

Word of God Lutheran Church



Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017

ORDER OF SERVICE
December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE RITE

Announcements

Prelude "Light One Candle"screen

Call to worship chime

* Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness page 56

* Entrance Hymn "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" LBW 45

* Greeting and Kyrie page 57

* Hymn of Praise "*This is the Feast*" page 60

* The Lord be with you page 62

* Prayer of the Day

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm (*Read Responsively*) Psalm 126

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

* Alleluia Verse page 62

* Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

Children's Sermon

Sermon

* Hymn of the Day "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"screen

* Apostles' Creed page 65

* Prayers page 65

* Share the Peace page 66

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENTAL MEAL

Offering

Offertory page 66

* Offertory Prayer page 67

* Great Thanksgiving page 68

* The Lord's Prayer page 71

"Lamb of God" page 72

† Communion

* Blessing page 72

* Canticle "*Thank the Lord*" page 72

* Prayer, Benediction, and Dismissal page 74

* Closing Hymn "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" LBW 259

* Please stand as able

† All who are baptized and believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to receive communion and assurance of God's forgiveness. Children who have not been instructed in the sacrament should fold their hands to receive a blessing.

NOTE: Page numbers are in the front of the hymnal, followed by the Hymn numbers. *LBW* is the green *Lutheran Book of Worship*.

Devotion Booklet – December 17, 2017

Prayer List

- Crawford family – Please pray for comfort and peace as they mourn their loss of Roger; Pastor Greene. (12/12)
- Myrna Baird – Please pray for healing as she recovers from a car accident. Myrna is at Healthsouth Newnan, room 130, 678-552-6430; Al Baird. (12/10)
- Angela Lewis – Please pray for this young mother of four, who has Hodgkins Lymphoma; Linda Williams. (12/10)
- Shannon – Please pray for wisdom; Margie & Danny Bell. (12/10)
- Joan Secor – Please continue to pray for her. She is at Brightmoor Nursing Center, room 111; Carolyn Lystig. (12/10)
- Diann Eveland – Please continue to pray for healing; Roy Eveland. (12/10)
- Michael Rosecky – Please pray for a quick recovery for the Farms's grandson who had an emergency appendectomy; Ruth & Alan Farms. (12/5)
- Wes Holbrook – Please continue to pray for a full recovery. Wes suffered a stroke during insertion of a heart stent and will need rehab for his left arm; Judi Holbrook. (12/5)
- Benjamin Smith – Please for Corkey's missionary grandson. He needs additional skull surgery; Corkey Reel. (12/3)
- June – Please pray for healing for Kerry's son's mother-in-law; Kerry Batchelder. (12/3)
- Honduras – Please pray for the political uprising to end soon. There are road blocks preventing food and medical supplies to be delivered where they are needed; Margie & Danny Bell. (12/3)
- Please pray for safety for all who are traveling during the Christmas season; Linda Williams. (12/3)
- Students – Please pray for peace and calmness as exam time approaches; Patty & Bob Lambert; (12/3)
- Jim Hines – Please pray for the Lindquist's son-in-law, who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer; Dick Lindquist. (11/27)
- Rosemary Norris – Please pray for peace and strength as she begins treatment for cancer; Linda & Fritz Apfel. (11/26)
- Jim McLaughlin – Please pray for a speedy recovery from a fall for Mary's dad; Mary & Hal Prather. (11/26)
- John Stalzer – Please pray for peace. He is in the final stage of cancer; Mary & Hal Prather. (11/26)
- Howard Bolton – Please pray for healing and peace; Mary & Hal Prather. (11/26)
- Rachel – Please pray for her, she is very sick; Kerry Batchelder. (11/26)
- Dr. Buba – Please pray for his ministries in Ethiopia and Russia; Corkey Reel. (11/26)
- Praise! Tina was able to renew her apartment lease; Margie & Danny Bell. (11/26)
- Praise! John Tyler Krause's test results came back clear; Karen Krause. (11/19)
- Katherine Smith – Please pray for God's peace for Lauren's sister as she awaits scans for nasal cancer; Lauren Simmonds. (11/19)
- Lindsey Poff – Please pray for answers and relief from pain; Melinda Poff. (11/19)
- Barbara M. – Please pray for Vija's neighbor. She is recovering from surgery and unable to eat solid foods; Vija Cole. (11/19)
- Jack Elrod – Please pray for continued healing from knee replacement surgery; Martha Ann Elrod. (11/19)

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

61 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. ⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸ For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹ Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

Psalms 126

126 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."**

³ The Lord has done great things for us;
we are glad.

**⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like streams in the Negeb!**

⁵ Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

**⁶ He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Rejoice always,
Pray without ceasing,
In everything *Give Thanks*;
For this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus
for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ¹⁹ And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²² So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." ²⁴ (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵ They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷ even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸ These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our last **Advent** mid-week service on Wednesday, December 20, at 7:00 PM. Please join us.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** will be held at 4:00 PM **AND** 7:00 PM. Cookies and coffee will be provided by the Fellowship Team. **Celebration of Christmas Day** will be held on Monday at 10:15 AM.
- WoG **Youth** will be selling Christmas ornaments after service as a fund-raiser for their 2018 Youth Mission Trip to Raleigh NC. Cost is \$10.00.
- **Poinsettia** plants will need to be picked-up after the 7:00 PM service on Christmas Eve or after the 10:15 AM Christmas Day Celebration.
- The **Finance Team** would like to remind everyone that all 2017 pledges and donations must be postmarked no later than Sunday, December 31.
- Volunteers are needed to help tear down the WoG **Chrismon Tree** on Sunday, January 7, immediately following service. Your help is greatly appreciated!
- **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held Sunday, January 14, 2018 immediately following service
- Our next **RLC Warehouse** service opportunity is Wednesday, January 10, at 9:00 AM and the **Real Life Center Mobile Food Pantry** will be Thursday, January 18, at 9:00 AM. Please sign up on the bulletin tear-off or contact wogadmin@woglutheran.org.
- The next **Midwest Food Bank** distribution will be Tuesday, January 23 (8 AM - 12 PM & 6 PM - 8 PM); Wednesday, January 24 (8 AM - 1:30 PM); and Thursday, January 25 (8 AM - 12 PM). Lunch is provided each day to all volunteers. Contact Joe Bowler at ltcbowler@gmail.com, or sign up on the bulletin tear-off.
- The **Redeemer Soup Kitchen** serving at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atlanta will be Monday, January 29, and Tuesday, January 30. Meet in WoG parking lot at 8:30 AM and carpool up to Redeemer, returning about 12:30 PM. Contact Cathy Moore at mooreteam5@gmail.com for more info.
- *Unless otherwise indicated, the announcement submission deadline for the Sunday bulletin is the previous Monday at 11:00 AM. Please send all announcements to wogadmin@woglutheran.com.*

November 2017 Report

All donations will be applied to the General, Building, or Scholarship funds.

Average Weekly Worship Attendance:	137
Monthly Giving:	\$25,643
Monthly Benevolence:	\$2,821
Building for Our Future Giving to Date:	\$627,703

Interested in giving online?

Visit http://woglutheran.org/online_giving

Upcoming Events
Please Mark Your Calendars!

- Monday, December 18** - **Faithful Hands Ministry**, 10:00 AM
- **Worship & Music Team Meeting**, 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, December 19** - **Midwest Food Bank Distribution**, 8:00 AM
- **Midweek Advent Service**, 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 20** - **Midwest Food Bank Distribution**, 8:00 AM
- **Midweek Advent Service**, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, December 19** - **Midwest Food Bank Distribution**, 8:00 AM
- **Assemble Bulletins**, 1:00 PM
- **Service Committee Meeting**, 7:00 PM
- Sunday, December 24** - **Christmas Eve**
- **Worship Service**, 10:15 AM
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**, 4:00 PM
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**, 7:00 PM
- Monday, December 25** - **Christmas Day**
- **Worship Service**, 10:15 AM
- Thursday, December 28** - **Assemble Bulletins**, 1:00 PM
- Sunday, December 31** - **New Year's Eve**
- **Worship Service**, 10:15 AM
- Thursday, January 4** - **Assemble Bulletins**, 8:00 AM
- **Club 2.0 Bible Study**, 6:00 PM
- **ML/SC Meeting**, 7:00 PM
- Sunday, January 7** - **Sunday School**, 9:00 AM
- **Worship Service**, 10:15 AM
- **Adult Choir Rehearsal**, 11:30 AM
- **Adult Catechism led by Pastor Greene**, 2:00 PM
- Tuesday, January 9** - **Tuesdays with God**, 9:30 AM
- **ROMEO's Monthly Luncheon**, 11:30 AM
- Wednesday, January 10** - **RLC Warehouse Senior Box Dist.**, 9:00 AM
- **YOUTH Connect**, 6:30 PM
- Thursday, January 11** - **Assemble Bulletins**, 1:00 PM

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