

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

✠ Third Sunday of Advent ✠

December 16, 2018

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principle focus of the day, the prophet Malachi's word could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing, we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."



*Inspired by Christ,
living and growing in faith,
we are a loving and open community
of worship, witness, and service in God's world.*



✠ Gathering ✠

Following the call of God's Spirit, the community of faith gathers, welcoming one another and praying for God's mercy to fill the church and the world.

We invite you to use the prelude time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Prelude

Welcome

Penitential Rite

Please stand as you are able.

Confession

Word of Absolution

Gathering Hymn

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Please be seated.

✠ Confession and Forgiveness ✠

P: Throughout the season of Advent we prepare ourselves to receive the King of glory anew. Therefore, let us come before God with open hearts.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Most merciful God,
C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264, vs 1 All, vs 2 Women, vs 3, Men, vs 4 All

All voices sing the Refrain

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. **By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



Dismissal Song

Malachi 3:1-4
The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi, whose name means messenger, shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.

✠ Word ✠

The Word of God comes alive for the gathered community
As God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On the First Sunday of Advent we lit the candle for Hope. Last Sunday we lit the candle for Peace. Today we light the third candle of Advent. This is the candle of Joy. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth. From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord:

“But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.”—Isaiah 65:18

Let us pray:

We joyfully praise you, O Lord, **for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.**

*Dear Jesus lead us to your bed, In Bethlehem we pray.
A candle we shall light, O Lord, To Guide us on our way.*

*O Father, you have sent your son From your unbounded grace.
A second candle we now light To honor you with praise.*

*O Holy Spirit, you appeared As fire and heav’nly dove,
Your prophet calls us to the light. Come fill us with your love.*

Reading

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Story of Santa Lucia

Santa Lucia is celebrated throughout Scandinavia on December 13. As late as the mid-18th century, due to the continued use of the Julian calendar, this was the longest night of the year, coinciding with the Winter Solstice. In pre-Christian Sweden the night was known as Lussinight, which was a night of particular fear and sacredness. Songs were often sung to ward off the darkness.

Christian missionaries arriving in Scandinavia used this day to evangelize the local population, by transferring the commemoration of Santa Lucia, Lucia of Syracuse,

to this day. According to tradition, Lucia was engaged to a pagan man who turned her over to the authorities when she chose to give her dowry away to the poor. She was martyred on December 13th in 304 AD.

In Sweden in the late 1700's, there were legends of a woman appearing in times of great famine distributing food to the starving. Perhaps because the name "Lucia" means "light," and since her feast day falls in December, these stories were in turn attributed to the goodness and generosity of Santa Lucia.



Lucia Processional

(Sung by the Choir and repeated by congregation as a recessional)

*Into our hearts she walks, Telling her story,
Candles in shining crown, Lighting her story
Symbol of Love sublime Moving o'er space and time,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

*Now in the winter night Good folk are waiting.
See now the maid of light, Darkness abating.
Into this winter night Come, maid of shining light,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

*When on the earth she walked, Bravely confessing,
All to the poor she gave, All felt her blessing.
Symbol of love sublime, Moving o'er space and time,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

Advent Verse

Lucia C. B Agnestig & Johny Johansson

*In darkest night of this midwinter's day,
We welcome you, fairest Lucia.
Draw near us with generous love for all,
Draw near us with greetings of Christmas' peace,
Draw near us with light in your crown.*

*Please stand as
you are able.*

Luke 3:1-6
*John the Baptist is
a herald of the
saving Lord,
whose way is
prepared by
"repentance for
the forgiveness of
sins."*

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.



**Sunday
School
Christmas
Program**



Lucia Recessional

Sunday School Christmas Program

Music by Cathy Skogen-Soldner

Away in a Manger (PreK- K)

Angels are a Singing (PreK- K)

Where are the Shepherds (PreK-K)

Stars are Shining (All Sunday School)

Silent Night

(The Sunday School will present the verse first in sign language.

The congregation will join in singing on the 2nd time)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright

Round yon virgin mother and child.

Holy Infant, so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

***Christ is our Hope/ Jesus Love Me* Sunday School and Choir**

Come let us gather 'round the Christmas light.

See there's a gift from God to you and me.

Just as the candle shines so very bright,

Christ is our hope in the darkest night.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born,

There is hope in the darkest night.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.:

Joy-oy-oy to the Lord

(Sunday School)

Prayers of the Church

P: As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world,
and all of creation..

A brief silence.

A: Prepare your church to share the good news, life-giving God. Put your word
within us and dwell...Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, God of abundant grace, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

After the greeting, please share a word of peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated

✠ Offering ✠

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church is supported through the generous gifts of time, talent and treasure of our friends and members. In order to fulfill our mission and ministry, we need to receive approximately \$6,000 in offerings each week. We thank you for your support and partnership in the proclamation of the good news.

O Little Town of Bethlehem O Come, All Ye Faithful

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

A: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

✠ Meal ✠

We lift our hearts with praise and thanksgiving as the table is set, and we receive the bread and wine—the humble meal through which we are fed by the presence of Jesus the Christ and united as the body of Christ in the world.

Offering

Offertory

Please stand as you are able.

**Offertory
Prayer**

Great Thanksgiving

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Per Harling, b. 1948
Music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress

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Words of Institution

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.**

(During the season of Advent and Christmas, we will use the traditional words for the Lord's Prayer.)

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to me all who are tired and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. The table is ready. All are welcome.

Please be seated

Lamb of God

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up-on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up-on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - - - men

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown
Music: CHRISTE, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528

Meditation

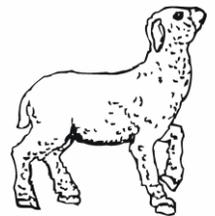
Distribution

Communion is by common cup or intinction: For the common cup, receive a piece of the bread, and drink from the white chalice. For intinction dip the bread into the brown cup with the wine (dark) or grape juice (light) as you prefer, then eat. At Lake of the Isles, we practice open communion. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are welcome at this table. Gluten free wafers are available in the silver cup.

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**



Communion Music

Please stand as you are able.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

✠ *SENDING* ✠

*We receive the blessing of God and leave in peace,
Sent out to live the way of Jesus for the sake of the world God loves.*

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

You are invited to remain for the Postlude to enjoy this musical offering of thanksgiving and praise or leave quietly.

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Sending Hymn

WELCOME

We thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us this week, and we invite you back again—for prayer and worship and to any of the events our congregation has scheduled. We hope the message of God's grace will guide and strengthen you as you grow in love and faith in your daily life.

YOUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Pastor
Organist
Choir Director
Advent Wreath Candle Lighters
Worship Assistant
Santa Lucia
Ushers
Altar Servers
Reader

Rev. Arden D. Haug
Kenneth Vigne
Dawn Allan
The Holzschuh Family
Marty Carlson
Katherine Mechels
Ross Bartels and Brenda Weigel
Phyllis Dahl and Carolyn Hagford
Marty Carlson

Communion Assistants	Linda Nelson, Mary Sabatke, and Denise Wilkens
Coffee Hosts	Michelle McCreery, Eivor Lund, Mary Flynn and Linda Nelson

CHURCH OFFICERS	President	Marty Carlson
	Vice President	Ross Formell
	Treasurer	Ross Bartels
	Secretary	Jon Sprain

STAFF	Children's Ministry Director	Diane LaMere
	Custodian	Dane Peterson
	Office Manager	Linda Nelson
	Nursery Attendant	Sheridan Swee

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion	Sanctuary
		Sunday School Christmas Program	Sanctuary
	10:45 am	Coffee Hour	Sanctuary
	12:00 pm	Julbord	Fellowship Hall
	3:00 pm	Karelse Student Recital	Sanctuary
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17	7:00 pm	AA	Fellowship Hall
	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18	9:15 am	Prayer Ministry
5:15 pm		SA Support Group	Christy Room
7:00 pm		AA Spiritual Recovery Group	Christy Room
7:00 pm		Men's AA Group	Room 56
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19		9:30 am	Kenwood School Dress Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Bible Study	Christy Room
	12:00 pm	Staff Meeting	Christy Room
	7:00 pm	Confirmation	Christy Room
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice	Fellowship Hall
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20	8:00 am	Kenwood School Program	Fellowship Hall
	12:00 pm	Al-Anon	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Fitzgerald Student Recital	Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting	Library
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21	9:00 am	Poinsettias Delivered	Library
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion	Sanctuary
		No Sunday School	
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24	4:30 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service	Sanctuary
	10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Sanctuary
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25		CHURCH CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST



Please keep the following friends & members of our community of faith in your prayers of

thanksgiving or for comfort, peace, and healing:

Shirley Carlson, Peyton Berkland, Molly Boyland, Kathy Hering, LOTI members;; **Jim Peterson,** brother-in-law of Rick Pepin; **Sam Pederson,** nephew of Jenny Cook; **Charles**

Sabatke, brother of Bruce Sabatke; **Lynn Williamson**, family of Bruce and Carol Kuehn; **Heluza Ramos**, grandmother of Rebecca Morell; **Barbara Koester**, niece of Phyllis Dahl; **Ruth Lehmkuhl**, cousin of Phyllis Dahl; **Jan Palmer**, friend of Pauline Haug.

Loved Ones In The Military

Please keep all the members and families of the military in your prayers of thanksgiving and protection.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

<i>Emily Melbye 12/16</i>	<i>Gregory Sarles 12/17</i>
<i>Marty Carlson 12/18</i>	<i>Tommy Nesheim 12/20</i>
<i>Lars Olson 12/21</i>	<i>Guthrie Frahm 12/22</i>

STAFFED NURSERY AVAILABLE

Children are always welcome in worship, however, if the need arises, the Christy Room is staffed with a Nursery Attendant for your child. The Christy Room is located to the left of the sanctuary through the side door at the front of the church and across from the church office. There is an alternate route to take from the narthex—follow the signs. If you need assistance, please ask one of the ushers to help you. There is a baby changing table available in the unisex restroom between the pastor’s office and the sacristy.

The nursery will be staffed on Christmas Eve at the 4:30 p.m. Family service.

SCAN TO GIVE



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

The **Family Service** at 4:30 pm is designed for families with younger children. The service will feature a “living nativity scene” at the manger. Guest trumpeter Jamie Gorski will perform at this worship service.

The **Candle Light Service** is at 10:00 pm The LOTI Church Choir and guest ensemble will perform a Christmas cantata attributed to J.S. Bach, “*For Us a Child is Born.*” Our organist Kenny Vigne has also written his own arrangement for a small chamber ensemble based on the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the singing of “Silent Night.”

CHRISTMAS TEA THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped with set-up, serving, funds to purchase supplies, provided food and helped with clean-up for the cookie sale and Christmas Tea. We had a great turnout again and raised \$441 from the cookie sale.

Also, we would like to thank Tom Madson for picking up the Christmas trees, delivering them to the church and helping with set-up and Pauline Haug and Pastor Haug assisted with decorating the trees on Wednesday.

We appreciate all the volunteers who help prepare the church for Christmas during this busy holiday season.

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will meet on Friday, January 11 at 5:00 p.m. at Deb Gilroy’s home. We are reading “Pilgrim's Progress” by John Bunyan.

OUR SAVIOUR'S HOUSING MEALS IN 2019

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church has provided a meal for 40 the first Friday of every month for many years.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families or a group of friends. Check your calendars and pick a month now for 2019. You can reserve your month by calling or emailing Cheri Moe (952-431-5226, moeclana@aol.com). She can provide you with recipes for a crowd. If you are a Thrivent member, you can apply for a Thrivent Action grant that will cover the cost of the meal as well as some left over to purchase the supplies that Our Saviour's is always in need of.

If you have never served the meal before or feel the cost is more than you can comfortably afford or you just don't want to do it alone but don't know who to ask, please contact either Cheri or Linda Nelson in the church office. They can contact others who have served and try to find someone who would be interested in serving with you. It's more fun doing it with others and the cost is shared.

“WORKING” SERIES

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 AT 11:00 A.M.

“Working” is the theme of an ongoing speaker series in which people associated with our congregation talk about what they do all day and how they feel about the work they do.

The next session will be Sunday, January 13th and the guest speaker will be new LOTI member Mary Flynn. Mary works in the Medical Services Unit (MSU) at Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation in Plymouth - a treatment center for adolescents and young adults ages 14 to 24. Her co-worker, Courtney Wilkins, R.N., will also be present to explain direct medical care given to clients while on the MSU and throughout their stay at the facility.

Mary and Courtney's talk will take place after a brief coffee break following the Sunday morning service. Those who are interested will be invited to take their coffee/tea into the Christy Room for about 45 minutes. The first 15-20 minutes will be an informal talk by Mary and Courtney, leaving the time remaining for questions from those in attendance.

If anyone in the congregation is interested in sharing their own "Working" story, please send an email to jannahaug@yahoo.com

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported LOTI this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. End of the

year gifts to LOTI must be postmarked December 31st or delivered to the office by December 31st.

***EXTENDED CALENDAR OF LOTI
CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS***



December 24

Christmas Eve

Family Service at 4:30 p.m.

Candlelight Service at 10:00 p.m.

December 25

Church Closed

December 30

Sunday Worship Service/No Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

January 1

Church Closed

God's Help, Our Hands
2020 W. Lake of the Isles Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55405

☎ 612 377-5095 ☎

Office Hours:

M-F 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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