



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 West Gano Chance Road
Centralia, Missouri 65240
Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, 2024

Good Shepherd Congregation welcomes baptized Christians at its altar who accept the doctrine of the Lutheran Confessions. On the basis of the Bible, we believe that the Lord's body and blood are truly present, together with the consecrated bread and wine (Matthew 26:26-28). By faith a penitent sinner receives the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith (1 Corinthians 11:28,29; Hebrews 10:14, 18); that person is truly worthy who has faith in the words of Jesus, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins," (Matthew 26:28) and our Lord would invite such a person to receive the Sacrament. Any visitors wishing to commune are kindly asked to speak to the Pastor or an Elder before the service.

WELCOME

Pastor James Lanning

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE
with Holy Communion
Lutheran Service Book (LSB pp. 184-202)

OPENING HYMN – "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

LSB 338

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Philipians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

(the Gloria In Excelsis is omitted during Advent)

SALUTATION and COLLECT**P 189****OLD TESTAMENT READING – Zephaniah 3:14-20****Reader: Aaron Seider**

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the LORD.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING – Philippians 4:4-7**Reader: Aaron Seider**

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE**P 190**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 7:18-28

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ²⁴When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” ²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED	P 191
SERMON HYMN: “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”	LSB 345
MESSAGE – “Those Who Dwell in Darkness”	Pastor James Lanning
OFFERING	p 192
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT	P 194-201
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:	
“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”	LSB 352
“Hark the Glad Sound”	LSB 349
“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”	LSB 602
SALUTATION, BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION	P 201-202
CLOSING HYMN – “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”	LSB 849

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER EVENTS

12.18 Worship Committee Meeting 4:30 pm

12.18 Midweek Advent Dinner 6 pm

12.18 Midweek Advent Service 7 pm

12.18 ZOOM Prayer Group

12.24 Nativity of our Lord Service 7 pm

BIRTHDAYS – **Matthew Rojas** – December 18; **Katherine Lanning** – December 19; **Starr Nadler** – December 20; **Cindi Manola** – December 20; **Liliana Rojas** – December 21

ANNIVERSARIES – **James and Hannah Lanning** – December 21

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worship Committee meets at 4:30 on Wednesday, December 18th. Please join us to help select hymns sung during the worship services.

January Newsletter articles and pictures are due by 10:00 am on December 26th.

MIDWEEK ADVENT DINNERS:

December 18 – Seider’s – chili dogs

Those attending are asked to bring a dish, salad, or dessert. **The weekly host family will be in charge of asking members for additional help with the main dish.**

Thrivent Members – Did you know you can order Thrivent **Cause Kits** to make water filters or solar lights for people who need them? There is no charge to the member – just order the kit, build the filters or lights, return to Thrivent and they will distribute. Thrivent members may get 1 kit per year. Check out wtw.org/thrivent for more information on the water filters. This might be a good project for our Sunday School students.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Larry Wilcox – atrial fibrillation following surgical repair of hip fracture (he is 86 years old and was at work when he fell on ice and broke his hip); **Christina DeJesus (Jane St. John's daughter)** – health issues; **Savannah and Taylor** – as they watch their daughter recover from her CDH repair; grant them patience as they wait to hold her; **Reagan Louise** – newborn recovering from surgery for repair of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia; **Brenda Belt** (Henry Rainey's sister) – Stage IV Cancer; **Grace** – health issues (friend of Hannah Lanning); **Steve Buckert** – cancer treatments; **Jenni Murray**-Margaret Parker's daughter-injured in motorcycle accident; **Ron Borgman**; **Ryan James**-cousin of Betsy Cochran–health issues; **Dick St. John**–Brenda Moss's father–health issues; **Sherry Morse**–health issues; **Kim & Terry Decker**–health issues; **Craig**–suffering with spinal stenosis-friend of Randy Simmons; **Verda Adkisson**; **Mark Blanton**–Betsy Cochran's cousin–waiting for liver transplant; **Ed & Ernestine Ramsey**; **Bill & Judy Mahieu**; **Kyle Lutz**–recovering from kidney/pancreas transplant; **Bonnie Berthelsen**; **Mark Ramsey**; **Calvin Stemme**–treatment for cancer; **Julia Rainey**; **Jane St. John**; **Dennis & Jackie Nadler**; **Susan Harris**; **Wayne Nolan**–stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **Michelle Smith**–daughter of Jane St John; **Arla Benskin**–daughter of Mary Brechler.

Missionaries - Pastor Tim Schulte and wife **Erin**

Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman; **Evie Ross**–infant needs heart transplant; **Dylan Dick**–health issues; **David**–health issues; **Fran Schnarre**–health issues.

ARMED FORCES: Christopher Thompson, U. S. Navy – cousin of Hannah Lanning; **Brandon Lowery**, U.S. Navy–brother of Rachel Rojas; **Donevin Leonard**, U.S. Marine Corps–grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; **Chris Chism**, U.S. Navy–son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; **Brittany Macklin**–great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; **Zachary Warden**–grandson of Betty Warden; Community: **Ray Finlay**, U.S. Army

Welcome and Prayer Request Cards

Please place any prayer request cards in the offering plate when it comes around. The ushers will give them to the pastor. Please complete the welcome card and leave it at the end of your pew. Thank you.

Church Directory

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