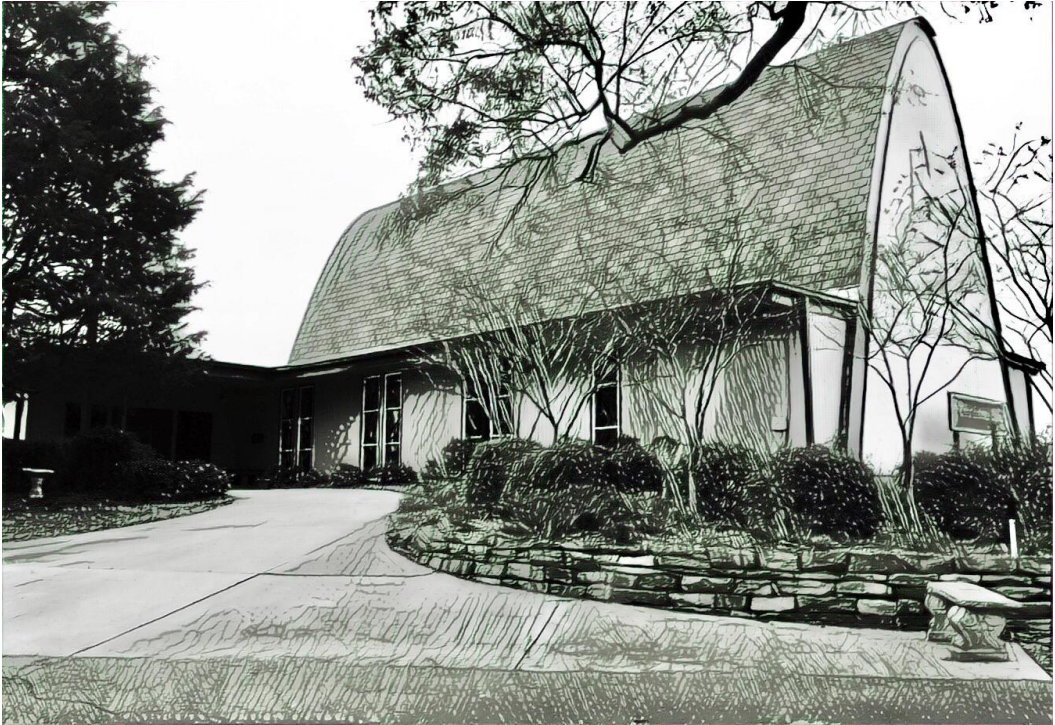


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Rev. George Fields, Pastor

Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**

4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+ November 27, 2022 +

You, Too, Must Be Ready



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,
and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the
worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.
We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

WELCOME:

“Why is the date of an individual's death hidden from him? Clearly it is so that he might always do good, since he can expect to die at any moment. The date of Christ's second advent is withheld from the world for the same reason, namely, so that every generation might live in the expectation of Christ's return.”

—Anonymous, *Homily 51, Incomplete Work on Matthew*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE I

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

All Who Believe and Are Baptized

#601

BAPTISM OF JOHN TAYLOR RUDSENSKE

Order of Baptism can be found on pg. 268 in the Lutheran Service Book.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P Beloved in the Lord, as we begin the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the prophet Isaiah says, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.”

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light who comes into the world to enlighten all people, bless us as we light the candles of this wreath in preparation for Your coming and enkindle in our hearts the fire of Your love that we may receive You with joy and gladness and evermore remain steadfast in the faith; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit, bless this wreath for use in His Church throughout this holy season of Advent.

C **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

#332, St. 1-4

Please stand

CONFESSION & 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.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **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 in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and 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 ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT: CONFITEMINI DOMINO

Psalm 118:25-28; Ant. Zechariah 9:9b



Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; *
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Save us, we pray, | O LORD! *

O LORD, we pray, give | us success!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD! *

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us. *

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!

You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you; *

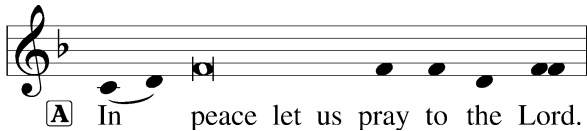
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.

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.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

KYRIE

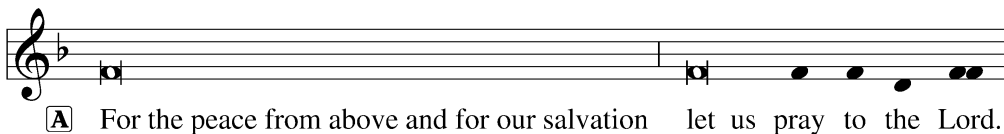
Mark 10:47



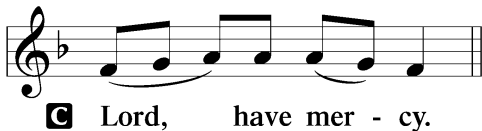
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



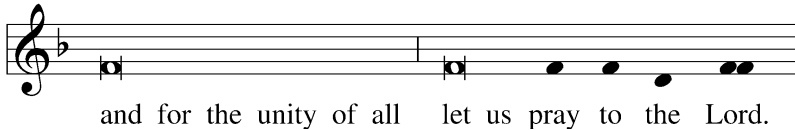
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



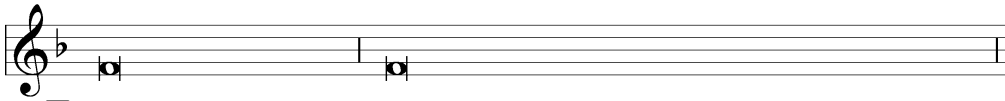
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



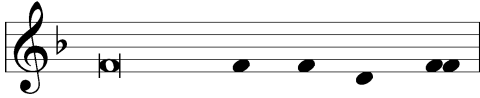
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



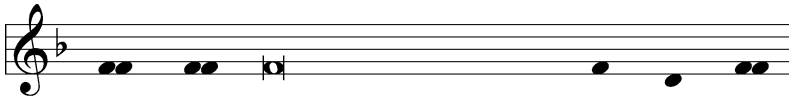
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

During Advent, which is a season of preparation and repentance, we omit the Gloria in Excelsis.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

EPISTLE

Romans 13:11-14

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

Christ Is Surely Coming

#509

SERMON

A Day of Darkness, and Not of Light

Please stand

NICENE CREED

☩ I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)
the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)
maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)
and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)
the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)
begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)
God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)
very God of very God, (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)
being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)
by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)
who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)
came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)
and was made man; (Jn 1:14)
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)
He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)
and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)
and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)
And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)
to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)
whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)
the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)
who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)
and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)
and the life ✠ of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

Amen. (Ps 106:48)

Us men means all people.

Christian: the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For comfort, health and recovery: **Bradford Chisholm, Karen Draffen, Greg Goldman, Robin Kilchrist, Cathy McDonald, Danny Prince, Jo Beth Ray, Keeley Rimoldi & child, Tommy Smith, Lesley Thomas, Cynthia Widlitze, Terry Zeigler;**

For those who are ill or distressed: **Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Richard Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Bobby Carroll, Arthur Collins, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Michele Rae (Cookston) Fowler, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Johnnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;**

For college and graduate students: **Sara Fields, Will Nelson;**

For military servants and their families: **Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;**

For foreign missionaries: **especially those serving in Spain;**

This week's prayer family: **Keith & Anita Martin** and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace † of the Lord be with you always.



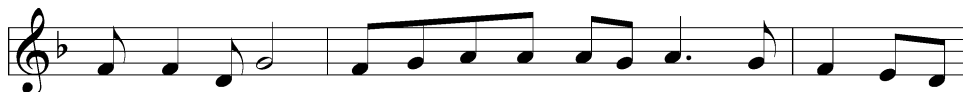
C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| O Lord, How Shall I Meet You | #334 |
| The Night Will Soon Be Ending | #337 |
| Arise, O Christian People | #354 |

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32





Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

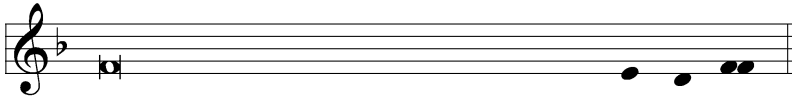
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26



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 A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

#332, St. 5-8

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:**Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields**Acolyte:** William Held**Interpreter:** Denee Smith**Elder:** Keith Martin**Organist:** Sister Sara Fields**Altar Guild:** Michelle Miller, Nancy Teal

Baptism of John Taylor Rudsenske: This morning we rejoice with the Rudsenske family, with saints and angels, and with all the host of heaven as John Taylor is baptized into the Body of Christ. We welcome him in the name of the Lord, and shall keep him in our prayers as he grows in the Faith.

Voters Meeting: Mark your calendar for **next Sunday, December 4**, as we will meet to approve the 2023 Work Plan. The meeting will follow the Divine Service.

December Work Day: Prepare the ~~royal highway~~ *church grounds* for the Advent season! Join us at **8:30 a.m.** this **Saturday, December 3rd**, as we spruce up the grounds with an outdoor work day! Coffee and spontaneous caroling might occur.

Decoration Day: Untangle the Christmas lights and unwrap the chrismons—it's almost time to put up a tree! Join us at **8:30 a.m.** on **Saturday, December 10th**, for our annual Advent Decoration Day. There will be coffee, there will be cookies, and there will be lots of Christm- I mean, *Advent* cheer!

Advent Vespers: Join us as we meditate upon the Advent of our Lord this coming season. Vespers will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights throughout December until Christmas. Pray with us and ponder the coming of our Lord and the mystery of His Incarnation.

Advent Dinners: Join us for our soup-salad-sandwich suppers at six! Throughout Advent, we will dine together at 6:00 p.m. before the Wednesday evening services. To contribute food, sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Come for food and fellowship during this season of great anticipation as we prepare for the Advent of our King!

CLC Christmas Recital: Calling all musicians! It is time to start practicing up, because the Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming on **Saturday, January 7!** If you are interested in participating, email Sister Sara at sistersara@christlutheran.jacksonms.org. All ages and levels are welcome!

Readings for next Sunday, December 4th, the Second Sunday of Advent:

Introit Ps. 105:4-8; Psalm 72:1-7; Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: November 28 – December 4

Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Advent Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Advent Vespers
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	6:30 a.m.	Bible & Breaky
Saturday	8:30 a.m.	Advent Work Day
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – The Second Sunday in Advent
	11:30 a.m.	Voters Meeting



Issues, Etc.[™]

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