



LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(Grades K-8)

CLC - Church of the Lutheran Confession

134 21st 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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 2008

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 27 (front of the hymnal p. 109)

The Hymns: 138, 703, 441:1-2, 62, 103:6

Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father, send Your Son into our hearts by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that we, being strengthened by the Sun of Righteousness, 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 Your Son. Forgive us our sins, strengthen our faith, and renew in us a rejoicing spirit in our Advent and Christmas worship. In Jesus Name, Amen..

Bells – Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn 138

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: Rejoice in the Lord always:

C: And again I say, Rejoice!

P: Let your moderation be known to all men:

C: The Lord is at hand.

P: Be careful for nothing: but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving

C: Let your requests be made known to God.

P: Lord, You have been favorable to Your land:

C: You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

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 35 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; 2 It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, The excellency of our God. 3 Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert. 7 The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There

shall be grass with reeds and rushes. 8 A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there, 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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 who dwell between the Cherubim, shine forth:

C: Stir up Your strength and come.

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:

C: You who leads Joseph like a flock. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Stir up Your strength:

C: And come and save us. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The New Testament Reading comes from Matthew chapter 11, beginning there in the 2nd verse.

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

The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 11:2-11 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." 7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 "But what did you go

out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

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 703

THE SERMON

James 5:7-10 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! 10 My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.

Theme: "PRACTICE THE PROPHETS' PATIENCE"

I. As you wait for the LORD's coming (7-9)

II. As you endure persecution (9-10)

*** Silent Prayer ***

Verbal Announcements --- Ushers dismiss by row

Announcements

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

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 441:1-2:

**We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!**

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 62

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 103:6 (standing)

TODAY AFTER SERVICE: BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BABY JESUS

The LM Eagles Youth Group are hosting a Christmas Party for the pre-school age children of our congregation following church today. If you would like to bring a Gift for Baby Jesus, we ask that you bring money to give to children that live in India or Africa. We would like these children to know about Baby Jesus, too! Parents: If your child doesn't have much time to stay, please stop in and pick up a treat bag for them. Thank you! **"For unto you is born, this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the LORD." Luke 2:11**

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES Please be encouraged to get your share of Advent blessings from Jesus Christ by attending our third and final midweek service this Wednesday. Your Savior and I will be looking for you – please come!

CAROLING NEXT SUNDAY Beginning at 2:00 pm. Once again this year we plan on singing some Christmas favorites to our shut-ins. All are welcome, young and old, just bring your voice! Bring the whole family and help make some blessed memories for your children.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Following service Today - Christmas Decorating of the church

- TUE** 10:00 am LM Church Service at the Lutheran Home
6:30 pm Church Council
- WED** 9:00 am Women's Bible Reading
10:30 am Third Midweek Advent Morning Service
7:00 pm Third Midweek Advent Evening Service
- THU** 4:30-6:00 Non Day School Confirmation
- FRI** 1/2 day of School
7:30 pm ILC Concert at Messiah Church, Eau Claire, WI
- SUN** 9:00 – 9:45 am Children's Christmas Eve practice
- TV CHURCH** – Today's Service 'replayed on Cable TV Channel 19
Tuesday at noon, Friday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 3:30 pm.

NO BUS THIS YEAR Not enough people signed up for the coach bus to the ILC Christmas Concert this year, so we cancelled. Thanks for the interest, and we'll try again next year!

CHILDREN'S PRACTICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Next Sunday is our final practice 9:00-9:45 am. Parents, please go over your children's memory work in verse and hymns at home. If you need an extra copy of the service, speak with Pastor or Principal Bernthal. May the Lord bless us all once again with the message of our Savior's birth!

TODAY'S BIBLE CLASS We are studying a paper being written for the 50th 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

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

CHRISTMAS BOXES Your gifts of money to our Luther Memorial Called Workers, our Immanuel Lutheran College Professor Gift Boxes, and also our CLC Foreign Missionary can be put in the appropriate boxes in the back of the church.

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.

RECITAL INVITATION The Immanuel Lutheran College music teachers extend an invitation to attend the student Piano/Organ Recital on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 3:00 pm in the ILC Fieldhouse.

CLC NEWS >>Scott Schiermeister, 2008 Seminary Graduate of ILC, has accepted the call to St. John's and Peace Lutheran Churches of Clarkston, WA and Orofino, ID.

GRADESCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT Information may be found online at www.clclutheran.com/tourney It is suggested that hotel reservations be made soon!

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.

SERVICE TODAY Ushers: Team 2 Don Seibel, Lowell Boelk, Joe N., Ed Jacobs, Gene Mielke, Don Gescheidle, Adam J. Organist Rhoda E.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES Organists Karen and Rhoda

NEXT SUNDAY Ushers: Team 3 Gordon Krause, Reuel Dins, John Herzberg, Tim Johannes, Steve Seibel Organist Rhoda E.

LAST WEEK – FOR THE LORD Sunday - 150; Midweek – 64 & 17

(This is an unofficial summary. For the official summary, speak to the Financial Secretary)

Budgetary	weekly	for the fiscal year	
Received	\$3,497 (\$4,312 needed)	\$168,512	
Non-budgetary			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$127	balance	\$3,704
Debt Retirement Fund	\$0	balance	\$425
LM Building Fund	\$150	mortgage	\$33,576
Missions (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)			
Budgetary	weekly	year to date	
Received	\$838	\$21,870	
Non-budgetary			
CLCI Orphanage	\$5		
ILC Building Fund	\$5		

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

“ You also be patient. Establish your hearts,
for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

James 5:8

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

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

The Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 35 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; 2 It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, The excellency of our God. 3 Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert. 7 The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes. 8 A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there, 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

THE GRADUAL

P: You who dwell between the Cherubim, shine forth:

C: Stir up Your strength and come.

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:

C: You who leads Joseph like a flock. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Stir up Your strength:

C: And come and save us. Hallelujah!

The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 11:2-11 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." 7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

The Old Testament Reading for 3rd Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 35

In thrilling words, the prophet Isaiah describes the advent of the Messiah. Whoever walks His road shall not go astray. Even death will not stop those who have been ransomed by the blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. They are alive and live forever! We read...

The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 11:2-11

To prove He was the Messiah, Jesus directs the disciples of John and us to the Old Testament Prophets, like Isaiah – those words we just read in the OT. The Savior, who is least of all, came not to be served, but to serve and give His life a ransom for all. We read...