



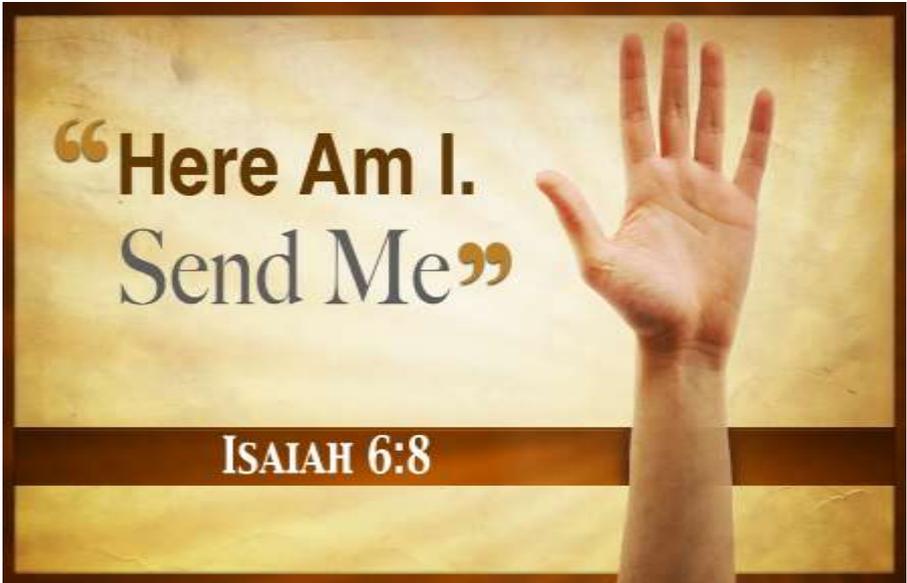
*"WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED..."*

*~1 CORINTHIANS 1:23*

**LUTHER MEMORIAL**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL K-8

134 21st Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession ♦ [www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)



9:00am Sunday School & Bible Class / 10:00am Divine Service

Visit us at: [www.FDLlutheran.com](http://www.FDLlutheran.com) ♦ Church/Office (920) 922-7421

Pastor Neal Radichel ♦ Principal Dave Bernthal ♦ Teacher Jennifer Wiese

Altar cloths are purple; the color of royalty signifies Christ's rule in His eternal Kingdom.  
Welcome to all! This week's focus:

***"Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect,  
that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ  
Jesus with eternal glory."***

2 Timothy 2:10

Today's Service Liturgy (how God's Word serves us): **Tan Supplement p.22**

**59 (1,5-6) ♦ 63 ♦ 496 ♦ 352 (1,4)**

Pre-Service Meditation Ps 119-XVIII. (Red Hymnal p.152) ~Opening Bells / Prayer

*Our worship service centers and glorifies our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please turn off your cell phones to avoid distraction.*

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

## I. WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD

### THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of our Triune God.*

**PASTOR:** We begin our worship service today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

**ALL: Amen!**

### OPENING HYMN: #59 (1,5-6) [Red Hymnal]

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

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

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**ALL: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**ALL: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting.**

P: Jesus Christ is the satisfactory payment for our sins, and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world. You are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of Jesus Christ's forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

**ALL: Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation (speaks): Amen.**

## III. OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ ISAIAH 56:1-7 NIV

*Why do you come to God's house? Isaiah beautifully relays the word of the LORD to His people about keeping the Sabbath Day Holy (3rd Commandment). What will the LORD give to all those, including foreigners of all nations and gentiles alike, who come to His house? He gives His faithful message as a Covenant (a promise) of salvation to all people, and a call to*

remain faithful to Him! This prophecy is seen fulfilled in Acts 8 with the Ethiopian Eunuch who was baptized by Philip after hearing the Word of God.

**1** Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation is about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed. **2** Blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil." **3** Do not let the son of the foreigner Who has joined himself to the LORD Speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree." **4** For thus says the LORD: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, **5** Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off. **6** " Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants -- Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant -- **7** Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." **8** The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him Others besides those who are gathered to him."

## **2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ ISAIAH 56:1-7 NIV**

*"What did you come out to see?" Jesus asked the crowd this question three times in connection with John the Baptist's ministry. There was potential for the crowd to dismiss John's teaching because of the unexpected aspects of his ministry (living in the wilderness, wearing lowly clothing, and speaking with conviction against the religious leaders). Jesus realigned their expectations by directing them back to Scripture. Likewise, Jesus answered John's own question about whether or not He was the Messiah in the same way. Jesus pointed John back to Scripture to see the fulfillments that were happening through His miracles. Each time we come before the Word of God it is proper to ask the same, "What did I come to see (or hear)?" Are your expectations of Jesus in agreement with God's Word?*

**18** Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. **19** And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" **20** When the men



had come to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?'"

**21** And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. **22** Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. **23** "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

**24** When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. **26** "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet."

### **OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ THE THIRD ARTICLE (SANCTIFICATION)**

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**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.**

**This is most certainly true.**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY: #63 [Red Hymnal]**

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

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*But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'* ~Matthew 19:14

**SERMON MEDITATION** read/watch sermons and services online at [www.fdllutheran.org](http://www.fdllutheran.org)

*Jesus said, "...Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"* ~Luke 11:28

**2 Timothy 2:8-13** Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, **9** for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. **10** Therefore I endure all

things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. **11** This is a faithful saying:

For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him.

**12** If we endure, We shall also reign with Him.

If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

**13** If we are faithless, He remains faithful;

He cannot deny Himself.

## **“I just don’t want to offend anyone.” -- That’s Good!**

1. *But there’s a WRONG kind of offense...*

a. Motivated by your fear and faithlessness.

b. With Excuses like Moses.

2. *And there’s a RIGHT kind of offense...*

a. With Excitement like Isaiah.

b. Motivated by your Lord’s faithfulness.

## **SERMON HYMN: #496 [Red Hymnal]**

### **IV. WE OFFER OURSELVES TO OUR LORD**

#### **AN OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD**

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*“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7*

#### **OFFERING MEDITATION: “HERE I AM LORD” BY JAMES KILBANE**

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I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

***Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?***

***I have heard You calling in the night.***

***I will go Lord, if You lead me.***

***I will hold Your people in my heart.***

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my peoples pain.

I have wept for love of them, They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them, Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, My hand will save

Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give My life to them, Whom shall I send?

FOLLOWED BY THE OFFERING HYMN: [Red Hymnal #400:1,6]

Take my life and let it be, Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour, At Thy feet its treasure-store;  
Take myself, and I will be, Ever, only, all, for Thee.

SPECIAL PRAYERS ~ GENERAL PRAYER ~ **SAY LORD'S PRAYER**

## V. OUR LORD BLESSES US

### BENEDICTION

*God's blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

**P:** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**ALL: Amen!**

### CLOSING HYMN: #352 (1,4) [Red Hymnal]

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all! Guests, please sign our guest book in entryway and we hope you will come and join us again! Questions? (920) 922-7421

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE:** "If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

\*Online calendar at [FDLutheran.com](http://FDLutheran.com) or go to [facebook.com/FDL.lutheran](https://facebook.com/FDL.lutheran)

**Dec 17 Sun** Usher Team #4: Wayne W, Dave B, Bob C, Ron H, Alan K, Larry S  
Organist: Rhoda E / Counters: Eric W, Don E

**9a** Christmas Practice / Bible Class (Growing in Prayer – Part 7)

**10a** Worship Service

**3p** Afternoon Christmas Caroling / Soup Supper at Seibel's

**Dec Wed** **10a** Midweek Advent Worship!

**Theme: The Ancestry of Jesus, and what it means for You!**

i. Eternal Ancestry (December 6<sup>th</sup>)

ii. Paternal Ancestry (December 13<sup>th</sup>)

iii. Maternal Ancestry (December 20<sup>th</sup>)

**Dec 23 Sat** **10-Noon** Children's Christmas Eve Practice

**Dec 24 Sun** Usher Team #1: Lowell B, Reuel D, Rodney K, Tyler K, Alex S, John S  
Organist: Rhoda E / Counters: Eric W, Don E

**9a** Christmas Practice / Bible Class (Growing in Prayer – Final)

**10a** Sunday Service (Advent 4)

**6p** Christmas Eve Children's Service

**UPCOMING DATES:** —————▶

**Dec 25 Mon** **10a** Christmas Day Service

**Dec 31 Sun** **10a** Sunday Service

**6p** New Year's Eve Service (with Communion)

**Jan 1 Mon** **NO** New Year's Day Service (Council)

**GET LMNEWS TEXTED TO YOUR PHONE = Just Text "LMNEWS " to 84483**

**CLC Call News** The Rev. Nathan Pfeiffer, pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Spokane WA, has returned the call to be co-pastor at Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato MN.

**IN OUR PRAYERS** *If you are hospitalized, please let pastor know if you would like a visit!*

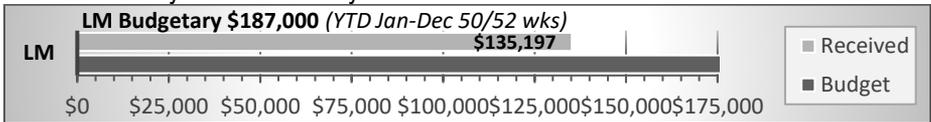
**Currently Hospitalized:** None that pastor or the elders are aware of at this time.

**Shut-ins:** Dan Immel (Woodlands), Ed Jacobs (868 W Scott St), Gloria Jacobs (Woodlands), Doris Kaiser (Woodlands), Jeanette Keipe (675 S. Main St.), John Lenburg (769 Mustang Ln), Marion Mach (Lutheran Home), Lois "Jean" Martin (Woodlands), Jim Steffen (At home).

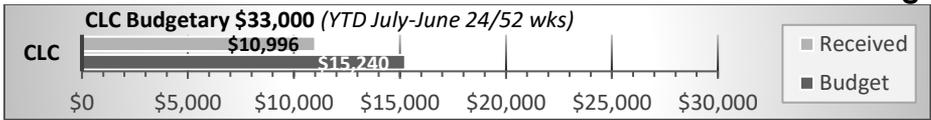
**FRUITS OF FAITH—LAST SUNDAY / FOR THE YEAR** *Bible Class 24 Worship 110*

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH	CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
<b>Budgetary</b> (\$3596 budgeted per week)	<b>Budgetary</b> (\$635 needed per week)
<b>\$2406</b> LM General Budget	<b>\$392</b> CLC General Budget
<b>Non-Budgetary</b>	<b>Non-Budgetary</b>
\$ _____ LM School	\$10 _____ ILC Student Aid Fund
\$ _____ LM Student Aid Fund	\$ _____ ILC Building Fund
\$ _____ LM Debt Retirement	\$ _____ ILC Improvement Fund
\$610 LM Maintenance & Improvements	\$20* _____ Mission Development-(MDF)
\$2 _____ LM Local Missions/Outreach	\$0/0 _____ Project Kinship/Orphanage
\$20 _____ LM Other: RRF (Building Fund)	\$ _____ CLC Other: Foreign
☐ Memorial (Designated): A. Schleicher (\$10 MDF)	

**Due to the ongoing budget needs,** the Council wishes to encourage LM Members to direct their local offerings to the "LM General Budget" rather than "Non-Budgetary" items for the remainder of the year. This is not an attempt to bind consciences, but rather to meet our weekly needs. Thank you!



**GET UPDATES FROM OUR CLC MISSIONS SITE! [LutheranMissions.org](http://LutheranMissions.org)**



## Christian Giving – Part 3

### 3. The motivation for giving

Like with every other good work, the motivation for giving should not come from an effort to make things right with God, to make ourselves look better, or to alleviate guilt. It comes in a response to God's love for us. Jesus left His heavenly throne and suffered hell in order to save us. *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich* (2 Corinthians 8:9). As believers we no longer belong to the world. Instead we have been adopted into God's family and are His dear children with a heavenly inheritance. We are rich beyond measure. What other response is there except to love our Lord? Through the Holy Spirit who has given us the new man we strive to do that though our hearts are still polluted by sin.

***As our congregation prepares a budget for 2018, there would be a great benefit to know what to expect for offerings so a realistic plan can be put forward. To this end the council is asking that each family prayerfully consider and plan according to God's principles what they will be giving in the next year. We are asking that you use this form to write down how much you anticipate to contribute to the Luther Memorial General Fund and to the CLC General Fund and then put it in the black box by the mailboxes. This is completely anonymous. This is between you and the Lord. Study/Forms are in the corner of the mailboxes.***

*-With prayers and encouragement in Christ,  
Your Church Council*

## *Looking Forward to Next Sunday!*

**Encouragement for Family Devotions** Individual and family devotions are certainly among the most important uses of our time every day. God tells us that through His Word He offers us guidance and direction (Psalm 119:105), hope (Psalm 119:114), understanding (Psalm 119:169) and comfort (Psalm 119:50). Through His Word He also revives (Psalm 119:154), gives Life (1 Peter 1:23) and salvation (James 1:21). Make the reading of God's Word a priority in your daily life. We have these promises from God through His Word.

**"Looking Forward to Next Sunday" Devotions** - As the last candle is lit for our upcoming **Fourth Sunday in Advent**, our hearts will be directed to the pink "Angel candle." It also has been referred to as the "Messenger" or "Love" candle revealing God's Word of love to save sinners - a love that moves us to a response to worship, thank, and serve Jesus our Savior!

**Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 6:12-15** This prophecy of the Man called the "Branch", would be the one who will build the temple of the LORD, who will rule it, and be its High Priest forever. Because Jesus, the Branch, is both king and priest, He alone establishes the counsel of peace through the message of His work and Word of salvation. He who has come is alive today! (Hymn 645)

**Psalm 132:1-18** The Psalmist calls on the LORD for strength as he seeks Him out and His dwelling place. He speaks about the LORD's covenant fulfilled in the land of Ephrathah in which Bethlehem, the city of David, would be born the Savior, Christ our Lord. There's a theme for all the saints here, a shouting for joy of our salvation. Is that our life's theme as well? (Hymn 710)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 1:56-66** With the birth of John the Baptizer, his father Zacharias goes from a mute to a messenger praising God. John would be the "Voice of one crying in the wilderness" proclaiming the message of peace. All the people wondered about what kind of child John would be. In this way, John also prepared the way for the Christ child, where people would even more so ask that same question, "What child is this?" (Hymn 712)

**Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 4:3-9** It's time for a change! You have spent enough time doing the things of the world! God's Law reveals our sin and rebellion and the Gospel changes hearts and points us to God's salvation in Christ. God's Word has been proclaimed throughout the centuries to sinners to prepare sinners not only for Christmas, but also for Judgment Day. (Hymn 703)