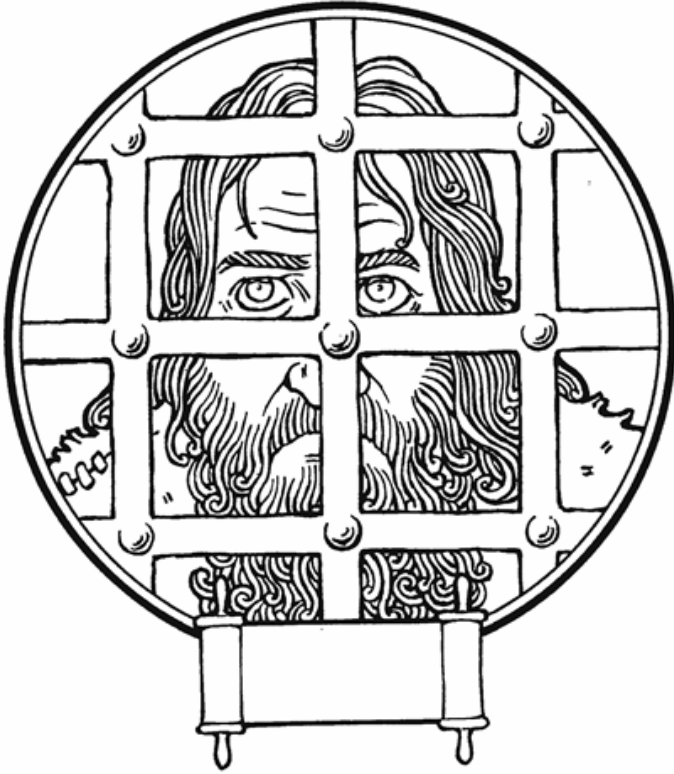


Messiah Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Third Sunday in Advent
Gaudete

December 15, 2024

Divine Service III

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 Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/calendarmlc>

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 sign the guestbook near the front door and introduce yourself to the pastor after the service. We pray that the hearing and receiving of the Word of God in our midst will be filled with joy and thanksgiving!

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 are found in the cover of the hymnals. Take some time before the service begins in quiet preparation and prayer. **Please turn off and put away all electronic devices during the service.**

+SERVING TODAY+

Elder: Mark Bernhardt

Ushers: Mark Mielke & Garrett Koch

Greeters: Dave & Connie Mickelsen

Organist: Monica Scholz

Altar Guild: Tamara Weathersby & Diana Dissen

Fellowship: Chianelli & Bertz

Stand

Confession and Absolution

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+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

Introit

Ps. 85:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4-5



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

**LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.***
You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.

**Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?**
Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them
not turn back to | folly.

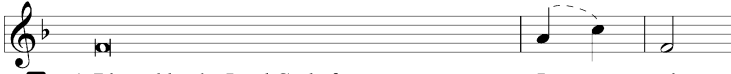
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie

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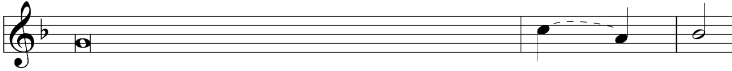
Benedictus



1 Blessed be the Lord God of Is - ra - el;
 2 as He spoke by the mouth of His holy proph - ets,
 3 to perform the mercy promised to our fa - thers
 4 being delivered from the hand of our en - e - mies,
 5 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
 6 through the tender mercy of our God;
 7 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 for He has visited and re - deemed His peo - ple
 2 who have been since the world be - gan:
 3 and to remember His ho - ly cov - e - nant,
 4 might serve Him with - out fear,
 5 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare His ways;
 6 when the day shall dawn up - on us from on high
 7 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
 2 that we should be saved from our en - e - mies
 3 the oath that He swore to our father A - bra - ham,
 4 in holiness and righteousness be - fore Him
 5 to give knowledge of salvation to His peo - ple
 6 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
 7 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 in the house of His ser - vant Da - vid,
 2 and from the hand of all who hate us;
 3 to grant us that we,
 4 all the days of our life.
 5 in the for - give - ness of their sins,
 6 to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.
 7 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

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.

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.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

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Two staves of musical notation in G-clef, 4/4 time. The first staff has a square icon at the beginning. The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Alle- | luia.* Stir up your might and come to save us. Alle- | luia.* The second staff has the same lyrics: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-10

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.””

Apostles' Creed

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Sit

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

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Prayer of the Church

Sit

A Voice Cries Out

Choir

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

Stand

Preface

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Sanctus	<i>p195</i>
Lord's Prayer	<i>p196</i>
The Words of Our Lord	<i>p197</i>
Pax Domini	
Agnus Dei	<i>p198</i>
<i>Sit</i>	
Distribution	
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry	<i>LSB 344</i>
The Gifts Christ Freely Gives	<i>LSB 602</i>
Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	<i>LSB 347</i>
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	<i>LSB 338</i>
<i>Stand</i>	
Nunc Dimittis	<i>p199</i>
Thanksgiving	<i>p200</i>
Salutation and Benedicamus	<i>p201</i>
Benediction	<i>p202</i>
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers	<i>LSB 515</i>

+ V D M A +
Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum
The Word of the Lord endures forever

+PRAYER LIST+

- ✘ Those who serve in our armed forces: Rianon Padro, Exavier Padro, & veterans.
- ✘ For all those suffering from illnesses or other trials, including: Rylie Snodgrass, Ken Gundlach (uncle of Sarah Billings), John Funk (friend of Steve and Sarah Billings), Rev. Dave & Judy Dissen (relatives of Marilyn Dissen), Michelle Knull, Gail Kulbacki, Roger & Sara Lyngen, Bill Colombe, Jerry Kochman, and Linda Polcin.

+ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15th+

- ✘ **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** Wednesday morning Bible study will discuss the hymn *Angels From the Realms of Glory* (LSB 367). This will be the last Wednesday Bible study of the year. We will resume on January 8th.
- ✘ **POINSETTIAS:** Payments are due today.

- ✘ **ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES** conclude this Wednesday, 12/18. We will have Advent Matins at 9:00 am, as an alternative to those who are not able to come in the evening. At 5:45 pm we will have a pizza potluck; sign-up on the bulletin board. At 6:30 pm we will have Advent Evening Prayer.
- ✘ **HIGHER THINGS:** Registration forms are due today.
- ✘ **STEWARDSHIP:** While adjustments are being made and spending cut from the 2024 budget, receipts have not been sufficient to meet our obligations. We have a goal to raise an additional \$13,000 to help cover our 2024 expenses. If you are able, please consider making an additional gift during this holiday season to help Messiah finish this year, and start 2025 in a better financial position. Contact our treasurer, Brent Jiter, with any questions.
- ✘ **ELECTRONIC GIVING:** It has become necessary for us to update all of our electronic giving authorizations. If you give in this way, please see Lesa as soon as possible to sign an updated form. Some families may need to provide a voided check. This is a good time to evaluate your giving and make any changes you like. For those using paper envelopes, consider switching to giving in this way as it is very convenient and is more cost-effective for the church, as we are no longer paying fees for this service, saving us about \$1,300 a year.
- ✘ **GREETING CARDS:** There is a wide variety of greeting cards on the counter in the fellowship hall. Cards are \$2 each and the funds are used to provide our consumable kitchen supplies.

+CONTRIBUTIONS+

Lord’s Work contributions budget YTD as of 12/13:	\$251,941
Lord’s Work contributions received YTD as of 12/13:	\$206,049
Difference:	-\$45,892
Restricted contributions YTD as of 12/13:	\$12,414
Mortgage Balance as of 11/15:	\$9,530

ATTENDANCE 12/8: 119

	BIRTHDAYS		BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS
12/17	Kelvin Nelson Tamara Weathersby	12/16	Andrew Gerlach
12/19	Jane Gundlach Kathy Knutell Karen Nichols	12/19	John Adams

+DECEMBER EVENTS AT MESSIAH+

Wednesday	Dec. 18	9:00 am	Advent Matins
		9:30 am	Bible Study
		5:45 pm	Advent Potluck: Pizza
		6:30 pm	Advent Evening Prayer
Tuesday	Dec. 24	4:30 pm	Service of Lessons & Carols
		11:00 pm	Midnight Divine Service
Wednesday	Dec. 25	9:00 am	Christmas Divine Service