



December 10, 2023
Second Sunday in Advent
[Online Guest / Worshiper Form](#)



John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

Good Morning and Welcome!

Guests, we are so glad you are here. Please fill out the yellow "Connection Card" in the pew and place in the offering basket or give to the usher or the pastor as you leave. *Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.*

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
LBW Setting 2 with the Lord's Supper

* *Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE: "Dimanche de l'Avent" (Charles Alexis Chauvet) Melanie Payne, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE: "Orgelstuckein F" (Johann Christian Heinrich Rinck)

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

Amen.

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Kokans (8:30) Hopkins (11:00)

In days when God's people ... We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.

*HYMN: "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

(verse 2)

WOV 630



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*THE KYRIE



Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



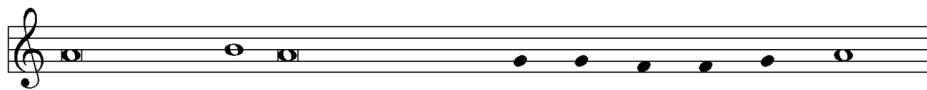
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. Ⓑ A - men

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓑ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

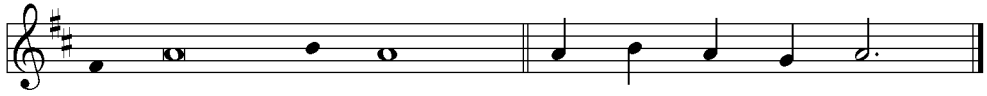


This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE SALUTATION



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. Ⓞ And al - so with you.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

VOCAL SOLO (11:00): “Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion” (Handel) Holly Martin, Soprano

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry? All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

THE PSALM: *Psalm 85:1-2,8-13*

¹You have been gracious to your land, O Lord;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

**²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

**⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

**¹³Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Lisa Bartel

*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go"

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’ ”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Pastor Kristine Schroeder

*THE HYMN OF THE DAY: “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

ELW 256



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

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

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

***THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

THE OFFERING

Organ Solo (8:30): "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" (arr. C. Callahan)

Choir Anthem (11:00): "Canticle for Advent" (Lloyd Larson)

***THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards"**

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: "Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come." The score ends with a double bar line.

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God our provider,

by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

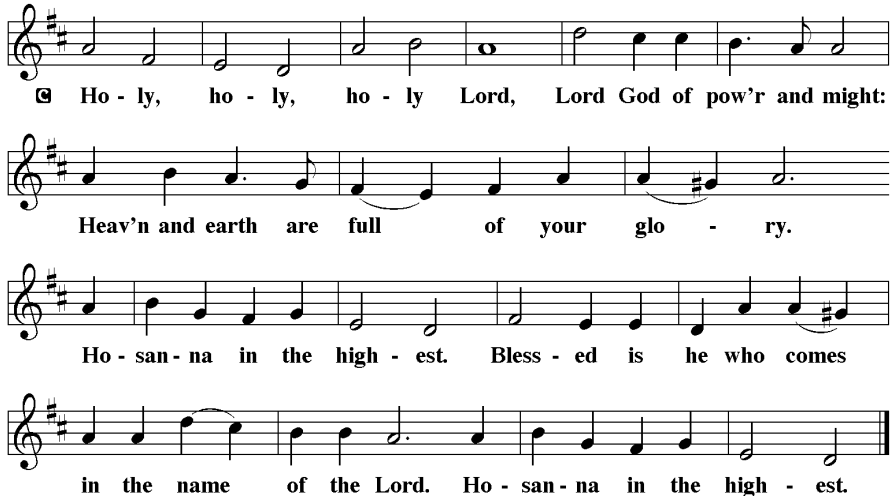
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING and THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*THE SANCTUS



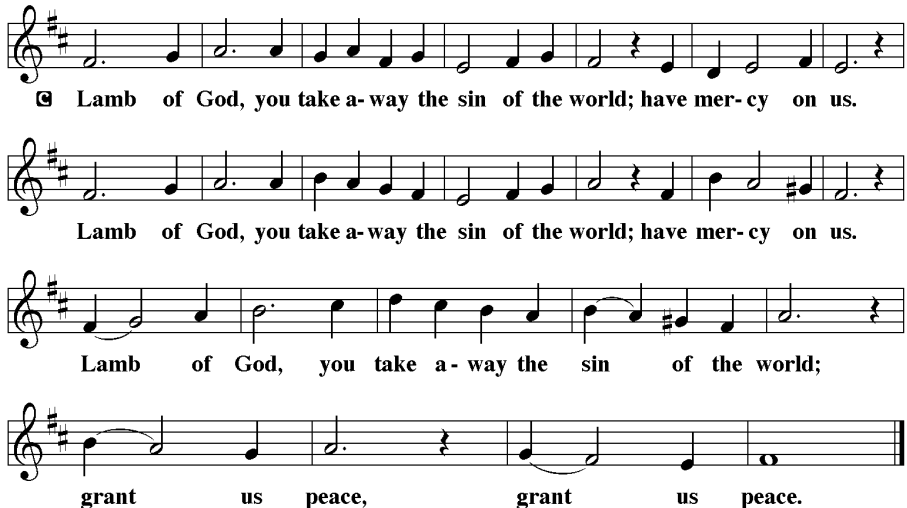
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

THE AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

ELW 254/LBW 30



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*THE POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what
he has done. Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear his name. He re - calls his prom - is -
es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE BLESSING

*THE SENDING HYMN "How Firm a Foundation"

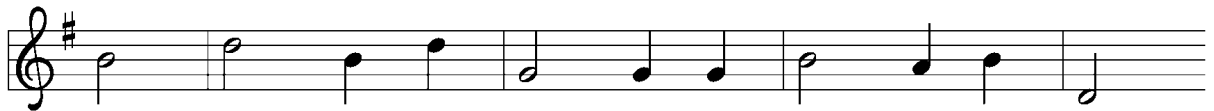
ELW 796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

*THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

arr. Henry Balcombe

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Laura Peterson in memory of her mother, Gorla Reed, on what would have been her 87th birthday, and Joanne Weber in memory of her mother Lorna Schmitz.

A NURSERY, staffed by Katrina Strand, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

ALL ARE INVITED to a reception and coffee in the Fellowship Hall after the service concludes.

A WARM & WOOLY POP-UP SALE is today in the Fellowship Hall. Handmade hats, shawls, and other items for winter wear and gift giving will be available. 100% of sales will support the *Lunches for Learning* school lunch and nutrition program in Honduras.

25th ANNUAL RING AND SING is tonight at 6:30 p.m. Several music groups will be participating along with the ever-popular audience participation ring-along. Monetary donations at the door support the Madison Public Library. A cookie reception will follow the concert.

MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES of Worship continue this Wednesday, December 13 at Noon & 7 p.m. Unless otherwise designated, these offerings will go toward Shepherd's Fold. This week's mid-week Advent message is *Go and Be Present and Pause*.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 24 will be a single 10:00 a.m. Service of Worship with the Lord's Supper (WOV - Setting 5). The service will be livestreamed.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP with the Lord's Supper will be at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The 5:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed on mlutheran.org.

2023 CHRISTMAS FLOWERS / POINSETTIA FORMS ARE DUE TOMORROW Scan the QR code on the next page or visit <https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/2023-Christmas-Flowers>. Paper forms are also available in the pew or at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

MLC's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIVING MALL runs through December 24. Giving Mall instructions, forms and Gift Cards are located at the "Mission Control Center in the Narthex."

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Dark Towels 27 x 52

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder
<u>Music & Choir Director</u>	Randall Fields
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u>	Melanie Payne
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand
<u>Communication & Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt Meredith Kilby
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Katrina Strand

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor's Office Hours are M-TH

MLC staff will never directly solicit you to purchase gift-cards or withdraw money for

"sensitive matters". If in doubt call the church office.

FOOD PANTRY Mac & Cheese

<u>Acolyte</u>	Natalie Zesinger (8:30) Ryan Fedrick (11:00)
<u>Greeters</u>	Vicki Grewe (8:30) (11:00)
<u>Lectors</u>	Joe Huwaldt (8:30) Mike Mabry (11:00)
<u>Ushers</u>	Joe Huwaldt, Bruce Peter (8:30) Bruce Machamer, Bill Holbrook (11:00)
<u>Cantor</u>	Lee Smith
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Janet Smith, Janell Zesinger (8:30) (11:00)
<u>Tech / Stream Desk</u>	Meredith Kilby (8:30) Claire Davis, Bob Davis 11:00)
<u>Flower Guild</u>	Beverly Berry

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, December 10 - Second Sunday In Advent

- 9:30 a.m. - "Warm & Woolly" Pop Up Handmade Market
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School - Rehearsal for Dec 17 Service - Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. - Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. 25th Annual Ring & Sing Concert

Tuesday, December 12

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters

Wednesday, December 13

- 12:00 p.m. - Holden Evening Prayer Service of Worship - Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation Class - Youth Room
- 5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner - "Leftover Buffet" (with fresh sides)
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir (Pre-K-Gr.1) with Claire Strand (Rm 6)
- 6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir (Gr.2-6) with Laura Simeone (Rm 4)
- 7:00 p.m. - Holden Evening Prayer Service of Worship
- 7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir (Gr.7-Adult) with Randall Fields (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 14

- 5:00 p.m. - Men of Messiah Manly Man Gift Exchange @ Kilbys POC Mark Zesinger
- 7:00 p.m. - Church Council Meeting

Sunday, December 17 - Third Sunday In Advent

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. - Worship: Children & Youth Led with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Gustafson 50th Anniversary Celebration - Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School - Birthday Party for Jesus - Parish Hall
- 9:45 a.m. - Adult Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship & Livestream: Children & Youth Led with the Lord's Supper
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Christmas Party at Schroeders

LOOKING AHEAD

- December 20 - Midweek Advent Worship - *Holden Evening Prayer*
- December 24 - Advent 5 - Worship at 10:00 a.m.
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Worship *5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

November 26 Online: - 58 December 3 In-Person: 8:30 a.m. - 118, 11:00 a.m. - 47

Give Online!



Volunteer Sign Up



Christmas Flowers Form



Jesus
IS OUR
Way

