



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
(The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod)
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Pastor Edward H. Schmidt

Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, 2024

WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S!

Welcome to all! We are so blessed to have you with us this morning as we continue to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord! May your advent time with us today be filled with the joy of God's Word and the strength of God's Spirit! Please sign our guest register located in the hallway if you are visiting today and please join us again!

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT December 15, 2024

TODAY'S SERVICE: The Third Sunday in the season of Advent is known as "Gaudete" Sunday. On this Sunday we light a pink candle on the Advent wreath. It signifies joy in the coming Lord and calls for us to "rejoice" which is the meaning of the word Gaudete in Latin. And yet, as we look at the journey of John the Baptist, it is not exactly a joyful time as he finds himself in prison. Jesus, however, sends reassurance to him and his disciples that He is, in fact, the long promised Messiah. In spite of the unpleasant circumstances, John has reason to rejoice!

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: Divine Service III, LSB Pg. 184
(Burgundy Hymnal)

HYMNS: #332, #346, #617, #342

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

The Old Test: Zeph. 3:14-20 There is great reason to sing and rejoice as God delivers Israel.

The Epistle: Phil. 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always and do not be anxious!

The Holy Gospel: Luke 7:18-28 John is imprisoned and sends to Jesus for reassurance.

SERMON TITLE: "Blessed Reassurance" Luke 7:18-28

TODAY'S PRAYERS: We remember Mark Rundquist who has been diagnosed with cancer; Dorothy Grigsby who is at Golden Pond; Sara Fowler who is experiencing effects associated with her brain injury 2 years ago; Hugh Baker, who is at Bonaventure of Thornton, 12281 Washington Center Parkway, Thornton; Becky Rundquist, who is receiving medical care for her leg; Art Arendall (former member) who underwent triple by-pass surgery; Robert Fields, Pastor's son-in-law's father who is extremely ill; Richard Bell, brother-in-law of Carolyn Voss, who is dealing with eye issues; Gerry and Sheryl Griesinger, friends of Cheryl Medford, who are ill; Debbie Youland, mother of a close friend, who is undergoing cancer treatment and Rudolph Walter, brother of Betty Skafien, battling cancer. Please remember these requests in your prayers this week. Thank you!

ST. LUKE'S NEWS

OUR ADVENT JOURNEY: Our Wednesday services this year are focusing on what might be called the "second family" of Christmas. While Joseph, Mary and Jesus, are of course, the "first family," Zecharia, Elizabeth and John are the second. As we look more deeply into their characters, we invite you to join us in our preparations for the coming King! Services are held at 10:00 AM. We would love to have you join us!

NEW ADDRESS: The new address for Jon and Jean Meyer is as follows: 2121 Hyview Drive, Casper, WY 82604

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you would like to sign up for the donation of altar flowers for 2025, the calendar is in the hall and the envelopes are on the entry-way table. The cost of altar flowers is \$20.00

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS sign-up sheet is on the entry-way table. The price is \$20.65 for the whole year beginning with the March 2025 edition. Please sign up for your subscription by the end of the year. Your check can be made out to St. Luke's Lutheran Church with the memo line "Lutheran Witness" and placed in the offering plate any time before the end of the year.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2025 are now available. Please sign up for them on the sheet on the back table. The box of envelopes will be placed in your mailbox before the first Sunday in January.

OUR CHARITY DONATIONS for December go to the Christian Action Guild of Golden. The 4th Sunday of the month has been designated as the collection day. The following items are needed and will be accepted for their pantry: canned soups (other than Tomato), tomato sauce, canned beans, canned tomatoes, crackers, canned tuna, cereal, and peanut butter and jelly.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS: Large print Bulletins with insert are available each Sunday. If you are having difficulty in reading the Bulletin and insert, please check with an usher for the large print version.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday	Pastor's Family Day	
Wednesday	Advent Service	10:00 AM
Thursday	Bible Class	10:00 AM

THE WORD IS BROADCASTED

ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR next Sunday hear the Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler speak on "Does It Matter If Jesus is God?" Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again. (Luke 2:10-11)

DIVINE SERVICE III—LSB (page 184)

HYMN # 332

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION p.184

PSALM 146

KYRIE p. 186

SALUTATION p. 189

COLLECT FOR THE DAY p. 189

OLD TESTAMENT: Zeph. 3:14-20

THE EPISTLE: Phil. 4:4-7

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 7:18-28

CREED p. 191

HYMN # 346

SERMON: "Blessed Reassurance"

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN # 617

NUNC DIMMITIS p. 199

BENEDICTION p. 202

HYMN # 342

THOSE SERVING:

Elder: Kreg Renzelman

Organist: Rebecca Beshore

Altar Guild: Peggy Jacobs, Sunshine Frahm, Lori Schwindt

Altar Flowers: Sunshine Frahm

Last Sunday's Offering: \$2,751.15

Attendance: 30

Bible Study: 10

Wednesday Advent Service: 15

Thursday Bible Study: 18

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Debbie Williams.

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our worship service this morning. Because the Bible calls us to have the same understanding of the Christian faith (1 Cor. 10:1-22), to believe that Jesus' body and blood are truly present (Mt. 26:26-28, 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:27), and to properly prepare (1 Cor. 11:27-32), we invite forward at this time those who are confirmed members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. If you are not yet a member and would like to receive communion, we invite you to speak with the pastor about instruction and membership. We openly and joyfully would like to have you as a member and extend this invitation to you!

IN THE WORD

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY: Most Christians, when reading the Holy Bible gravitate to the most "famous" books like Genesis, Matthew, and John. Few, however, know much about the less famous books. Join us in Bible Study this morning for our series "The Five Shortest Books of the Bible." Today's book is the second shortest in the Bible. Come along and find out what it is! Fellowship Hall—10:30 AM

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Advent is a joyful time of preparation to receive the coming King! As we prepare His way, we invite you to join us for Bible Study this Thursday morning in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM! Please join us! We would love to have you!

THE VERSE OF THE DAY: "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, rejoice!" Phil. 4:4

TODAY'S THEOLOGY QUESTION: A history question today. While Christians in the Middle Ages were said to have used wreaths with candles during Christmas time, historians tell us that the first official Advent wreath was begun in 1839 by what German Lutheran Pastor?

- A. Philip Melancthon
- B. Samuel Simon Schmucker
- C. CFW Walther
- D. Johann Hinrich Wichern
- E. Johann the Baptist