



SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday, December 9th 5:00pm Sunday, December 10th 9:00am

Welcome! We are happy you are here!

Please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! This is Christ's table and His invitation. You do not need to be a Lutheran, or a member of our church to participate. Also, if you wish to come up for only a blessing, please tell us when you approach, and we will bless you! If you are unable to come up for communion, tell the usher that you would like to receive communion at your seat, and someone will bring it to you. **All are Welcome! We hope you feel welcome here and throughout the worship services this weekend!**

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Saturday is **Holden Evening Prayer** by Marty Haugen. Laurel Borter, piano; Julie Schmit, Assisting Minister & Cantor.

Sunday is Contemporary Worship led by St. Mary's Contemporary Worship Band. Sunday's order of worship:

Gathering Song....."Prepare the Way"

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (Rader Family).....
Hymn #240 "Light One Candle" v.2

Sharing the Peace

Worship Song....."He Shall Reign Forevermore"

HOLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (both Sat/Sun)

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 (pgs. 581-2)
In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a (pgs. 988-9)
This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND

The holy gospel according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 (pg. 812)
The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord. The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Kids' Connection

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Prayers of the Day

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.
Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
Amen.

Offering "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

Words of Institution

Communion Song..... "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Benediction and Closing Prayer

Sending Song..... "We Have a Savior"

Dismissal

Go in Peace, Share the good news
Thanks be to God!

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Sunday School meets during the worship service on Sunday mornings! Kids will leave after Kids Connection. All are welcome! This week—**Sunday school ends at 11:00am. We are practicing for the program then AND don't forget Saturday, 12/16 at 9am-Noon!**

Here's something to Think On:

Baptism is such a spiritual gift! It reminds us of the opportunity to become clean again in Christ. Begin thinking today about the acts you show or should change in preparation for the gift of Christ. Amen.

And

Please join St. Mary's Sunday School for their Children's Christmas program "**Love Came Down**" NEXT Sunday, December 17th during the 9:00am worship service.



"SUPPER CLUBS are BACK for 2024 – Sign up TODAY!" Look for Carole Scotese in fellowship hall (wearing the 'Ask me about Supper Clubs' nametag).

Advent Book Study "Names of the Messiah" happens Sunday at 10:15am in the Lounge.

December Council Connection is Lisa Zanin. Please contact her with any questions, or thoughts email lzanin1953@gmail.com or 909-1181.

The Altar Flowers this weekend are given for the Glory to God and the centerpiece is given in celebration of her mother, Dolores Froemming's 96th birthday (11/21/1927) by Joyce Froemming. The side arrangement is given in loving memory of husband, Ron Vranak, by Jacqie Vranak.





MONDAY NIGHTS = YOUTH

This Monday, 12/11 is a Learning Night – 6pm for Fish/7pm for Fusion – all Middle & High Schoolers welcome! Next week is the Christmas Party on 12/18!



The Friendly Center December 13th Luncheon is at The Fireside Restaurant 2801 30th Ave, Kenosha ♥♥♥♥♥

“Share the Warmth” from now through December 17 we will be collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarfs for the ELCA Outreach Center. These can be new or gently used. Please bring to church and deposit in the box in the back of the sanctuary. Thrivent Action team will be purchasing gloves as well if you would like to donate cash. Thank you!



Gretchen

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WORSHIP ATTENDANCE = 139

12/2: 36 & 12/3: 113

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CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT ST. MARY'S LUTHERAN

Christmas Eve—Sunday, December 24th

No Sunday Morning Worship

5:00pm & 8:00pm

Traditional Candle Light Service
Families & All Are Welcome at Both.

Christmas Day—Monday, December 25th

9:00am Traditional Worship

Saturday, 12/30 5:00pm Lessons & Carols

Sunday, 12/31 9:00am Lessons & Carols

No New Year's Day worship.

All services in our sanctuary and live streamed online and available on demand on YouTube or our church website.



ELCA Outreach Center

Night of Worship

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Soup Supper at 5:00pm

Worship at 6:00pm

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

5601 Washington Rd.



Name / Giving # _____

Date / Occasion _____

Amount _____

The share of my treasure for the work of the Lord at St. Mary's Lutheran Church

THANK YOU FOR SERVING DURING WORSHIP!

Pastor Kathy Brown—Interim Pastor

Julie Schmit—Assisting Minister and Cantor

Art Kotenko—Sound & Video Technician.

Pat Gallo & Hayley Jensen—Sacristy help

Saturday Night is “Holden Evening Prayer” by Marty Haugen.

Laurel Borter—Piano

Mark Zanin—Reader

Mark & Lisa Zanin—Communion Assistants

The VanBendegoms and/or The Zanins—Coffee Kringle Mingle hosts

Sunday Morning is a Contemporary Worship.

Grant June, Bjorn Hanson, Jennifer Zilmer, Jeff Mitka, Patricia Mason, Kip Cushing, Kendra Richter & Youth—Worship Team

The Rader Family—Advent Candle Lighting

Rod Pfeiffer—Reader

Lara Rader—Kids Connection

Cheryl Hayes, Andrea Beer, Andy Schroeder
—Communion Assistants

Deb Mitka—Greeter

The Schwalbes—Coffee Kringle Mingle hosts



2024 GIVING ENVELOPES

For our members who use envelopes for giving, we appreciate your patience and flexibility throughout 2023. The Finance committee has worked to provide a method of providing envelopes to you in a more financially and resource friendly way.

On the weekends of **Dec 9/10** and **Dec 16/17** members who have historically used envelope giving will be able to pick up a large envelope with your name and giving number on it, volunteers will be available to give you the number of envelopes you need for 2024. If you give weekly, we will have a packet of 60 envelopes for you. If you give monthly, we will have a packet of 16 envelopes for you and if you give quarterly, sporadically, or for holidays, we will have a packet of 12 envelopes for you.

The envelopes you will be provided will have the following label for you to fill out your Name and/or Giving Number, the Date or Occasion (example: Lent / Thanksgiving / etc.), and the Amount.

Going forward, you will be able to pick up a new packet of envelopes when you need to replenish your supply. Remember, regular and special giving can also be made using the *Tithe.ly* application.

If you have any questions about your envelopes or *Tithe.ly*, please contact the church office 658-3555 or Cari Richter, Financial Secretary 853-2359.