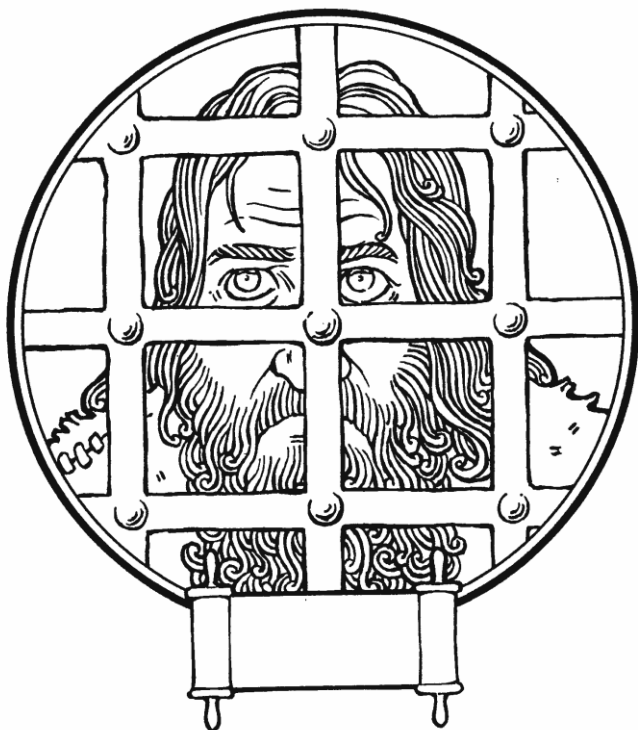


Messiah Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod



Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete) December 13, 2015 Divine Service III

“As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” God makes long range plans: Isaiah lived more than seven hundred years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously God sees farther into the future than we do! That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives: He knows what’s coming and we don’t.

Messiah Lutheran Church

Rev. James A. Roemke, Pastor

2026 22nd Ave. Kenosha, WI 53140

Church Office: 262-551-8182 Pastor's Cell: 262-455-0255

Website: www.messiahkenosha.org

Church Email: secretary@messiahkenosha.org

Pastor's Email: pastorroemke@yahoo.com

VISITORS WELCOME! A special welcome to any visitors and guests who are with us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service, and we pray that the hearing and receiving of the Word of God in our midst will be filled with joy and thanksgiving!

ATTENDANCE REGISTER: During the offering we ask that you sign the attendance register located at the center aisle of each pew.

Please hand the filled in sheet to the usher as you exit at the end of the service. Let the usher know if you don't have a pad in your pew.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated every Sunday and on Feast Days. Visiting communicant members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are invited to commune today. All other visitors are asked to speak with the pastor before coming to the altar. If there is time before the service, introduce yourself to the pastor or an elder. Other visitors are invited to use this time for prayer. If you desire information about attending communion, you are encouraged to visit with the pastor after the service today.

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION may be found in the opening cover of the hymnals in each pew. Take some time before the service begins in quiet preparation and prayer.

+SERVING TODAY+

Preacher/Celebrant: Pr. Roemke

Elder: Todd Walther **Ushers:** Keith Kentala & Jacob Kentala

Greeter: Marge Harmon **Organist:** Monica Scholz

Altar Guild: Bonnie Griepentrog & Kathy Capriotti

Cookies: Today's cookies and juice are provided by the Roemke Family.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

p189



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P 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.



G A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-8

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 80:1-2



**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*
Stir up your might and come to | save us!
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

p190



A Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



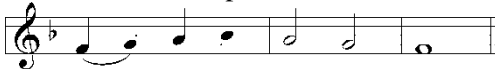
A Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ 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. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As 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? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

p192

Sit

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

p192

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

Preface

p194

Sanctus

p195

Lord's Prayer

p196

The Words of Our Lord

p197

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei

p198

Sit

Distribution

A Voice Cries Out

MLC Choir

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344

When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

p199

Thanksgiving

p200

Salutation and Benedicamus

p201

Benediction

p202

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338

+PRAYER LIST+

- ✘ Those who serve in our nation's armed forces: DuWayne Griepentrog, Andy Warren, Exor Padro, Rev. Lynn Christensen, and for veterans.
- ✘ Shut-ins: Elsie Rintamaki, Lillian Sciortino, Myrtle Meier, Ernie Kapellusch, & Wally and Gloria Pipkorn.
- ✘ For all those suffering from illnesses or other trials, including: Richard Cleereman, Diane Gundlach, Karin Zuehls (Jeff's aunt), Carol Wagner (friend of the Brothers), Amy, Ron Hulke, Al Bradmon (cousin of Steve Billings), Loretta Hulke, Kyle Darling (friend of the Zuehls), Cindy (friend of Geri Tobalsky), Richard Schneider (Kathleen Judson's father), Maurissa Murakami (Bev Murakami's daughter-in-law), Rose Murakami (Bev's granddaughter), Bob Hogan (Ash Noble's uncle), Leslie Brothers (recovering from a vehicle accident), Marge Pohjola (friend of Kelvin and Vicky Nelson), Carol Vescova, MacKenna Marinarli (Gail Kulbacki's granddaughter), Jodi (Amy Vallis's sister who lost her mother-in-law to cancer), and John (Amy Vallis's brother, whose mother-in-law was diagnosed with breast cancer).

+ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2015+

- ✘ **ADVENT POTLUCKS:** This week's Advent potluck theme is Asian. Please sign up in the fellowship hall.
- ✘ **CHRISTMAS GIVING:** Thank you to everyone who helped support Messiah's efforts of Christmas gifts for the needy. Our members were able to help 19 people with gifts this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
- ✘ **CARDS:** Need a holiday card for someone special? New holiday cards have been added to the birthday, get well, anniversary, and sympathy

cards in the binders. All proceeds purchase items for our kitchen and fellowship on Sundays. Thank you!

- ✘ **THE PARISH PLANNING COMMITTEE** is meeting this Thursday, December 17th at 6:30 pm.
- ✘ **LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS STUDY** is next Saturday, December 19th. We will begin with Matins at 9:30 am.
- ✘ **CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** All are invited to join the choir in Christmas caroling on Friday, December 19th. We will meet at the Brothers' home (6616 3rd Ave.) at 5:00. After caroling, we will return there for a potluck meal. Bring a dish to pass if you are able.
- ✘ **CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The Senior, Children's, and Handbell Choirs of St. John's LCMS (1501 Erie St. Racine) invite you to attend their annual Christmas Concert this evening at 7:00 pm. Pre-concert music beginning at 6:45 will feature guest organist Frederik M. Bach. All are invited to a reception afterwards in the school cafeteria.

+CONTRIBUTIONS+

Budgeted Lord's Work Needed Weekly:	\$3,268
Lord's Work Received 12/6:	\$3,915
Difference Received vs. Needed:	+\$647
Difference Received vs. Needed YTD:	+\$3,218

ATTENDANCE 12/6: 144

Communed: 126

+UPCOMING EVENTS AT MESSIAH+

Wednesday	12/16	5:30 pm	Advent Potluck: Asian
		6:30 pm	Advent Evening Prayer
Thursday	12/17	6:30 pm	Parish Planning Meeting
Friday	12/18	5:00 pm	Christmas Caroling
Saturday	12/19	9:30 am	Lutheran Confessions Study
Thursday	12/24	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Children's Service
		11:00 pm	Midnight Divine Service
Friday	12/25	10:00 am	Christmas Day Divine Service

BIRTHDAYS

12/14	John Hernandez
12/17	Kelvin Nelson
	Tamara Weathersby
12/19	Jane Gundlach
	Fran Kroll
	Karen Nichols

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

12/14	Liam Pelas
12/15	Pastor Grenyo
12/16	Andrew Gerlach
12/17	Bev Murakami, Jessica Sawtell, & Matthew Grenyo
12/18	Dennis Metallo, Lindsey Brothers, & Kaitlin Kentala