

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LAKES

Receiving and sharing God's mercy together

Alleluia.
Behold,
I send my
messenger
before your
face, who will
prepare your
way before
you.
Alleluia.

Advent Evening Prayer

Each Wednesday, through Dec. 14 at 7:00 pm Supper at 6 pm

Advent is a holy time to gather with friends and family in 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. **Christmas Eve Service is at 7:00pm, Christmas Day 10:00 am. News Year's Day 10:00am.**

(No Advent Evening Prayer on Dec. 21st.)

Angel Tree

November 27th through Dec. 18

There are about 50 ornaments still available on the tree.

Note, there are 5 gifts tags on the tree for each child so please don't feel obligated to 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, after the 10:00 am service

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

LCOL at Prayer

LCOL at Prayer is now available on the Volunteer Desk. It was noted that many of the copies were going into recycle, so we decided not to put them in the bulletins, but still have them available for everyone who wants a copy. If you would like to receive an electronic copy daily, make sure to add your email address when you sign the red book in the pew.

INTROIT

(or Psalm Prayer)

Rejoice in the Lord always;

Again I will say, Rejoice.

I will hope continually

And will praise you yet more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

For their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

And I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

Until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

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)

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 35

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you". Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness.

James 5:7-11

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

VERSE: Alleluia. Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia.

Matthew 11:2-15

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." As they went away, 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? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

ORDER OF GOD'S SERVICE

God brings us together...

- Invocation, Confession & Absolution
- Opening Hymn "Advent of Our God" # 12
- ✠ Opening Song "Angels We Have Heard on High"
- Psalm Prayer
- The Introit, Kyrie, Hymn of Praise & Collect

Around His Word...

- The Old Testament Isaiah 35
- Choir "An Advent Invitation"
- Epistle James 5:7-11
- ✠ Scripture Song "What the Lord Has Done In Me"
- ✠ The Gospel Matthew 11:2-15
- ✠ Children's Message
- Message Hymn "The King Shall Come" # 26
- ✠ Sermon Song "Little Town"
- The Message

And Blesses Us!

- The Prayers
- The Offering, Announcements & Offertory
- The Lord's Prayer
- ✠ The Sacrament "Shine On Us"
"My Soul Longs for Jesus"
"Welcome to Our World"
- The Closing Prayer
- Closing Hymn "Now Sing We Rejoice" # 47
- The Choral 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.

Poinsettias For Christmas

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for decorating the altar on Christmas Eve, please see the order forms on the Volunteer Desk. Poinsettias are \$8. You can put the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the office by Dec 20th. Please note "Flowers" on your check.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Pastor: Steve Newberg

Music Minister: Rex Engle

Elders: Hal Schmidt & Bob Barth

Altar: Barbara Parker

Acolyte: Daniel Merrill

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

Choir: Cheryl Boner, Don & Joan Connell, Eileen Fry, Kay Helf, Stan Reiter, Karen Rose, Gordon & Nancy Stites, Chet & Jean Yarger

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: Norm & Sandy Yassay, Jim & Renee Previch

Lay Readers: Matt Sauer & Ron Wyman

Coffee Connection: Team John (needs help)

Children's Message Pastor Steve

Christ Connection: Mary Lou Wyman & Debbie Bruton

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

The Eternal Flame The Sanctuary Adornment Committee purchased a beautiful new Eternal Flame holder and had it installed behind the altar. The flame is now battery operated and the committee is looking into getting a better light.

Monthly Charities LCOL was able to send St Mary's Food Bank \$175., Bethesda Lutheran Homes \$151. and Hospice of Lenawee \$217. Thanks to your generous donations for the monthly charities.

Missing Drummer Rex had it all planned, Bill Fetters was to fill in for Mike Blackmar on drums this past Sunday. Bill ended up getting sick and we were without a drummer. It seemed people were singing louder to make up for the missing accompaniment or maybe we just knew the songs.

New Flag A new flag was raised on Tuesday, just in time for Pearl Harbor remembrance day. Thank you Mary McNally for keeping the flag looking good and letting us know when to lower it and raise it according to presidential protocol. Mike would be proud!

CALENDAR

Sun. Dec. 11	8:15am	Divine Service	
	9:40am	Christ Connections	
	10:30am	Praise Service	
Mon. Dec. 12	8:00am	Men's Breakfast	Big Boy
Tue. Dec. 13	10:00am	Prayer Shawl Ministry	
	10:00am	Bible Study	
	10:30am	Meals on Wheels	Ron & Mary Lou
	12:00pm	Outreach Meeting	Room B
	6:30pm	Elders Meeting	
Wed. Dec. 14	10:00am	Staff Meeting	
	11:00am	PHD Meeting	Library
	6:00pm	Soup Supper	
	7:00pm	Advent Evening Prayer	
Thur. Dec. 15	9:00am	Bible Babes	
	11:00am	Service Rehearsal	
	6:00pm	Praise Practice	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice	
	7:00pm	Schmidt Sm Group	

Birthdays

12/11	Elise McMordie, Donna Budde, Andrew Wyman
12/12	Travis Fernamberg, Hunter Johncox, Kathy Schmidt, Joe Toth,
12/13	John Denney, Mary Lou Ellis, Ken Pollack
12/14	Dwight Moyer, Tom Shoup
12/16	Gloria Lowe
12/17	Richard Meyer, Tim Snyder

Baptism Birthdays for December

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

Anniversaries

12/11	Garrett & Sara Barth
12/18	John & Mary Lou Ellis

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	12/4	228
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Our Treasure

General Fund	\$	7,656.55
Debt Retirement:	\$	430.00

General Fund Weekly Need:	\$	6,305.00
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Mortgage Balance	\$	168,031.59
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"Through November, general giving and expenses are about equal. Please remember that year end gifts need to be received by December 29 since the office will be closed after that for the end of the year."