



## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(Grades K-8)

CLC - Church of the Lutheran Confession

134 21<sup>st</sup> 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

### **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 21, 2008**

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 40 (front of the hymnal p. 132)

The Hymns: 56, 701, 108:1&6, Fields, 70:1

*Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father, send Your Son into our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit, that we, being strengthened by this greatest of all gifts, may walk before You in fervent faith and all holy obedience. Watch over our little flock, and by faith make us ready at all times for the second coming of Jesus. Forgive us our sins, strengthen our faith, and renew in us a right spirit in our Advent and Christmas worship. In Jesus Name, Amen..*

### **Bells – Opening Prayer**

### **Opening Hymn 56**

### **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:** Drop down, you heavens, from above:

**C:** And let the skies pour down righteousness.

**P:** Let the earth open:

**C:** And bring forth salvation.

**P:** The heavens declare the glory of God:

**C:** And the firmament shows His handiwork.

### **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 7:10-14 Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, 11 "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." 12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!" 13 Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? 14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

**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: The Lord is near to all those who call upon Him.

**C: To all who call upon Him in truth.**

P: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

**C: And let all flesh praise His holy name.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: You are my Help and my Deliverer:

**C: Answer in Your time, O my God. Hallelujah!**

**CONGR. (sing) *Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

**PASTOR** The New Testament Reading comes from Matthew chapter 1, beginning there in the 18<sup>th</sup> verse.

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

### **The New Testament Reading:**

Matthew 1:18-25 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

**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 701

### **THE SERMON**

Romans 1:1-7 Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God 2 which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, 4 and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. 5 Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, 6 among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; 7 To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Theme: "ON EARTH PEACE – BY THE GRACE OF GOD"

I. God's Grace Sent the World a Savior

- II. God's Peace Comes Through that Savior  
III. Being at Peace with God, We Make Peace Among Men

### **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 108:1&6:*

**1. We sing, Immanuel, Thy praise,  
Thou Prince of Life and Fount of grace,  
Thou Flower of heaven and Star of morn,  
Thou Lord of lords, Thou Virgin-born. Hallelujah!  
6. I have the will, the power is weak;  
Yet, Lord, my humble offering take  
And graciously the love receive  
Which my poor heart to Thee can give. Hallelujah!**

### **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**

### **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!

*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 70:1** (standing)

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

*Verbal Announcements --- Ushers dismiss by row*

# **Announcements**

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

## **SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**

\*\*Sunday School and Bible Class are in recess next Sunday  
Wednesday, 7:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve Service  
Dec. 25, 10:00 am Christmas Day Service  
Dec. 31, 7:00 pm New Year's Eve Communion Service  
Jan. 1, 10:00 am New Year's Day Song Service. (favorites)  
**TV CHURCH** – Today's Service 'replayed on Cable TV Channel 19  
Tuesday at noon, Friday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 3:30 pm.

**CAROLING TODAY** Please join us for our annual Christmas Caroling beginning at 2:00 pm. We have four stops planned, and look forward to joining voices with you in praises to our King!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT: CHRISTMAS EVE** Our children will present for us in song and verse the marvel of God's love -- the account of the birth of His Son and our Savior Jesus Christ. The theme is: "Christmas Light." Parents are asked to have their children here 30 minutes before service at 6:30 pm. Those involved with pre-service music should be here by 6:20 pm. Pre-service music and instrumentals begin at 6:30 pm. If you know anyone who doesn't have a church to go to this evening, Invite them along with you!

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS EVE** If you can play the piano, organ, or other instrument and would like to play some Christmas music before our Christmas Eve service, please contact Adrienne Fillmore (922-1774) to sign up. This would be a nice gift for your Savior Jesus. Also, your musical talents will be greatly appreciated by the congregation!

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN COLLEGE PROFESSOR GIFTS** Thirteen gift bags of Christmas goodies for the Professors at ILC were assembled, filled and delivered last week as gifts from Luther Memorial Church. Thank you to all!

**LAST DAY FOR LUTHER MEMORIAL CALLED WORKER GIFTS** Donations can be put in the box in back of church.

**LAST DAY FOR THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY CHRISTMAS GIFT** Donations can be put in the box in back of church.

**IN THE HOSPITAL - IN OUR PRAYERS** Keith Rademann is at Hospice Home of Hope. His battle with cancer continues. We trust in the LORD's promise for His children: **"Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."**

**SERVING THE LORD** The Church Council is seeking eligible and willing men of the congregation to be nominated for the Church Council in the new year. Please speak with President Jim Fillmore. (922-1774)

**LAST MINUTE STOCKING STUFFER IDEAS** In the hallway: copies of the Luther Memorial Cook Books (\$6); the Hymnal Supplement 2000 (\$15); Also, there are a few more copies of two different CDs from the Immanuel Lutheran College Tour Choir available in the hallway. One for \$11 is entitled "The Uplifted, Uplifting Christ," The other for \$10 is "Agnes Dei (Lamb of God)." Please put payment in the nearby envelopes. Checks should be made out to Luther Memorial Church.

**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**

**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.

**GYM NIGHT** Next scheduled for January 6, 7:30–8:30 pm.

**GRADESCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** The 23<sup>rd</sup> Grade School Basketball Tournament for CLC Youth will be held at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Friday-Sunday, March 13-15, 2009. Congregations/schools sponsoring teams are asked to register their teams (number of teams) to Ted Quade no later than January 15, 2009. Rosters and other information will be due February 1, 2009. Other information regarding the tournament can be found at [www.CLClutheran.net/tourney](http://www.CLClutheran.net/tourney).

**THANK YOU ALL!** There are many tasks that must be done here on the church grounds that are done by “silent” volunteers. Even though you do these things out of love for your LORD Jesus, we want you to know that you are appreciated and noticed by your fellow members!

**"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'" Matthew 25:40**

**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.

**CHALLENGED BY OUR CURRENT DEFICIT** The Church Council would like to bring to the attention of the congregation our budget deficit. With just a week and a half left to go in our fiscal year, the spending deficit (what was spent in excess of what was collected) for the year is \$40,598. The loan balance that the budgetary account owes the bank is \$18,000.

**Malachi 3:10** Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the

**windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.**

May the LORD move our hearts with a cheerful response as we ponder anew the gift of His Son in Bethlehem, our Savior Jesus.

**SERVICE TODAY** Ushers: Team 3 Gordon Krause, Reuel Dins, John Herzberg, Tim Johannes, Steve Seibel. Organist Rhoda Eserhut

**CHRISTMAS EVE:** Available Ushers: Organist Adrienne Fillmore

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** Available Ushers: Organist Rhoda Eserhut

**NEXT SUNDAY** Usher Team 4 Wayne Wischnefski, Alan Kottke, Chris Sabel, Ron Haensgen, Mark King, Joel Delarme. Organist Rhoda Eserhut

**LAST WEEK – FOR THE LORD** Sunday - 144; Midweek – 80 & 22

*(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	\$3,748 (\$4,312 needed)	\$172,260	
<b>Non-budgetary</b>			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$120	balance	\$3,824
Debt Retirement Fund	\$0	balance	\$425
LM Building Fund	\$0	mortgage	\$33,015
<b>Missions</b> (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)			
Budgetary	weekly	year to date	
Received	\$828	\$22,698	
<b>Non-budgetary</b>			
CLCI Orphanage	\$70		
ILC Building Fund	\$5		



**WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE**

**"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His**

name Immanuel," which is translated,  
"God with us." Matthew 1:23

**The Old Testament Reading:**

Isaiah 7:10-14 Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, 11 "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." 12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!" 13 Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? 14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

**THE GRADUAL**

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**C: To all who call upon Him in truth.**

P: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

**C: And let all flesh praise His holy name.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

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is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

**The Old Testament Reading for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**Isaiah 7:10-14**

King Ahaz of Judah in fake humility, refuses a sign from the LORD, but these verses tell us of the faithfulness of our God who will fulfill His age old promise to send His Son to be our Redeemer. It is the greatest demonstration of God's love for us sinners, and we celebrate this act of God's love at Christmas. We read...

**The Old Testament Reading:**

**Isaiah 7:10-14**

These verses report the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in our OT reading – the virgin Mary gives birth to Jesus our Savior! Imagine! God with us, Immanuel! We read...

