

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LAKES

Receiving and sharing God's mercy together

Alleluia.

Prepare the way

of the Lord,

make his

paths straight;

all flesh

shall see

the salvation of

God.

Alleluia.

Baptized Today

We welcome into the family of faith at Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Kensington Louise Henning who will be Baptized today at the 10:30 service. Kensington's sponsor are Dean and Lynn Henning.

"Write the names we now have given. Write them in the Book of Heaven."

Shut-in-Caroling

Sunday, Dec. 4th at 1:30 pm Ridge Crest in Jackson

Join in and brighten someone's day by caroling. Meet at the church at 12:45 to car-pool or meet at Ridge Crest 708 Robinson Rd. Jackson, MI. 49201. Ph. 517-787-5140

Advent Evening Prayer

Each Wednesday, through Dec. 21 at 7:00 pm Supper at 6 pm

Advent is a holy time to gather with friends and family in holy anticipation of Jesus return. Join us Wednesday's for Evening Prayer. Here our church models a way for families to gather every night, entrusting our lives and futures to Jesus. Join us this December! Join us at 6:00 pm. for supper prepared by small groups and individual members before services.

Angel Tree

November 27th through Dec. 18

Please take a gift tag from the Angel Tree. Purchase the gift on the tag and return the wrapped gift to church with the tag attached. Note, there are 5 gifts tags on the tree for each child so please don't feel obligated buy more than one gift per tag, you can take as many tags as you want to fill. Please keep the ornament as an appreciation gift.

Pastor's Farewell & Christmas Party

Sunday, December 18, at 12:00 noon.

Please join in as we send Pastor and Tessa on their journey to Ascension Lutheran Church in Charlotte, NC. Check the Volunteer Desk for menu items that need to be brought to the party. Call Wendy Chetkovich 734-624-1596 or Bill Langenderfer 517-547-5545 for information

INTROIT

(or Psalm Prayer)

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God

Seek the Lord and his strength;

seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

his miracles, and the judgements he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

He is the Lord our God;

his judgements are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever.

The word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

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.

COLLECT

(or Gathering Prayer)

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.

Amen.

Isaiah 11:1-10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

VERSE: Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

ORDER OF GOD'S SERVICE

God brings us together...

- Invocation, Confession & Absolution
- Opening Hymn "On Jordan's Banks" #14
- ✠ Opening Song "Glorious is Our God"
- ✠ Baptism Kensington Henning
- The Introit, Kyrie, Hymn of Praise & Collect
- ✠ Response Song "Let It Rise"
- ✠ **Around His Word...**
- First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10
- The Gradual
- Epistle Romans 15:4-13
- ✠ Scripture Song "Jesus!"
- The Gospel Matthew 3:1-12
- ✠ Children's Message
- Sermon Hymn "Prepare the Royal Way" # 27
- ✠ Sermon Songs "Born That We May Have Life"
- The Message

And Blesses Us!

- The Prayers
- The Offering "God of Wonders"
- ✠ The Offering Song
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Sacrament "Let All Mortal Flesh" # 241
"Angels From the Realm of Glory" # 50
- The Closing Prayer
- ✠ Closing Song "We Shall See the Glory"
- The Blessing
- ✠ **Indicates Praise Service element only**

What about Holy Communion?

We understand Communion to be more than just a symbol or a statement--it is a "means of grace." Like the Bible, it proclaims the fearful cost of our salvation, the depth of our Savior's love, and the perfect trust we can have because of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is an intimate moment where God himself is with us, bringing us together, and blessing us. It should never be taken lightly. So, the Bible tells us: "A person ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28).

If you are unsure about Holy Communion, please come forward and simply fold your arms across your chest as a signal to Pastor that you would like to receive a blessing.

With the passing of our Dad to eternal life, our LCOL Family has supported us with cards, letters, prayers and phone calls, coffee cake and dinner.

From our hearts we Thank You!

In God's Love,

Ray & Jeannie York

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Pastor: Steve Newberg

Music Minister: Rex Engle

Elders: Hal Schmidt & Bob Barth

Altar: Kathy Schmidt

Acolyte: Harrison Moore

Praise Team: Sue Weber, Christin Draa, Linda Baker, Cheryl Bias, Dennis Pickford, Chris Morningstar, Laurie Connin, Bill Fetters

Ushers: **Steve Bauer** Bob Jacobs, Tom Shoup, Gordon Stites, Denny DeMuth, Lucas Bennett, Andi Langenderfer.

Doug Morningstar, Dwayne Graves, Jay Fernamberg, Bill Decker, Carl Connin

Multi Media: Rick Baker, Sonja Merrill

Greeters: Betty Kipke & Bob & Connie Barth

Lay Readers: Merrill Family & Barth Family

Coffee Connection: Team John

Children's Message Ken Pollack

Christ Connection: Mary Lou Wyman & Debbie Bruton

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

New Elders Welcome our newest Elders; Clif Weber, Doug Morningstar. Thank you for leading the flock on our walk with Jesus.

Gifts of Love Was able to help a family keep their heat on this month. Thanks to your donations to Gifts of Love Ministry at the Sweet Tooth Auction.

Thanksgiving Basket We had a family call who has received a basket from us for the past couple of years. They called to let us know they were doing much better this year and wouldn't need a basket, and to make sure we could send it to another family in need. They were grateful for our help when they were needed it the most. "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Call Committee Due to Pastor and Tessa taking the call to North Carolina, the Elders and the Congregational President are forming a call committee. If you are interested in being part of the committee, please contact Bill Langenderfer 517-547-5545, or Head Elder, Steve Bauer 517-937-7121.

CALENDAR

- Sun. Dec. 4** 8:15am Divine Service
 9:40am Christ Connections
 9:40am Altar Guild Mtg
 10:30am Praise Service
 1:30pm Shut-in-Angels Ridge Crest
- Tue. Dec. 6** 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10:45am Meals on Wheels Mike & Kay Helf
- Wed. Dec. 7** 10:00am Staff Meeting
 11:00am PHD Meeting Library
 6:00pm Soup Supper
 7:00pm Advent Evening Prayer
- Thur. Dec. 8** 9:00am Bible Babes
 11:00am Service Rehearsal
 6:00pm Praise Practice
 7:00pm Choir Practice
- Fri. Dec. 9** Office Closed

Birthdays

- 12/4 Josh Larson, Lauren Orridge
 12/5 Catherine Galazin
 12/6 Joan Smith
 12/7 Macallan Elder, Ian Dart-Henson
 12/8 Cooper Teets
 12/10 Elise McMordie

Baptism Birthdays for December

- 12/4 Bud & Teresa LaCoe
 12/7 Blake Anthony Zarlinsky
 11/20 Carson Lee Moyer, Ellie Jayde Evers

Anniversaries

- 12/4 Bud & Teresa LaCoe
 12/5 Elmer & Barbara Hehl
 12/7 Dick & Sharon Covell(25),
 Richard & Nichole Meyer

TO OUR GUESTS

Welcome! We know that visiting a new church for the first few times can be awkward. We hope you will discover there are many wonderful people here and there are opportunities for you to find good friends and feel like you are a part of something bigger. We offer Christ Centered worship and Christ Connections Sunday School, along with a fellowship hour every Sunday at 9:30 am. Pastor Steve is available to talk with you if you have questions. Feel free to leave your contact information in the red booklets in the pew so we can better serve you in your walk with Christ.

Helpful information

Restrooms and a water fountain are located in the hallway and fellowship hall. Changing tables are in both women's restrooms.

There are quiet rooms at the back of the Sanctuary. You can still see and hear the service and your child can play with the toys in the little bags just outside the quiet room door.

TIME & TREASURE

Last Week @ LCOL

Worship 11/27 178

Our Treasure

General Fund \$ 6,104.00
 Debt Retirement: \$ 1,680.00
 General Fund Weekly Need: \$ 6,305.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 168,031.59

"General giving has seen a slight decrease recently. If you are willing and able, please consider a small increase. Thank you!"