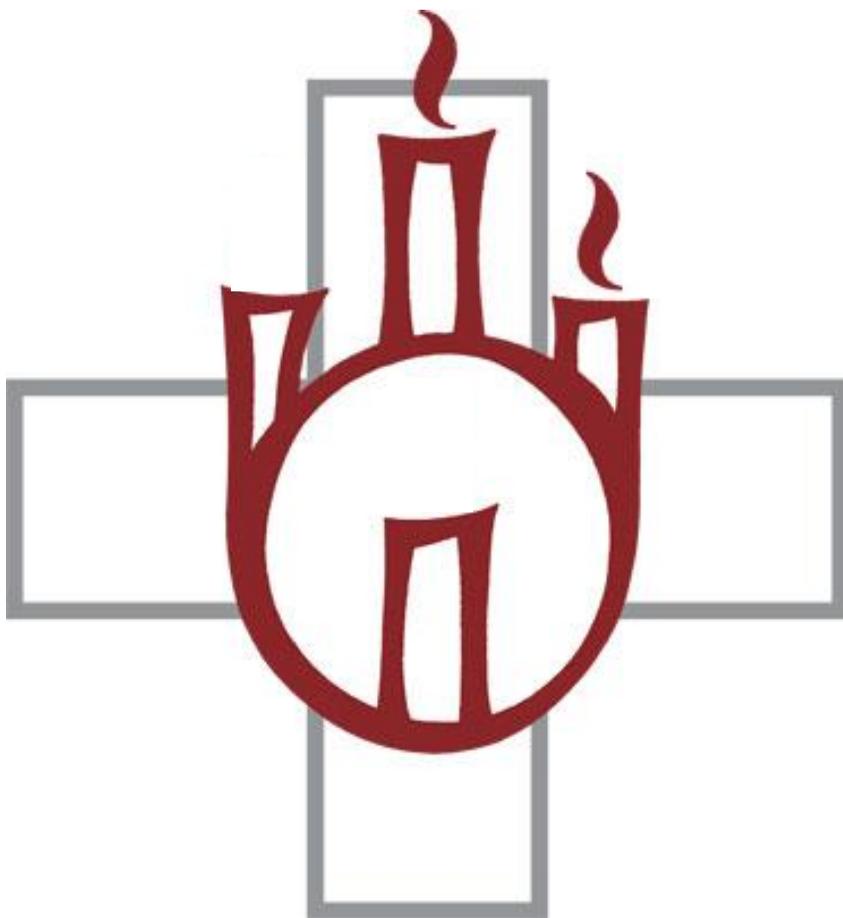


WELCOME TO EMMAUS LUTHERAN!



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 10, 2023

GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US:



You Are Prepared through Repentance for the Coming of the Lord

“The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes *“proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, *“the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together”* (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd *“will gather the lambs in his arms”* (Is. 40:11). He speaks *“tenderly to Jerusalem,”* and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises *“new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells”* (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He *“is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance”* (2 Peter 3:9).



WELCOME! What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. **We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer.** Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol ✝ in the bulletin. **If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign the Guest book located in the front hallway.**



WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN: Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, ***Totes for Tots*** activity bags are available as you enter church (*by the information table*) for children to use during the worship service. Each bag contains books and quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you! A ***Cry Room*** is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie’s room (east hall), where you can listen to the worship service.

DON’T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE? If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God reveals Himself to us and gives us His gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don’t worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the House of the Lord...’” Psalm 122:1



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RESTROOMS are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl’s locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting One

Pg 151

Divine Service
Lutherans follow an order of worship based exclusively on Scripture and focused completely on Jesus. Through the Word and Sacraments, God speaks to His people.

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
 Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
 Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
 A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
 In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text and tune: Public domain

This is considered the finest hymn of author Laurentius Laurenti. It is founded on St. Matt. 25:1-13; and unites the imagery of the parable of the Ten Virgins with that of Revelation 20 and 21. (Matthew 25:1-6; Revelation 5:11-14; Malachi 4:2; Matthew 13:35-37)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Invocation is from the Latin for "call upon"; the words spoken at the beginning of the service; serves as a reminder of Holy Baptism.

P = Pastor

L = Liturgist/Lector

C = Congregation

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit. [John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

Confession is the act by which one admits or confesses sin(s) and the guilt of sin.

*Absolution literally means "set free." This Latin term was used as a translation of the biblical word *aphiemi*, meaning "to set free, cancel, or forgive."*

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit Hymn & Lighting of the Advent Candles 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



C 1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly



kept His word And at last to us did send



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.

Choir: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!
Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

The Introit is a collection of passages from Scripture that set the tone for the services; verses are different each Sunday. Today's Introit is from Psalm 80.

God kept His promise and sent Christ to set us free from sin. We look forward to the day He will return. (Acts 3:24-26; 13:32-33; Luke 24:27)

C 3 Abram's promised great reward,
Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord—
Him of twofold race behold—
Truly came, as long foretold.

Text: Public domain

Choir: You brought a vine out of Egypt; it took deep root and filled the land. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

C 6 Then when You will come again
As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

[LSB 352, v. 6] Text: Public domain

Choir: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Hymn of Praise

The Hymn of Praise is omitted during Advent.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Salutation shows the special relationship between the congregation and the pastor, God's representative. It is a greeting found often in the Bible.

The Collect is the pastor's first prayer in the name of the people, as he speaks for the congregation. It "collects" the theme for the day in a concise way.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries: “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. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” ⁶A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on 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 news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Adult Choir

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

The Gradual is a response of praise between the Old Testament and Epistle readings.

Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-14

⁸Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Summary:
The Lord keeps His promises, both now and into eternity.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Alleluia is Hebrew for "praise the Lord" and is a word of joy and gladness. The Verse is a response sung between the Epistle and Gospel readings in the Divine Service.

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

- L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, ³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,""

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

- L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Summary:
The one prophesied by Isaiah appears in the work of John the Baptist, who prepared the people for one who is greater than himself, Jesus Christ.

Hymn of the Day

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Choir: "Give comfort Lord, we beg of you; with tender words announce your plan. To grant us pardon from our sin and make us pure and whole within," cries a voice in the wilderness! "A highway fair your Son prepares, the curving road all straight shall lie. The hills bow down, the valleys rise; God's power revealed before our eyes," cries a voice in the wilderness!

Choir: v. 1

Congregation: vv. 2-5



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

This hymn is based on Matthew 3:1-6 and tells of John the Baptist preparing the way for Christ. (Matthew 3:1-6; Isaiah 40:3)

Sermon

The Sermon: The preacher proclaims God's Law and Gospel for the hearers.

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

The Creed is a solemn confession and response of faith to the Word. The Nicene Creed was composed in A.D. 325.

The Prayer of the Church includes prayers that what has been heard may be taken to heart and that God would take care of our needs.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Offering

The offering will not be collected during the worship service this morning. Please place your offering in one of the collection plates located at the back of the sanctuary. Extra offering envelopes are available on the hymnal cart. If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at www.emmausfortwane.org and click on "Give Online" or use Vanco Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you for your support of the ministry at Emmaus!

The Offering symbolizes the "spiritual worship" of Christian lives offered in response to God and unites the faithful in an act of fellowship.

Voluntary

Adult Choir

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God (Handel/H Hopson)

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, Thy truth unseal. Thy love reveal. Lord hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee. Come in Thy might. Send forth Thy light, come in might, Come send forth Thy light. Lord, hear

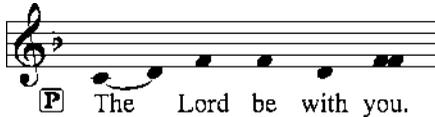
The Voluntary is an offering of musical praise.

Thou in mercy, our prayer to Thee. Come, Jesus, O holy Son of God. For Thee we long. Hear Thou our prayer. To Thee be glory now and evermore.

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+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

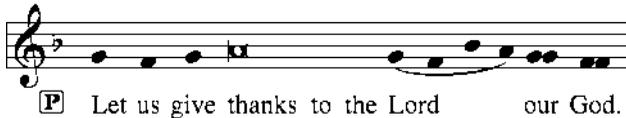
Preface



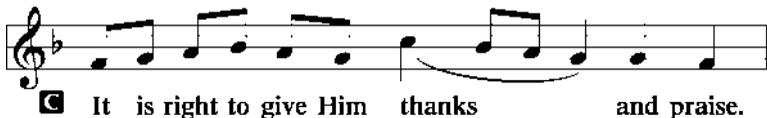
2 Timothy 4:22



[Colossians 3:1]



[Psalm 136]



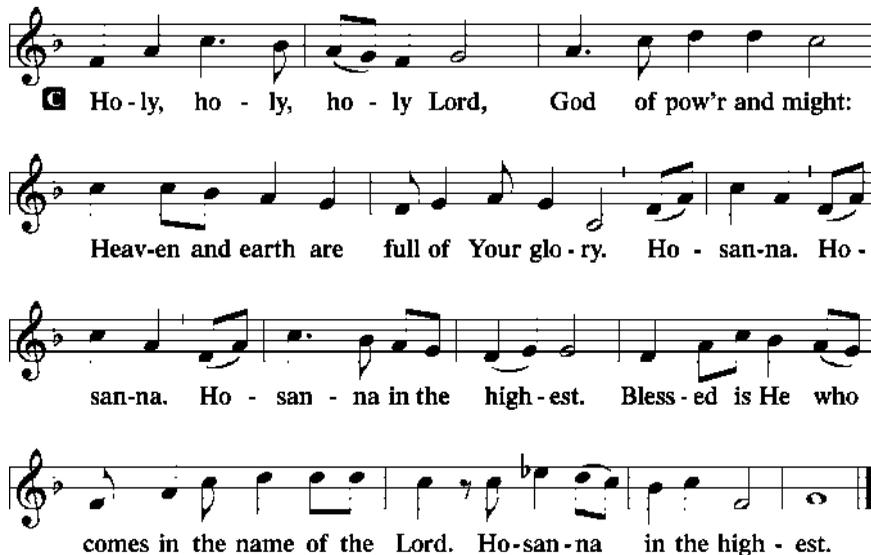
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company

The Preface is a proclamation of praise and thanksgiving that begins the Service of the Sacrament. A dialogue between pastor and the people used since the Early Church.

The Proper Preface is a special prayer said before the Lord's Supper that emphasizes the key themes of the feast, occasion, or season of the Church Year.

of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. 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 Sanctus is Latin for "holy."

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Prayer of thanksgiving is offered at the altar by the pastor on behalf of the congregation. It thanks God for instituting the Sacrament for our forgiveness.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Lord's Prayer is the model prayer Jesus taught to the disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). Sometimes it is called the Our Father, after the first words of the prayer.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

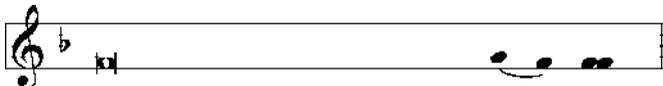
The words spoken by Christ when He instituted the Sacrament of the Altar; the pastor speaks these very words of Christ at the consecration of the bread and wine.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Pax Domini is Latin for "peace of the Lord." In anticipation of the blessings to be received, the pastor and people announce the peace of God to one another.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

G 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.

Agnus Dei is Latin for "Lamb of God"; we adore the Savior who is present in the Holy Meal.

Distribution

Our Holy Communion Practice

In Holy Communion we are joined in a personal way with Christ and with one another as we receive the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore, out of faithfulness toward God, and in sincere love that seeks to guard the spiritual well-being of all who would commune, Emmaus practices Closed Communion.

Holy Scripture clearly teaches that those communing together be unified in their confession of the faith, and also that those who commune unworthily do great harm to themselves. When a person partakes of the sacrament, he/she is also confessing his/her unreserved agreement with the doctrine and practice that is proclaimed from the altar and pulpit of which the Sacrament is administered. Therefore, we ask you to refrain from communing if you are not a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. All others are still welcome to come forward, crossing your arms to receive a blessing. Please speak with the pastor about receiving instruction to learn what Scripture teaches and our church confesses. We pray fervently for the day when Christ returns and all divisions will cease.

Thank you for respecting our practice.

In the Distribution we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

Distribution Hymns

346 When All the World Was Cursed



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na-tion,
2 Be-fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy-ful meet-ing,
3 Be-hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres-sion,
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re-joic-ing,



Saint John the Bap-tist came With words of con-so-la-tion.
Con-fess-ing Him as Lord Whose moth-er he was greet-ing.
Whose sac-ri-fice re-moves The dev-il's dread op-pres-sion.
The word pro-claimed by John, Our true re-pen-tance voic-ing,



With true fore-run-ner's zeal The great-er One he named,
By Jor-dan's roll-ing stream, A new E-li-jah bold,
Be-hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a-way our sin,
That glad-ly we may walk Up-on our Sav-ior's way



And Him, as yet un-known, As Sav-ior he pro-claimed.
He tes-ti-fied of Him Of whom the proph-ets told:
Who for our peace and joy Will full a-tone-ment win.
Un-til we live with Him In His e-ter-nal day.

We sing this hymn of the work of John the Baptizer and the One for whom he prepared the way. This hymn reminds us of the work of Christ to take away our sin.

(John 1:6-9, 15-17, 23-31; Matthew 3:1-12; 11:9-14; Luke 1:41-44)

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001612
Tune: Public domain

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys shall
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text and tune: Public domain

This hymn is tied directly to Isaiah 40, and recalls for us the working of God through Jesus Christ. (Isaiah 40:1-8)

331 The Advent of Our King



1 The ad-vent of our King Our prayers must now em-ploy,
2 The ev-er-last-ing Son In-car-nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi-on's daugh-ter, rise To meet your low-ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a-gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho-ly joy.
Him-self a ser-vant's form puts on To set His ser-vants free.
Nor let your faith-less heart de-spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem-bers all u-nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text and tune: Public domain

As we begin this new Advent Season, this very first hymn in the hymnal highlights both Jesus' humiliation and exultation.

*(Luke 19:28-40;
Philippians 2:5-11;
Ephesians 4:22-24;
Daniel 7:13-14)*

Post-Communion Canticle Thank the Lord



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek 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

The Post-Communion Canticle is a hymn of thanks.



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

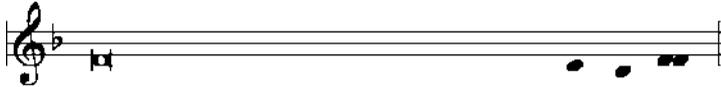
P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.



C A - men.

The Benediction is God's blessing for the congregation given through the pastor at the very end of the service.

Closing Hymn

343 Prepare the Royal Highway



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 should 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, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
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: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001612
Tune: Public domain

Once again the words of this Advent hymn, set to a 17th century Swedish tune, draws our attention to the coming Christ, our King. (Isaiah 40:3-5; Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 24:7-10; Isaiah 9:6-7)

Announcements

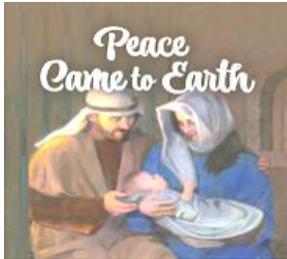
Dismissal

- P** Go in peace to serve the Lord!
- G** Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICE
WEDNESDAY
7:00 P.M.

PEACE CAME TO EARTH

Seeking peace by our own efforts is an endless pursuit, but God instructs us with a peace that surpasses understanding. He gives us peace in five separate ways that meet our needs, perhaps before we even know them. This peace comes through the birth of Jesus. Using a five-point Christmas star as a metaphor, see the five ways Jesus brings us peace from God as the Prince of Peace.

Wednesday, December 13

PEACE TO ALL, NEAR AND FAR

We often seek peace through distance, putting our worries of the past far away, but God gives us peace here and now through the blood of His Son, who died on the cross.

Sunday School & Bible Classes

We invite you to join us as we study and learn God's Word. Please ask for help, if you need directions to these classes:

Nursery (for Infants through 2 year olds) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

Sunday School DoVotion

Preschool—Grade 8 Students and their parents will meet in the Library.

High School Students/Adults are invited and encouraged to gather in the gym for Bible Study with Pastor Olsen. Join us for our Advent study this morning as we dig deeper in to the Old Testament Readings from Isaiah; Today we will be focusing on Isaiah 40:1-16. The reading for the next week is Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, if you would like to read it ahead of time to prepare for the class:



Participating in Today's Service

Preacher: Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III

Lector: Seminarian Brian Frank

Acolyte: Niko Spanos

Communion Assistant: Rev. Dr. Robert H. Bennett

Elder: Mr. Stan Veit

Organist: Mr. Timothy LaCroix

Choir: Emmaus Adult Choir

MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:

Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to
COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST
through worship, life together, teaching and service.

UNITY ✝ FAMILY ✝ FAITHFUL ✝ EDUCATION ✝ CONFSSIONAL

This Week at Emmaus

Sunday, December 10

2nd Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy
Communion

*Light refreshments will be served after the
worship service. Everyone is welcome to join us!*

10:20 a.m. Sunday School DoVotion &
Adult Bible Class

Sunday School Nursery:

Maddie Bultemeier, Marian Hamilton

Monday, December 11

8:20 a.m. School Chapel
6:30 p.m. Board of Elders

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 p.m. K-Gr. 2 Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 13

7:00 p.m. Mid-Week Advent Service

Thursday, December 14

6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

Saturday, December 16

9:00 a.m. JVG vs Zion-Decatur
10:15 a.m. JVB vs Zion-Decatur
11:00 a.m. VB vs Zion-Decatur

Sunday, December 17

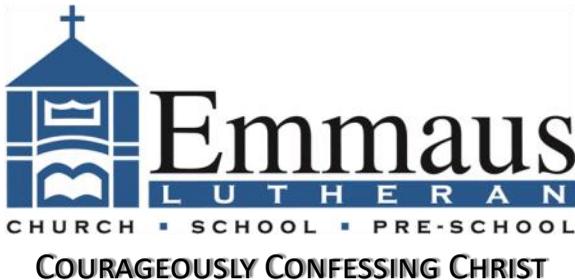
3rd Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy
Communion

Acolyte: Trapper Durlacher
Elder: Stan Veit

10:20 a.m. Sunday School &
Adult Bible Classes

Sunday School Nursery:
Laura Bruns, Cecilia Diehm



8626 Covington Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766
Church: www.emmausfortwayne.org
School: www.emmauslutheranfw.org

Check out our YouTube Channel:  **YouTube**
Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne

The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!

Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, *Pastor*
Home: 260-267-5180
revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org

Darlene Heeren, *Church Secretary*

Timothy LaCroix, *Music Director*

Karen Detwiler, *Family Care Coordinator*

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



Bible Readings for Next Sunday:

Psalm 126; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thessalonians 56:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28.



Weekly Word & Prayer

We encourage you to take this insert home with you and use it as part of your family or individual devotions.

LUTHER'S
SMALL
Catechism

Catechism Review

The Lord's Prayer

The Fourth Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?

God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

A Reading from the Book of Concord, Smalcald Articles, Third Part, Article III, Repentance



This is what true repentance means. A person needs to hear something like this, “You are all of no account, whether you are obvious sinners or saints (in your own opinions). You have to

become different from what you are now. You have to act differently than you are now acting, whether you are as great, wise, powerful, and holy as you can be. Here no one is godly.”

But to the Law, the New Testament adds the consoling promise of grace. As Christ declares, “Repent and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15). That is, become different, act differently, and believe My promise. John the Baptist (preceding Christ) is called a preacher of repentance, but this is for the forgiveness of sins. That is, John was to accuse all and convict them of being sinners. This is so they can know what they are before God and acknowledge that they are lost. So they can be prepared for the Lord [Mark 1:3] to receive grace and to expect and accept from Him the forgiveness of sins. This is what Christ Himself says, “Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in [My] name to all nations” (Luke 24:47).

The Law kills. On the other hand, the Gospel brings consolation and forgiveness. It does so through the Word and the Sacraments and the like. Psalm 130:7 says, “with the Lord is ... plentiful redemption.”(paragraphs 3-8)

[Condensed quotations from the Lutheran Confessions from Concordia: the Lutheran Confessions,

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“LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR”

Advent II – John the Baptist prophesied the Gospel of the Kingdom that with Jesus’ blessing is always coming (Mark 1:7-8). Even during surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis, He is not slow to keep His promises. Instead, He acts patiently, not wishing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). Aren’t we crying out about it as this generation’s voice in the wilderness (Mark 1:3)?

Life Thoughts in the Church Year are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. *Life Thoughts* are based on the appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book*. www.lutheransforlife.org.

Remember in Prayer this Week

FCG **Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating**

- Luke St. Jude Children's Hospital, Memphis TN: **Layla Stockinger**
- Ruth Life Care Center: **William G. Schmidt**
- Mark LLV at Inverness: **Wini Fritz**
- Deborah Ashton Creek: **Carol Rose**, for rehab
- Ruth **Beverly Baals**, experiencing health related issues
- Matthew **Sue Behny**, as she continues to recover
- Ruth **Marti Evans**, as she continues to experience health issues
- Moses **Eric Hoffman**, recovering from surgery
- Mark **Bonnie Robbins**, continuing to experience health issues
- Joseph **Karen Sollberger**, continuing to experience health problems
- Ruth **Kathy Veit**, recovering from a cornea transplant
- Faith Ells**, (26 years old, friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment
- Garret Griffey**, nephew of Ron & Sandy Crismore, who was seriously injured in an accident on September 6th
- David Knoll**, cousin of Karen Detwiler, undergoing cancer treatment
- Eliana Miller**, friend of Karen Detwiler, fighting cancer
- David Munson**, friend of Lisa Kanning, who is recovering at home.
- Lisa Reece**, friend of the Rosenkoettters, cancer has progressed, prognosis not long-term
- Joseph Linda Amstutz, Bill Bradley, Jr, Gregg Kiess Family, Jerry Lunz Family, Grace
- FCG Schrepferman, Karen Sollberger, Peter Steinbacher Family, and the Stellwagen Family

Pray for

For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

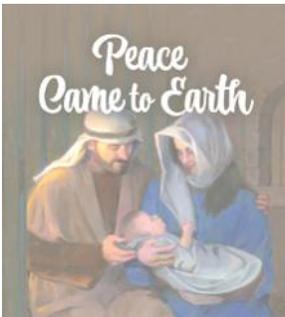
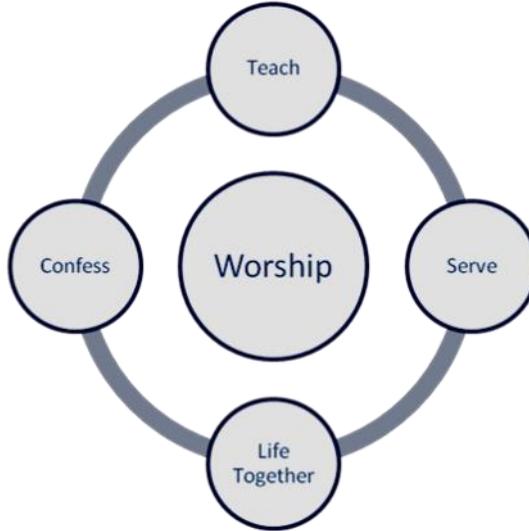
Serving in the Armed Forces: **James Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving in the U.S. Marines; **Paul Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving as Chaplain in the U.S. Navy; and **Travis McGehee**, who has returned from training.



EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES

For the week of December 10, 2023

DONE IN LOVE



Mid-Week Advent Worship
Wednesday, December 13 7:00 p.m.

PEACE TO ALL, NEAR AND FAR

We often seek peace through distance, putting our worries of the past far away, but God gives us peace here and now through the blood of His Son, who died on the cross.

THANK YOU - God has richly blessed us with

SERVING THE LORD

many gifts in our congregation! Among the most blessed is one another. Thank you for working together, side by side as the Body of Christ, to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

NURTURING THE FAITH

We invite you to join us as we study and learn God's Word.
Please ask for help, if you need directions to these classes:

Sunday School Classes

Nursery (for Infants through 2 year old's) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

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Nursery (for Infants through 2 year old's) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

Sunday School DoVotion

Preschool—Gr. 8 Students & their parents will meet in the Library .

Adult Bible Class: Join us for our Advent study this morning as we dig deeper in to the Old Testament Readings from Isaiah;. Today we will be focusing on Isaiah 40:1-16. Pastor Olsen will be leading class this morning. The reading for next week is Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

Higher Things Reflections - The 1st Week in Advent—Ephiphany (12/3/2023-1/6/2024) booklets are available as you leave from the table in the front hallway. Please feel free to pick up a copy and take one for a friend.

Portals of Prayer - We do still have some booklets for October-December 2023. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

Worship Attendance

Sunday, December 3: Worship: **91** Adult Bible Class: **41**
December 6, Mid-Week Advent: Worship: **46**

THANK YOU!

LIFE TOGETHER

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped with the Christmas decoration and allowed me to be able to do what I so love. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! You are so amazing and so appreciated!
Marti



PRESCHOOL AIDE NEEDED - Emmaus Lutheran Preschool, 8626 Covington Road, is in need of an afternoon aide for the remainder of this school year. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are interested, or know someone who might be

EMMAUS FY 2023-2024 OFFERINGS & TITHES NEEDED	
Offerings Needed Weekly Beginning July 1, 2023	\$6,894.00
Offerings Rec'd Since Last Sunday	\$3,405.00
Electronic Offerings Rec'd Last Week	\$1,691.95
Budgeted Overage (Shortfall)	(\$1,797.05)
Budgeted Offerings Needed YTD	\$158,562.00
Envelope Offerings Received YTD (includes Electronic Offerings) **	\$146,867.04
Budgeted Overage (Shortfall) YTD	(\$11,964.96)
LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS/OBLIGATIONS & INITIATIVES	
Mortgage Balance	\$1,032,872.16
Concordia Lutheran High School Congregation Assessment Balance	\$36,633.34
Bell Tower Funds Raised (target \$107,650.00)	\$107,650.00
Sanctuary Fund/Foundation	\$304,082.95

interested, please contact Joann Olsen, Preschool Director, at joansen@emmauslutheranfw.org or 260-459-7722, ext. 1012.

SUBSTITUTES FOR TEACHERS & AIDES NEEDED - If you or someone you know would be interested in substituting for a teacher or a classroom aide, please contact Mrs. Spanos for more information.

VIDEO MESSAGES FOR LAYLA & PAUL - One of the suggestions that was made at the meeting for ways to help the Stockinger family was to make and send video messages to Layla and Paul while they are away. We are still scheduling times, so be sure to sign-up at the table in the front hall.. You can share a favorite Bible verse, say a prayer, tell a joke, sing a song, etc. We will also have spots available if you would like to read a chapter in Luke to sent each day in December. See Margie Crabtree or Amanda Heeren, if you have any questions or would like to schedule a time to video your message.



PRAYER REQUESTS - Did you know...You can share your prayer requests or praises by clicking "Prayer" on the Emmaus homepage at emmausfortwayne.org.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

The Giving Tree

It's that time of year again . . . A time when we are able to bless others during the Christmas season! We plan to share our congregational love with two families this year.

The
Emmaus
Christmas
GIVING TREE
needs you and me!

We have two families we will be blessing this year!

Family #1 has had several hardships this year, including a house fire. They are a family of 8 (3 adults, 5 children). Look for tags on the Giving Tree!

Family #2 is a young couple. The husband recently found out that he has kidney cancer and will need to undergo treatment for this. They can be helped most with restaurant gift cards, grocery gift cards, gas cards, etc. as he begins his cancer treatment journey. Of course, all prayers are appreciated! In addition to gift cards and prayers, any cards/notes/letters of encouragement for this young man would be welcome as he battles this new diagnosis.

HOW: Please take a tag from the Giving Tree in our worship area, purchase the item(s), wrap and return them with the tag attached. NOTE: for clothing items, please include a gift receipt.

WHEN: Return wrapped items to Emmaus by **Sunday, December 17th.**

IF: You would rather give a monetary gift and have others shop, please give your gift to Jessica Barkdull on Sundays or **mail** a designated check to Emmaus.

Questions? Please contact Jessica Barkdull,
260-580-9067. Thank you!

EMMAUS FACEBOOK PAGE! - Emmaus has a new Facebook page. Follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089549997428&mibextid=LQQJ4d> or scan the QR code to view the page!

If you have any event photos please send them to either Kirsten Bohnke at kirsten.bohnke@gmail.com or Paul Stockinger at paul_stockinger@yahoo.com



WAYS TO HELP EMMAUS:

Kroger Community Rewards This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at



A NIGHT AT THE RACES

Saturday, February 24

Emmaus Lutheran School's Annual
Dinner, Silent and Live Auction, Dancing

Our annual auction is in the planning stages and we need volunteers. There are going to be a lot of different areas to help out with. Those areas include ticket sales, fundraising, decorating, prep work with the auction items, setup, assisting at the event, and take down. Whether you are able to help for a day, a few hours, or to be a supporter of the event we can't do this without you!

Interested in joining the committee?

We would love to have you join us!
[signupgenius.com/go/20F044EA9AE23A1FE3-annual#//](https://signupgenius.com/go/20F044EA9AE23A1FE3-annual#/)

Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. It's easy! Here's how:

1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
2. Under your account options select "My Account."
3. Scroll down the page and select "Community Rewards" (left side of screen).
4. Under "organization Name" enter "Emmaus Lutheran School and Church" or use "organization Number" BF171.

Advantage Recycling

We are accepting empty printer ink cartridges, old cell phones, and laptops. This helps keep those items out of the landfill and helps us as we will receive payment from the recycling company. Items can be placed in the box located inside the west entrance to the gym/sanctuary from the front hall. Monies from this program will be used for school supplies.

PROJECT CONNECT BOOKLETS

Lutheran Hour Ministries 'Project Connect' booklets combine a subject matter expert's practical guidance on a variety of topics that pose real-life challenges to us, within a Christ-centered, Law and Gospel context ... What a powerful combination! You can find a variety of these



booklets in the circular rack just inside the entrance to the sanctuary. This week's featured brochure: ***Strength and Honor***" - Pornography, sadly, is a word all too familiar these days. To say porn has crept into our households would be an understatement; its advance has been more like a march leaving a host of casualties in its wake: individuals, marriages, families, relationships, careers, sometimes even one's faith - go down the drain, as this take-no-prisoner scourge derails Christian and non-Christian alike. In this booklet the reader will find insights and hope for dealing with the problems brought on by pornography. The words offered here are Christ-centered, to the point, and deliver a Christian approach to battling this pernicious vice.

GREETING CARDS - \$1.00 EACH - Our Women's Guild has just replenished our supply of new Dayspring cards on the carousel at the back table. Stop by before or after service and browse all the many categories and choices. Just refilled are beautiful "thinking of you" and "praying for you" cards which are perfect for our Care Groups, family and friends. ALSO, If you want unique, blank notecards, how about our Emmaus cards at \$6.00 for a 12 pack? They are designed by Bill Schmidt and are perfect for ANY occasion. We all love to receive cards and notes. Take the time to do it, and share your love and prayers.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - Please be sure to set up your electronic giving on the Vanco Mobile app. You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please stop by the church office or call us at 260-459-7722. We also have an info sheet that shows how to make gifts with the app available from the table in the front hall.

WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS - If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). Please contact the church office, 459-7722 and press "3". *Dave & Joan Kendall.*

MEMBER CALLER - We have set up our account for the new service to call all our members. Please add the phone number of **855.248.7295** to your caller id or your phone address book and entitle that contact as the Church Call so that it will be identified properly on your caller id. If your phone number has changed or you need to add an additional number for your household, please see Darlene so that she can update the call list.

GENERAL

DEADLINE FOR EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES: Please submit information to the Church Office by Noon on Wednesday to be included in Sunday's publication.

ROYAL MESSENGER NEWSLETTER - The December 2023/January 2024 issue of The Royal Messenger is available to pick up in the front hallway for those who have requested a printed copy. **The deadline for submitting information for the February/March 2024 issue is Monday, January 29th.** Please send any info on upcoming events to the church office by e-mail to: dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org. Thank you!

OTHER

ISSUES, ETC. LUTHERAN RADIO IN EXILE... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune into interviews on subjects like "Answering Tough Questions About the Christian Faith: Common Objections", "Bad Uses of the Law of God", "Signs and Symbols in the Church" and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

WORSHIP ANEW is broadcast weekly on Sundays at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program: **Comfort, Comfort My People** - We all need comfort for various reasons, which includes our feeling sorrow over our sins. So, be comforted! Even though we are sinners, God shows us abundant grace, and Jesus, our Good Shepherd, carries each of us in his arms. These truths are certain, because they come from God's Word, which stands forever. Sermon Text: Isaiah 40:1-11. Speaker: Rev. Dr. Walter Maier

CROSS CONNECTIONS - S.O.S. at Cross Connections: The Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections has a Serve our Servants fund (S.O.S) that provides free counseling for all active duty military, police, fire, and EMT personnel and their families. If you or somebody you know would benefit from these services please speak with pastor or call Cross Connections at [260-373-0213](tel:260-373-0213) to learn more.

NIPSCO ENERGY ASSISTANCE - Beginning December 1, income-eligible customers, seniors, active military and veterans experiencing financial difficulty paying their gas utility bill may apply for additional

NIPSCO energy assistance programs. Available programs include NIPSCO Hardship, SERV (Supply Energy Resources to Veterans) and SILVER (Seniors in Indiana Low-Income and Vulnerable Energy Resource) that will allow customers to receive a one-time benefit of up to \$400 per year if they qualify. To see the full list of requirements for SERV and SILVER, customers should visit NIPSCO.com/IncomeEligible. There, customers may also apply for the appropriate program by completing and submitting an online self-attestation form and uploading documentation, if required. Applicants should allow 30 business days for the form to be received and processed. If program requirements are met, a one-time credit will be applied to the applicant's NIPSCO gas residential utility account.

WORSHIP ANEW - Job Posting for Donor Database Specialist:

Join an amazing ministry team at Worship Anew as the Donor Database Specialist. Worship Anew is a ministry, headquartered in Fort Wayne, IN, that reaches thousands of people each week across the nation and around the world with its weekly television program. The ministry is currently growing and produces a daily devotional, Hope-Full Living, a care package ministry, and is striving to be the foremost provider of resources for aging adults. The ministry is seeking a part-time Donor Database Specialist to be responsible for all database entry, reporting, and upkeep. This position also assists with viewer requests and performs other administrative duties as needed. This candidate needs to have database skills, and be proficient in Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel. They must possess strong customer service skills. We are seeking someone with an Associate degree or 2 years equivalent experience in related field or area. This person must have a basic understanding of the church teachings and how Worship Anew fits into it. Knowledge of Lutheran Church Missouri Synod principles and values is a plus. They must be supportive of the ministry's values and have a passion for the ministry's work with a genuine commitment to the fulfillment of the organization's mission. To apply, please contact Worship Anew at (260) 471-5683.

FORT WAYNE LUTHERAN We have copies of the current issue of The Fort Wayne Lutheran available at the table in the front hallway as you leave today. The issue is also available online at www.myfwl.org for those who have computer/internet access.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY MAGAZINES - We have copies of the magazines from both Ft. Wayne Campus and St. Louis campus available from the Information Rack. These publications provide information on what's happening at our seminary campuses. Please feel free to pick up a copy.

CHRISTMAS TREES & WREATHS - The Concordia Lutheran Church Men's Club will once again be selling Christmas trees and wreaths this year to help fund the church and school. The tree lot is located at the Church-School, 4245 Lake Avenue. Christmas tree sales will begin on Saturday, November 18th. The lot will be open 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sundays. The proceeds from this fund raiser are used to support various projects and functions of the Concordia Church and school. A selection can be made from Scotch Pine, Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, and Blue Spruce. Decorated wreaths are also available. Please assist us in this effort by purchasing your Christmas tree from the Concordia Men's Club. Your patronage would be greatly appreciated.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Christmas at the Embassy - Celebrate the holiday season with Concordia Lutheran High School's annual Christmas at the Embassy at 4 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Historic Embassy Theatre. The 2023 event, "The Savior Reigns: Repeat the Sounding Joy!" will showcase the talents of CLHS music department students with choral, instrumental and orchestral music. Tickets are now on sale at the Embassy Box Office and Ticketmaster. Tickets are \$12 for students/seniors and \$18 for general admission. No reserved seats. Begin your Christmas celebrations with song and some holiday cheer!

Priority Application Deadline - If you are the parent of an eighth grade student or a high school student who is considering transferring to Concordia, please note that the priority application deadline for the 2024 -25 school year is **December 15**. You can find more information online at becomeacadet.com!