable TV Channel 19  
Tuesday at noon, Friday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 3:30 pm.

## **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 began today: 9:00 – 9:45 am. We also plan a practice for this coming Saturday, December 13, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Mr. Dave Bernthal is our director. Non-day school children (preschool - grade 8) have been included in the service and should have received their assignments. Parents, please go over your children's memory work in verse and hymns at home. If you need an extra copy of the service, speak with Pastor or Principal Bernthal. May the Lord bless us all once again with the message of our Savior's birth!

**TODAY'S BIBLE CLASS** We are studying a paper being written for the 50<sup>th</sup> 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**

**BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BABY JESUS** Next Sunday following the morning service in the Choir Room the LM Eagles Youth Group are hosting a Christmas Party for the pre-school age children of our congregation. If you would like to bring a Gift for Baby Jesus, we ask that you bring money to give to children that live in India or Africa. We would like these children to know about Baby Jesus, too!  
Parents: If your child doesn't have much time to stay, please stop in and pick up a treat bag for them. Thank you!

**"For unto you is born, this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the LORD." Luke 2:11**

**GYM NIGHT** This year we are renting Theisen Gym for one hour, 7:30 – 8:30 pm Fridays on the following dates. December 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! We are blessed with both of these: **“For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.” 1 Timothy 4:8**

**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.

**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 no one signs up, we'll have to hire it out. Thanks for your consideration.

**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.

**RECITAL INVITATION** The Immanuel Lutheran College music teachers extend an invitation to attend the student Piano/Organ Recital on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 3:00 pm in the ILC Fieldhouse.

**CLC NEWS** >>Scott Schiermeister, 2008 Seminary Graduate of ILC, has accepted the call to St. John's and Peace Lutheran Churches of Clarkston, WA and Orofino, ID.

**GRADESCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** Information may be found online at [www.clclutheran.com/tourney](http://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 1 Lowell Boelk, Rodney Kern, John Scheberl, David Dexter, Jim Fillmore, Tom N., Organist Adrienne F.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES** Available ushers. Organist Adrienne F.

**NEXT SUNDAY** Ushers: Team 2 Don Seibel, Lowell Boelk, Joe N., Ed Jacobs, Gene Mielke, Don Gescheidle, Adam J. Organist Rhoda E.

**LAST WEEK – FROM THANKFUL HEARTS** Sunday - 163; Thanksgiving - 190  
*(This is an unofficial summary. For the official summary, speak to the Financial Secretary)*

<b>Budgetary</b>	<b>weekly</b>	<b>for the fiscal year</b>	
Received	\$6,263 (\$4,312 needed)	\$165,015	
<b>Non-budgetary</b>			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$40	balance	\$3,577
Debt Retirement Fund	\$100	balance	\$425
LM Building Fund	\$40	mortgage	\$33,726
<b>Missions</b> (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)			
Budgetary	weekly	year to date	
Received	\$978	\$21,032	
<b>Non-budgetary</b>			
CLCI Orphanage	\$15		
ILC Building Fund	\$10		

## WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that

# you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 11:1-10 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 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 of the fear of the LORD. 3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

**PASTOR:** This ends our Old Testament Reading.  
Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it. Hallelujah!

## **New Testament Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the

wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" 4 And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto 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 fire. 12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

## **Old Testament Reading for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

### **Isaiah 11:1-10**

Jesus is the "rod from the stem of Jesse, the Savior descendant promised through the Jewish line. Through His Word He brings peace and unites even natural enemies. Today, despite the evil world we live in, His Word stands tall and sure in our hearts through faith – like a mighty banner on the battle field! We read...

## **New Testament Reading**

### **Matthew 3:1-12**

John the Baptist preached repentance, and many listened. He also condemned the false religions of the Pharisees and Sadducees, who thought that they could get to heaven by their good deeds and ancestry. John preached the Good News! - To

get to heaven takes faith in the promised Savior Jesus Christ.

We read...