**Second Sunday of Advent**

**DECEMBER 10, 2023**

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**CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH – SHERWOOD**

**Sunday, December 10, 2023 – 9 am**

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – 6:30 pm**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who opens the heavens

and draws near to us with salvation.

**C: Amen.**

P: 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.*

P: Everlasting God,

**C: 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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN:** Prepare the Royal Highway; ELW 264

**READING: Isaiah 40:1-11**

R:  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.

R**:** The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

P: The Holy Gospel According to Mark

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8**

P: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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry; ELW 249

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the**

**Father, and he will come 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.**

**PRAYER SONG:** Emmanuel; W&P 36

Emmanuel,

Emmanuel,

his name is called

Emmanuel;

God with us,

revealed in us;

his name is called

Emmanuel.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**THE OFFERING PRAYER**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**HOLY COMMUNION – (Gluten Free Bread)**

**COMMUNION HYMN:** What Feast of Love; ELW 487

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**P: Generous God,

in bread and cup you have revealed your glory

for all people to see together.

Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim

your good news of liberation and release,

brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN:** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling; ELW 631

**BLESSING**

P: The God of peace bless you,

the love of Christ sustain you in hope,

and the anointing of the Spirit ☩ remain upon you

now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**ELW 264**

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**ELW 249**

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**ELW 487**

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**ELW 631**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**December 10** following our worship service, the Congregation will have a short meeting to vote on the proposed 2024 Expense Plan for our church. All members are encouraged to attend.

**The Stewardship Committee** is looking for two individuals to help get the “Sunshine Spreader” list updated and the program implemented. There will be short, monthly meetings in the coming months on Wednesdays; we look to have it all done by April. Please contact Kristin Scheuer at kristinscheuer21@gmail.com or Jen Carlson at carlsons520@gmail.com to get involved.

**Bill Willmer** has been voted on to join our Church Council effective immediately. Thank you, Bill, for stepping up to help!

**Friendly reminder** that if you have not paid for your Poinsettia’s, please remember to do so. Thank you!

**December 17th-** The Sunday School Children will be having a Christmas Program that day during worship service**.** The Hilltop choir will be singing that day as well. **Practice** will be that Saturday, December 16th from 9am - 10:30am.

**Christmas Eve** **Worship Service** will be at 4:30pm that day. There will not be a morning service. **The sign-up sheet** **is now in the Narthex for Christmas Eve. We will not be having a scheduled volunteer list that day- only the people who wish to participate, can sign up. Thank you!**

**The Altar Floral Arrangement** this week was sponsored by Bev Olson. Thank you!!

**UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS**

**Sundays**

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| **December 10** | **December 17** |
| Worship Host: Jodi Sullivan | Worship Host: Nate Nelson |
| Reader: Tony Wieczorek | Reader: Marilyn Nettekoven |
| Communion: Peg Schwalbach, Jodi Sullivan | Communion: David Miller, Sandie Miller |
| Projection: Avery Carlson | Projection: Ashley Brantmeier |
| Counters: Mary Ann VanderWielen, Bev Langford | Counters: Marilyn Nettekoven, Sharon Peters |
| Kitchen: Carol Solberg, Iryna Ratner, Terri Hemauer | Kitchen: David Miller, Sandie Miller, Ashley Brantmeier |
| Ushers: Chris Scheuer, Aaron Carlson | Ushers: David Miller, Bill Willmer |
| Altar Care: Cris Schreiber | Altar Care: Deb Dominczak |

**Wednesdays**

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| **December 13** | **December 20** |
| Reader: Deb Dominczak | Reader: Chris Scheuer  |
| Communion: Frank Dominczak | Communion: Kristin Scheuer |
| Wednesday Altar Care: Jolene Weber | Wednesday Altar Care: Nancy Bastjan |

**Christ The King Lutheran Church - Sherwood**

**Guest Pastor:** Pastor Kurt Hoffman

**Administrative Assistant:** Heather Plainse

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**Financial Administrator:** Kim Allen

**Email:** finance@ctklutheransherwood.org

**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday

9 am – 1 pm

**Worship Times:**

Sundays @ 9am

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

**Check us out online:**

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[**https://ctklutheransherwood.org**](https://ctklutheransherwood.org)

**Our Mission:** To be a Christ-centered, welcoming congregation, joyfully sharing the good news of God's love and grace with others.

**Our Vision:** A community where the all-encompassing love of Jesus flourishes.