

***First Sunday in Advent  
December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012***

Advent is a season of preparation and expectant waiting. The ancients looked for the coming of the Messiah; we look for his return. Let us worship the Lord with gladness by the light of his Word!

If you are a guest with us, please sign our guest register. We invite you to worship with us again!

**Our Worship**

**Order of Service:** “Service of the Word” can also be found on page 38 in *Christian Worship* if you would like to follow the music there.

**HYMN** – 209

*STAND*

**M:** The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.**

**C: Amen**

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.**

## **OH, TASTE AND SEE (Sung)**

**C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M: Let us pray.**

**M:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen (Sung)**

*BE SEATED*

*The St. John's Junior Choir Sings (Sunday)*

## **THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 19:15-17, 23-29 (NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”<sup>16</sup> When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. <sup>17</sup> As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”

<sup>23</sup> By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. <sup>24</sup> Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. <sup>25</sup> Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. <sup>26</sup> But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. <sup>27</sup> Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to

the place where he had stood before the LORD. <sup>28</sup> He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace. <sup>29</sup> So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

## **PSALM OF THE DAY – 25 on page 74**

**Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (NIV)** *St. Paul rejoices that the Thessalonians have been given saving faith. Sharing the faith is also our joy.*

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup> May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY:**

**M:** Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.  
(Revelation 22:20)

**C: (Sung) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*STAND*

**Gospel: Luke 21:25-36 (NIV)** *Gloomy signs are reminders that the coming of the Lord is near. Let us watch and pray.*

<sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup> Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> “I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. <sup>34</sup> “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

**C: (Sung) Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*BE SEATED*

**HYMN OF THE DAY – 2**

**Sermon Text: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

**“LET’S SCHEDULE SOME SPIRITUAL GET-TOGETHERS”**

I. We come to God; he comes to us

II. We come together; he comes to us

*STAND*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

*BE SEATED*

## **OFFERING**

*STAND*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **(Saturday)**

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.

Or

#### **(Sunday)**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*BE SEATED*

**HYMN – 30**

*STAND*

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (Sung) Amen.**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

**C: (Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**HYMN – 1**



*We welcome those visiting us today. If you are a resident of this area and have no church home, we invite you to consider Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, town of Liberty. If you are interested, please speak to the pastor. We pray the blessing of God's Holy Spirit upon his Word, which you have heard with us today. Come worship with us again!*

## **Announcements:**

### **Organist**

Our organist this weekend is Janice Loppnow from Trinity, Kiel. We thank her for playing and helping to beautify our worship.

### **Prayer Requests –**

- Jessica Johnson, who is studying to be a veterinarian and has one year left in Scotland, and is also engaged to be married on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Congratulations to Jessica! Lord God, we ask you to continue to bless Jessica in her studies and in her faith in Jesus.

### **Thank You**

Thank you to the St. John's Junior Choir for being with us today, for adding enjoyment to our worship and glorifying the Lord with their voices. God's continued blessings to your choir!

### **Christmas Dinner/New Member Welcome – Dec. 9**

The Trinity Ladies Circle announces that the Christmas Dinner will be Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> after church (about 10:45 am). This is a potluck meal with chicken and mashed potatoes provided by TLC. Christmas carols will be sung and we'll welcome our new members from the past twelve months. The Christmas dinner is open to all members of the congregation and friends. Please join us!

### **Fellowship Committee**

We will be collecting for Peter's Pantry until next weekend. The goal this year is to collect 250 items. Please help us hit this goal by placing your food items in the bins provided. The Fellowship Committee is also welcoming any donations for the Christmas candy bags.

## Poinsettias

The Trinity Ladies Circle again will be having poinsettias available for you to purchase for the Christmas season. The cost is \$9.25 for a 6 1/2 inch pot. Please make checks payable to Trinity Ladies Circle and place the check in Linda Wallander's mailbox. This is the last weekend to sign up for poinsettias.

## German Christmas Service

Zion Lutheran Church in Louis Corners will be having a German Christmas service on Saturday Dec. 8 at 3:00 pm. The service, liturgy, bible passages and responsive hymns will be in German. Rev. Waldemar Loescher, Rev. Henry Koch, Rev. Ben Schaefer, and Rev. Ted Olson will be doing the service.

## Reminders

- Our church services are available on DVD. Ask Pastor.
- The Ladies Circle has Christmas cards for sale on the lower level.
- Please have all Messenger articles in by Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## MLHS

**MLHS Christmas Concert** "Come to Bethlehem and See" will be presented at the Manitowoc Capitol Civic Centre on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 and again at 7:30pm. New this year is the addition of the Lakeshore Lutheran Youth Choir, comprised of 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students from area WELS congregations. Please join us as the Christmas story is told in word and song! Tickets are not needed; seating is on a first-come basis. **Christmas Concert Recordings Available; Orders Due by Dec 14<sup>th</sup>**. CDs of this year's MLHS Christmas concert are being professionally recorded, and are available for purchase. Orders must be submitted, along with \$20 payment, by the end of the 7:30 concert. Please contact the MLHS office to place your order; CDs can also be ordered at the concert. A downloadable version of the concert will also be available for \$20 by Dec 21<sup>st</sup> at [www.tuneswoon.com](http://www.tuneswoon.com).

**Inter-Active Calendar.** Curious about the date of a concert or time of a game? Check out everything on the MLHS calendar, UPDATED DAILY, by visiting our website. Dates, times, locations & more info is updated everyday so YOU can ALWAYS have the most current info possible!

**Facebook.** If you haven't yet, keep track of all-things-Lancer by liking us on Facebook. Keep an eye on how we're doing toward our \$100K Science Room Renovation gift challenge via the "Beaker-Watch". Invite your friends, too!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Sun. Dec. 2** MLHS Sunday @ Immanuel, Kewaunee; 9:00am

**Mon. Dec. 3** Friends of the Lancer Mtg @ MLHS; 7:00pm

**Tues. Dec. 4** MLHS Board of Control Mtg; 6:30pm

**Fri. Dec. 14** MLHS Christmas Concerts @ Capitol Civic Centre; 4:30 & 7:30pm

**Calendar of Events**

<b>Sat.1<sup>st</sup></b>	7:00 p.m.	Worship
<b>Sun.2<sup>nd</sup></b>	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class
	8:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Worship & St. John's Jr. Choir sings
<b>Tues.4<sup>th</sup></b>	6:00 p.m.	Board of Evangelism
<b>Wed.5<sup>th</sup></b>	5:00 p.m.	Catechism
<b>Thur.6<sup>th</sup></b>	6:30 p.m.	Choir
<b>Sat.8<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30 a.m.	Christmas Eve Practice/Pizza Party/ Caroling
	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
<b>Sun.9<sup>th</sup></b>	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class
	8:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:45 a.m.	Christmas Dinner/ New Member Welcome

**Ushers:**

December 1<sup>st</sup> Greg Buechner, Mike Kiesow

December 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Petersen, Todd Bergmann, Elwood Free, Jeff Kasten

December 8<sup>th</sup> Alan Sieker (Server), Warren Lutze (Server), Mark Kiesow

December 9<sup>th</sup> Derrick Krey (Server), John Smith (Server), James Ott, Andy Fisher

**Greeters:**

December 2<sup>nd</sup> Marty & Lisa Kiesow family

December 9<sup>th</sup> Elwood & Denise Free

December 16<sup>th</sup> David & Tara Mellstrom

December 23<sup>rd</sup> Cheri Hebert & Jennifer Pope

**Altar Guild: December – Group 1:**

*Helen Isaacson, Darlene Kiesow, Donna Nagel, Elaine Petersen*



*A Happy Birthday to...*

12/1 Jozee Dobbratz

12/1 Lisa Kiesow

12/2 Allyson Jungbluth

12/2 Cole Fisher

12/3 Carol Kasten

12/4 Kim Fischer

12/4 Leilyn Preston

12/5 Sherri Kasten

12/6 Benjamin Lovell

12/6 Bernice Pleuss-91 yrs. young

12/7 Beckee Williamson

12/8 Scott Bratz

12/8 Mark Kiesow



*Happy Anniversary To...*

12/6 David & Jessica Jungbluth – 15 Years

*\*If you have a December birthday or anniversary that was missed or listed incorrectly please let us know so we can update church records! Thanks!*