

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, most often drawn from the Psalms.

P: When all was still, and it was midnight:

C: Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.

P: The Lord reigns;

C: He is clothed with majesty.

P: The Lord is clothed with strength,

C: He has girded Himself with strength.

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.

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 63:7-9 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses. 8 For He said, "Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie." So He became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old.

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: You are fairer than the children of men;

C: Grace is poured into Your lips.

P: My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King;

C: My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: The Lord is clothed with strength,

C: He has girded Himself with strength. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The New Testament Reading is from Matthew chapter 2, beginning there in the 13th verse.

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

New Testament Reading:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." 14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." 19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." 21 Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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.

Congregation sings Hymn 713

THE SERMON

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Theme: "WHAT CHILD IS THIS?"

- I. Whom God has sent to us (4)
- II. Who was born under the Law like us (4-5)
- III. Who opens His family to us (5-7)

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 127:3:

**As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King!**

THE GENERAL PRAYER

(Pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(All)

Congregation sings Hymn 138

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 (standing) 106:7

*** Silent Prayer ***

Verbal Announcements - Ushers dismiss by row

Announcements

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

IN THE HOSPITAL - IN OUR PRAYERS Paul Kottke is home after spending Christmas Day at St. Agnes for shortness of breath. 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."**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUE: 10:00 am LM Church Service at the Lutheran Home
WED: 7:00 pm NEW YEARS' EVE COMMUNION SERVICE
THU: 10:00 NEW YEARS' DAY SONG SERVICE
TV CHURCH – Today's Service replayed on Cable TV Channel 19
Tuesday at noon, Friday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 3:30 pm.

TWO COMMUNION SERVICES This week we all have the rare opportunity to "proclaim the Lord's death" twice in same week - New Years Eve service Wednesday night and next Sunday January 4th. We encourage all the members of Luther Memorial to take advantage of these, and all, communion opportunities. Jesus said: "Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:25

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.

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 Friday, January 9, 7:30–8:30 pm.

GRADESCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT The 23rd 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.

WOMEN'S INVITATION The Christian Women's Retreat, sponsored annually by our sister congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, is being held Friday through Sunday, April 17-19 at Days Inn Hotel & Conference Center in La Crosse, WI. All the women of Luther Memorial are asked to consider attending this spiritually uplifting event. More information and registration forms are available in the orange flyer by the registry table. The theme this year:

Isaiah 45:5-7 I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

THANK YOU ALL! There are many tasks that must be done here in and around the church that are done by "silent" volunteers. We don't try to list them for several reasons: 1)they don't want notoriety, 2)we'd probably miss some, and 3)that's not the point. 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! May the Almighty reward you openly!

"But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly." Matthew 6:3-4

SERVICE TODAY Usher Team 4 Wayne Wischnefski, Alan Kottke, Chris Sabel, Ron Haensgen, Mark King, Joel Delarme. Organist Adrienne F

NEW YEARS EVE Available Ushers. Organist Adrienne Fillmore

NEW YEARS DAY Available Ushers. Organist Rhoda Eserhut

NEXT SUNDAY Usher Team 1 Lowell Boelk, Rodney Kern, John Scheberl, David Dexter, Sam N., Tom N., Larry Stubbs. Organist: Adrienne Fillmore

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.

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR CURRENT DEFICIT? As we close out our fiscal year we are being challenged by a sizable deficit – our Church Treasurer estimates the year end total to be about \$20,000. Today and this Wednesday are our last opportunities to help catch up the general budget. By faith through the Gospel, may the LORD bless you with the cheerful ability to give Him your best.

2 Corinthians 8:9 "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."

LAST WEEK – FOR THE LORD Sunday - 107; Midweek – 83 & 21
(This is an unofficial summary. For the official summary, speak to the Financial Secretary)

Budgetary	weekly	for the fiscal year	
Received	\$2,943 (\$4,312 needed)		\$175,203
Non-budgetary			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$40	balance	\$3,864
Debt Retirement Fund	\$50	balance	\$475
LM Building Fund	\$50	mortgage	\$32,965

(\$50 given in memory of Arthur & Emilie Wischnefski)

Missions (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)

Budgetary	weekly	year to date
Received	\$449	\$23,147

Non-budgetary

CLCI Orphanage	\$10
ILC Building Fund	\$5

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"So He became their Savior. In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bore them and carried them all the days of old." Isaiah 63:8-9



“Finally, just as the blood-thirsty tyrant Herod sought after the life of the little Child Jesus when He was born in Bethlehem, and wanted to kill and do Him in (Mt. 2:16), so also the hellish Herod, the Devil, aspires to uproot Christ from your heart; that is, he wants to mislead you away from the true saving knowledge and hinder you so that you might not grow according to the inner man, even as he too often brings all too many to the point where they crucify Christ anew (Heb. 10:29). To that end, it is written in Rev. 12:3-6 that as the woman who was clothed with the sun – that is, the Christian church – was about to give birth to a little boy, the red dragon was lying in wait so that when she finally gave birth he could gobble up the child. But the child was whisked away to God and the woman fled into the wilderness. You, too, flee from sinful lusts and seductions of the hellish dragon. Take on the wings of devotion and prayer so that you be preserved from the wrath and the crafty cunning of the Devil. May God provide this to us through Christ, Amen.”

“Seven Christmas Sermons” by Johann Gerhard, pages 94-95

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

STRIVES TO BE . . .

- + A Church which keeps foremost the purpose to proclaim, preserve, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- + A Church which values faithfulness to the Word of God above the size and outward success of its membership
- + A Church which recognizes but one Master in all matters of faith, the God-man Christ Jesus, our Savior
- + A Church which promotes true Christian unity by both proclaiming the Gospel and by identifying error
- + A Church which backs its commitment to Christian education by supporting its own Christian Day school
- + A Church which respects your privacy in the matter of Christian giving
- + A Church which refuses to become just another political pressure group
- + A Church which seeks people to serve the LORD

Welcome! The Pastor is ready to arrange special instruction classes for you and your family at your convenience so that you may be sure of eternal life.

Pastor Dave Naumann, 922-7421, ddnaumann@clclutheran.com
 The Principal of the school is also ready to discuss with you what the Lord wants most for your children regarding a truly Christian education.

Principal Dave Bernthal, 922-7421, dbernthal@juno.com
 Teacher Karen Strike
 Teacher Amy Osborne

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 63:7-9 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses. 8 For He said, "Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie." So He became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old.

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C: Grace is poured into Your lips.

P: My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King;

C: My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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New Testament Reading:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." 14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." 19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." 21 Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when

he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Old Testament Reading for the 1st Sunday after Christmas **Isaiah 63:7-9**

The prophet Isaiah here stresses the LOVINGKINDNESSES of the LORD which was seen by the people of old, and by faith we are eyewitnesses of that great kindness. This same kindness gave birth to the miracle of Christmas. Jesus saw our sin-filled condition, so out of love He became our Savior and Redeemer. We read...

New Testament Reading:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

How does the sinful world treat the newborn King? Herod goes to monstrous extremes to kill Him. But God is in control. The Scripture is fulfilled, and Jesus arrives safely in His hometown of Nazareth. We read...