

Grace Lutheran Church

Norfolk, Nebraska

Chris Asbury, Pastor

402-302-4232

Ray S. Wilke, Associate Pastor

402-841-1785

December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday in Advent

Theme of the Day: Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of Solomon. And what does Solomon teach us? It's easy as pie to begin. It's tougher than nails to finish.

FROM THE RECORDS OF LAST SUNDAY

Attendance

Saturday.	43	Total Attendance.	243
Sunday.	200	Communed.	164

Offerings

Operating Fund.	\$12,514.23	Needed to Meet Budget. .	11,096.00
Tuition Assistance.	3263.00	Building Fund.	523.00
Total towards Budget. . .	15,777.23		

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Saturday

Organist: Melodee Drenkow
Elders: Brian Boning
Ushers: Josh Freudenburg, Mike Roeber
Video Operator:
Acolytes:

Sunday

Melodee Drenkow
Jake Dinkel
Wyatt Boelter, Wade Schaefer
Shawn Fuhrman
Deztinee Ames, Becca Asbury

December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday in Advent

5:30 p.m. Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-15

Monday: Isaiah 32:1-8; Revelation 15:1-8
Quilting 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday: Isaiah 35:1-10; Revelation 20:1-15
Men's Breakfast Study 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:1-18; Revelation 21:1-27
Ladies' Bible Class 10:00 a.m.
5th-8th Catechism 3:45 p.m.
Jubilee Ringers 5:00 p.m.
Ding-A-Lingers 5:30 p.m.
Evening Bible Study 5:30 p.m.
Shekinah 6:00 p.m.
Advent Supper 6:00 p.m.
Advent Service 7:00 p.m.
Adult Choir 7:45 p.m.

Thursday: Isaiah 40:21-31; Revelation 22:1-21
Worship at The Homestead 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service on channel 12, 10:30 a.m.

Friday: Isaiah 42:1-12; Luke 1:1-25
Family of God Night 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: Isaiah 43:1-13; Luke 1:26-38
Communion Service 5:30 p.m.

Next Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-17; Matthew 1:18-25
Communion Service 10:00 a.m.
Graceland 8:30 a.m.
Building Faithful Families 8:30 a.m.
Jr. High & Sr. High Youth 8:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m.
Coffee/Fellowship Time 9:30 a.m.

Opening Hymn: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

LSB 341 v. 1-3

Invocation and Call to Worship

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Jesus is the Son of David.

C: Our coming King!

P: Jesus is the Son of Abraham.

C: Our sacrifice for sin!

P: Jesus is the Son of Solomon.

C: He finished for us!

P: Jesus is the Son of Mary.

C: Immanuel—God with us!

P: Jesus is the Son of Sinners.

C: He forever loves us!

P: Let us worship Jesus!

Confession and Absolution

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God is his mercy has given his Son to die for you and

for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Hymn: “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” LSB 341 v. 4-5
(Light Advent Wreath during hymn)

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

Children’s Message

Scripture Readings: The readings are about Jesus the Son of Solomon

Old Testament: 1 Kings 11:1–10

Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the people of Israel, “You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods.” Solomon clung to these in love. He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned away his heart. For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and did not wholly follow the Lord, as David his father had done. Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the

abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, on the mountain east of Jerusalem. And so he did for all his foreign wives, who made offerings and sacrificed to their gods. And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what the Lord commanded.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6–8

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 12:38–42

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. The queen

of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" LSB 375

Sermon Text: Matthew 1:6

Sermon Theme: Jesus is the Son of Solomon

Offering

(Sung during Offering)

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel"

Adult Choir

Offertory: Psalm 110

**The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my | right hand,
until I make your enemies your | footstool."**

The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty | scepter.

Rule in the midst of your | enemies!

**Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your
power, in holy | garments;**

**from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth | will
be yours.**

The Lord has sworn and will not | change his mind,

"You are a priest forever after the order of Mel- | chizedek."

The Lord is at your | right hand;

he will shatter kings on the day | of his wrath.

**He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with |
corpses;**

he will shatter chiefs over the | wide earth.

He will drink from the brook | by the way;

therefore he will lift | up his head.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy
kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For
Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.**

Response

P: We believe that the good work you began in us

C: You will finish on the day of Christ Jesus.

Benediction: (From Matthew 28:18–20)

P: Because Jesus says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has
been given to me."

C: We will go and make disciples of all nations—
P: Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: And teaching them to obey everything he has commanded us.
P: And surely Christ is with us always—
All: To the very end of the age!

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: “What Child Is This” LSB 370

Silent Prayer: Jesus, empower me to fight the good fight, finish the course and keep the faith! Amen.

NOTES AND NEWS

Welcome to all who worship with us in this Advent season. We are happy to have you in our service and hope you will return again soon. Please sign the Welcome Book in the pew.

The Lutheran Hour: “Beauty We Can’t See” We often feel our need for God’s presence only when we see what it looks like when He’s absent (Isaiah 28:5). Hear the message Sunday on WJAG at 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Life Thoughts in the Church Year: Abortion and assisted suicide attempt to acquire one’s salvation by violence (Matthew 11:12). But God’s kingdom comes as He mercifully preserves at our weakest (Matthew 11:5-6). We need not seize happiness at the expense of others. Rather, we advocate endurance in sufferings such as surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis (James 5:11), and with our support for them we strengthen instead of extinguish (Isaiah 35:3).

Be sure and join us as we continue our weekly Advent Services this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Advent Supper will be at 6:00 p.m. The menu for this week is a Chicken Nuggets, Scalloped Potatoes, and Salad.

ALL Bell Choirs and the Adult Choir will be having their last practice for December on the 14th and will be taking the month of January off. There will be no practices at all during the month of January. They will start up again in February.

Stewardship Corner: The glory of the Lord shone around the angels who appeared to the shepherds, and those poor shepherds were terrified! Once they heard the truth, though, fear turned to excitement and eagerness. “Let’s go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” they said to one another. Many today avoid thinking about spiritual things simply because they are afraid to contemplate what lies ahead. What joy and comfort we can bring by sharing the “good news of great joy” like the angels did. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord!” (Luke 2)

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIDBIT

Today we participated in a few Christmas nativity activities to help us focus on the birth of our Savior. It is such a fun time of year.

Ask Your Child:

What is your favorite part of the Christmas Story and why? What is one of your favorite Christmas Hymns and why? Then share what your favorites are with your child.

Bible Verse: Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Thank you for your prayerful response in helping the church meet her needs. We are gaining ground financially and ask you to continue to consider Grace in your year-end giving along with your regular offerings. Your prayers and generosity are much appreciated.

It's time to order poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas. The cost will be \$16.00 each. If you would like to order a poinsettia, contact Vicki at the church office or you can put the money in the offering plate—mark it for a poinsettia. Deadline for ordering is this Sunday, December 11.

It's time once again for the Family Christmas Tree. This year we are collecting toys for the Orphan Grain Train Christmas Boxes for next year. Take a tag from the tree in the Narthex and return the item unwrapped either under the tree or to the Church Office anytime before Christmas.

We are looking for people who want to play special prelude music at our Children's Christmas service on Christmas Eve. The service starts at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in playing, please contact Kelly Asbury at 402-371-3521.

Grace will be hosting the Lutheran Bible Institute on Sundays, January 8, 15, and 22 (January 29 is a possible snow date). The Institute will take place from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Topping Off Ceremony at Christ Lutheran Please join us on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 AM as we celebrate the placing of the last steel beam on our building project. The beam will be lifted into place at 10:00. Those that attend may sign their name on the beam from 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM. Christ Lutheran students will be in attendance as we watch the last beam go up. Also, on Sunday, December 11, tours will be given after the 8:00 AM service at 9:00 AM and after the 10:30 service at 11:30 AM. Tours will take 5 minutes. Groups may be divided based on attendance. Everyone is welcome to take this opportunity to sign the beam that will be hoisted on December 13th. With the Topping Off Ceremony, we celebrate the progress that is being made on the building project! This project will greatly influence many lives for those that use it as part of the ministries of Christ Lutheran for generations to come!