



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

December 10, 2017
Advent 2

Service of the Word
Christian Worship p. 38

Roger Vomhof, Vacancy Pastor • Linda Noack, Organist

To Our Visitors

- The restrooms are in the fellowship hall. Turn to your left when exiting the church.
- We are happy to have children in our worship. Cloth bags with age appropriate books and activities are available. Please ask an usher.

Calendar for This Week: December 10-16

Today

10:30 am Bible Class, Sunday School, and Ignite Youth Group

Monday

5:30 pm Board of Elders

Wednesday

3:15 pm Confirmation Class A

4:45 pm Confirmation Class B

6:00 pm Advent Supper

7:00 pm Advent Service

Saturday

9:30 am Children's Christmas Service Rehearsal

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-8



Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 85, CW page 97

SECOND LESSON: 2 Peter 3:8-14



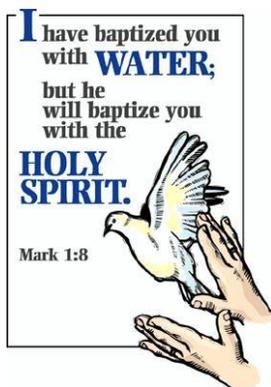
⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-8



The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way”— ³ “a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

HYMN OF THE DAY: *On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry*
CW 16

SERMON

Sermon Text: Mark 1: 1-8

Theme: Take to heart John the Baptist's message

- I. to denounce sin and call people to repent and
- II. to announce the Savior from sin.

HYMN: *When All the World Was Cursed*, CW 20

CLOSING HYMN: *O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are*, CW 27

Today's Bible readings are available as a separate sheet for those who would like to take a copy home. They are on the literature table across from the mailboxes.

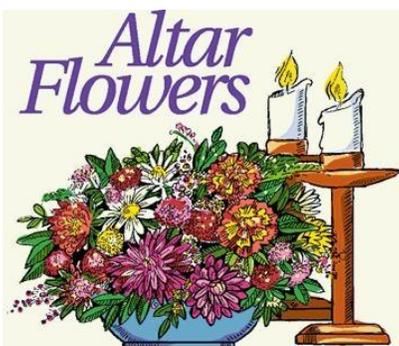
KICK Craft Activity Today

KICK will be hosting a crafting activity at church today (Sunday, December 10) at 5:00 pm. Paulette will be helping us make mini Christmas trees. Please RSVP to Christina.

Sign up your Favorite Christmas Hymn

Our Christmas Day Service on Monday, December 25, will be a Song Service in which we will sing a number of Christmas hymns. Please write down on the sheet in the entryway the name of your favorite Christmas hymn. Deadline for signing up is Sunday, December 17.

Altar Flower Donation Calendar



The 2018 Flower Donation Calendar is on fellowship hall bulletin board. Members may sign-up to donate a floral arrangement for the chancel area. This is a wonderful way to help beautify our church as well as commemorate wedding

anniversaries, birthdays, memorials, and other personal milestones or to express gratitude for blessings received.

Help Us Decorate the Mitten Tree!



We are collecting new mittens, hats, gloves and scarves that will be given to Christian Life Ministries. Items can be handmade, or store bought. Please place your items on the tree in the narthex or in the box next to the tree.

Christian Life Ministries has a "Loving Moms Group" which is a support group for new Moms. Many of these Moms are in need of the basics including warm clothing. The mittens, hats, etc. will be given to these Moms to use for their families.

Please place your items on or by the tree by Wednesday, December 13. Questions can be directed to Michelle Rust.

Children's Christmas Service Rehearsals



The Sunday School children will be practicing for the Christmas service on the Saturdays in December. Our last practice on December 16 will include the preschool. That practice will begin at 9:30 am and last until 10:45 am.

REHEARSAL
SCHEDULE

Our Children's Christmas Service is Sunday morning December 17. The service starts at 9:00 am.

Please bring children to the fellowship area in the church by 8:45 am, so we have enough time to get ready for the processional. If you are unable to make rehearsals or the service, please notify Ann Winkler.

Our Wednesday Midweek Advent Services

Join Us at
Advent Worship



All our members are encouraged to attend our special Midweek Advent Service this Wednesday at 7 pm. The sermon theme will be "The Gospel Abraham Heard."

Wednesday, December 13

Supper at 6:00 pm, Service at 7:00 pm
Group 2 (Sarah Dahlke)

Wednesday, December 20

Supper at 6:00 pm, Service at 7:00 pm
Group 3 (Katie Brown)

Looking Ahead to Christmas



Children's Christmas Service

Sunday, December 17 at 9:00 am.
There will be NO Communion this Sunday.

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24 at 9:00 am
No evening service

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25 at 9:00 am

Making the Call

In the coming weeks and months please start thinking of our future. Here is a tentative schedule and key thinking points.

January 14th Open Forum – A quick meeting to discuss what we are looking for in calling our new pastor.

What do we need for a pastor?

Think about years of experience, background, fulltime, part time, or retired, and strengths that are desired.

What can we afford?

Total compensation will be roughly \$30,000 more than we had budgeted in past years. That could be a real stretch in increased giving.

What should we do?

Keep in mind that roughly 30 new pastors will graduate from the Seminary. There are over 120 current vacancies. About 50 pastors are at retirement age each year. There is a real shortage of pastors. Would combining with another local small congregation be smarter?

January 21st Voters Meeting – Further discussion and budget approval.

Early February (4th or 11th) – First Call Meeting.

What must we do now?

Pray and ask the Lord what His will is for the future of our congregation.

Attend the Open Forum meeting on **January 14th** to discuss this matter and to form a consensus as to how we should move forward in bringing the Word of God to our families and to the Hudson community.

Church and School Cleaning Team for December

Chris Hinz, leader
Tom Spreeman
Tim Cords
Len Ehlers family
Steve Heth family

Other Items of Interest

Attendance last Sunday: 81

Fellowship refreshments next Sunday: Ignite Youth Group

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