

The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word Gaudete, meaning "Rejoice!" For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; "he has cleared away your enemies," "taken away the judgments against you" and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15–17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to "rejoice in the Lord always," knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even "the dead are raised up" (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

WORSHIP SERVICE AND BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES: Please join us for our final Midweek Advent Worship Service on Wednesday, December 18th at 11:00am and 6:30pm. Lunch will follow the morning service at 11:30am and dinner will precede the evening service at 5:30pm.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP: Glory to the newborn King! Christmas Eve Worship will be held on December 24th at 3pm and 5pm. Christmas Day Worship will be held on December 25th at 9am.

NO THURSDAY WORSHIP: Please note that there is no Worship Service on Thursday, December 26th. Please join us on Sunday, December 29th at 8am and 10:30am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for all 3-year-olds through 8th grade will start in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am. We are studying the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke through the month of December.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY is studying the book of Romans on Tuesdays at 7am in the Church Library. Please note that this is the same Bible Study that is being offered on Wednesday evenings.

TUESDAY LADIES' BIBLE STUDY meets on Tuesdays at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.

WOMEN'S HOME BIBLE STUDY will continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30pm and will be studying Isaiah. Please contact Diane Gihring, Kathy Herbst, or the Church Office more information.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY is studying the book of Romans on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church Library. Please note that this is the same Bible Study that is being offered on Tuesday mornings.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets on Thursdays at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor DeArmond is leading participants through a longer look at the Sunday lessons.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY will continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall and will be going through a study of Nehemiah.

CHARITABLE INFORMATION

FOURTH QUARTER SPECIAL MISSIONS: Our fourth quarter Special Missions offering will support Camp LuWiSoMo in Wild Rose, WI. Camp LuWiSoMo is 380 acres of outdoor fun for people of all ages! During the summer, they host youth summer camps for preschool through high schoolers and Joyful Hearts for individuals with developmental disabilities. They also host retreats-including our very own Confirmation Retreat!

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK: As part of a community service project preschool students will be collecting new teddy bears to donate to Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. This will take place during the month of January! As many toys and teddy bears are on sale now during the Christmas season, we are letting you know in case you would also like to donate teddy bears to this wonderful cause! For more information, please contact Jennifer Leinss at jleinss82@gmail.com.

CHURCH INFORMATION

OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2025 Offering Envelopes are now available in your cubby. For households with more than 2 giving members, your envelopes are located above the mailboxes. Please continue using your current 2024 envelopes for the remainder of the year.

PORTALS OF PRAYER: The next quarter of Portals of Prayer, Hopeful Living, and other devotions are now available for you in the Narthex. Feel free to take one for you and one to share with a friend!

ALTAR GUILD: The altar guild is seeking new members to help prepare and take care of our Lord's altar. This very important work would be great for individuals, couples, or even families. We are also seeking an individual to oversee/lead the Altar Guild. If you have any questions or interest, please talk to Janet Steinhaus or Pastor DeArmond.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Beginning in the New Year we are looking to establish a group of men that would assist pastor and the elders in the distribution of Communion during our worship services. If you would be willing to serve in this capacity, please contact Pastor DeArmond. Training will be provided.

USHERS: We are currently in need of ushers for all services, but especially Sundays, to help fill out some of the ushering teams. This opportunity to serve is open to all men and women in the congregation. If you have any questions or are willing to serve, please contact Jack Welter or Pastor DeArmond.

KRINGLE PICKUP: Thank you so much for your generous support of our Youth Group Kringle Sale! Your order will be available for pick up on Monday, December 16th from 3-6pm.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY THANK YOU: Women's Ministry shares their most appreciative thanks to everyone who has made their events possible these past couple months! For all of you who baked, crafted, hosted, served, and so much more, THANK YOU!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BAKE SALE: Make sure to stop by the tables in the hallway for the Women's Ministry Bake Sale! Goodies will be available for purchase before and after Worship Services.

RAISE RIGHT: Raise Right gift cards make great Christmas gifts! To purchase, simply fill out an order form and place it in the "Raise Right" mailbox on the north side of the Narthex. Orders are placed on Mondays and are available for pick up on Thursdays. Or stop by the table in the hallway to purchase cards immediately! Please note that orders need to be placed by Monday, December 16th to ensure delivery by Christmas.

BLESSING SHOPPE CHRISTMAS CARDS: If you are looking for Christian Christmas cards to send this year, please stop by the Blessing Shoppe in the Fellowship Hall!

CHILDCARE TEACHERS: Blessed Savior Lutheran Preschool is seeking compassionate individuals who are caring and loving to teach our children. We have both part- and full-time positions available. Early Childhood Courses 1 and 2, experience in this field, and CPR and first training preferred, but not required. For a complete job description or more information please contact Jennifer Leinss at jleinss82@gmail.com.

WINTER PICNIC: Join us Sunday, January 12th after the late service for Twelfth Night - an Epiphany Picnic and Tree Burning! Following a chili cook-off, we'll head out to the bonfire pit, where we'll close the Christmas season by burning your live Christmas trees and wreaths. Following Christmas, you may place your undecorated trees and wreaths on the far north end of the parking lot, near the bonfire pit.

CALENDAR PICTURES WANTED: Please save those 2024 calendar pictures! Bible Verses can be added to the pictures and sent with shipments for Orphan Grain Train. Your donations can be placed in the bin under the table in the Narthex.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for our members:

Marvene Lorna Duane Larry Tom

We also remember in our prayers these friends and relatives of our members:

Dan Ellie Jason Shane Pastor Alex Gabe Amy Logan Mark Sam Sharlot Danielle

We pray the Lord to watch over those who are serving in the military:

Corwyn Erika Carlos Mary Darren

Altar Flowers are sponsored by Bruce and Karen Diener, in memory of their daughter Kristin.

Bulletins are sponsored by

Special Missions are sponsored by

WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 13th-22nd

SAT	8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Bake Sale Set-Up	WED	9:00am Quilters 11:00am Advent Worship
SUN	Women's Ministry Bake Sale 8:00am Worship 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship-Sunday School Christmas Program		11:30am Lunch 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
MON	3:00pm Kringle Pick Up	THURS	9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Worship and Communion
TUES	7:00am Bible Study 9:00am Ladies Bible Study 7:30pm Council Meeting	SAT	9:00am Handbell Rehearsal
		SUN	8:00am Worship and Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship and Communion

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday, 8:00am-4:30pm

Attendance: 219

Offerings: \$12,909

Needed Weekly: \$10,212.08

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

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