

12/15/2024

DIVINE INTERRUPTION of Joy



*PREACHING AND TEACHING THE TRUTH TO HIS
EXPANDING KINGDOM,
REACHING OUT TO ALL!*

**The Lutheran Church & School of Messiah
840 N. 11th St. Grand Junction, CO 81501
970-245-2838**

**The Third Sunday In Advent
(December 15, 2024)**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

Confession and Absolution

The Lord's Supper: If you are visiting with us or have not been instructed in the unique Lutheran teaching regarding the Lord's Supper, we kindly ask you to speak to the Pastor before communing. If you would like to come up for a blessing, feel free to do so. Simply cross your arms over your chest to let the Pastor know you would like a blessing. Thank you.

Stand as you are able

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

sts. 1, ref. 2-4

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
 Who ord'rest all things mightily;
 To us the path of knowledge show,
 And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
 Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
 In ancient times didst give the Law
 In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Text: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

184

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

185

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I

forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 146:5-8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

**Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.**

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

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

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

Kyrie

186

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us. *[Mark 10:27]***

Salutation and Collect of the Day [2 Timothy 4:22]

P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**

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.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

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

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Stand as you are able

Alleluia

LSB 190

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John's messengers had gone, 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? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

*Creed [“Creed” comes from the Latin *credo*, which means “I believe.” From the time of Pentecost, the Ancient Christian Church has confessed a creed. The Early Christian Church has always believed, taught, and confessed these Scriptural teachings. This is why we are called a Creational Church.]*

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Kids' Time

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon DIVINE INTERRUPTION Of Joy

Stand as you are able

Offertory [Psalm 51:10-12]

LSB 192

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within
me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit
from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy
free spirit. Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper: If you are visiting with us or have not been instructed in the unique Lutheran teaching regarding the Lord's Supper, we kindly ask you to speak to the Pastor before communing. If you would like to come up for a blessing, feel free to do so. Simply cross your arms over your chest to let the Pastor know you would like a blessing. Thank you.

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly meet, 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]

LSB 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of
the Lord.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**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 Conclusion for the Lord's Prayer is not in Matthew or Luke. The Conclusion is from 1Chronicles 29:10-11, King David's prayer in the assembly.]

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

[Matthew 26:26-38; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25]

Pax Domini [Latin for Peace of the Lord; John 20:19]

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
 C Amen.

Agnus Dei [John 1:29]

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

Text: Germanus, c. 634-c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

349 Hark the Glad Sound

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-51

392 God Loves Me Dearly

Text: August Rische, 1819-1906; tr. composite

Stand as you are able

Nunc Dimitis: [Latin for Now Dismiss—Song of Simeon; Luke 2:29-32]

Nunc Dimitis

LSB 199

C **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,**
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving [Psalm 107:1]

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.
...
C **Amen.**

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction [Latin for God's "Good Speak" to you]

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. Refrain
- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Talents & Interests



Survey



Offering Option: Scan

Preacher: Rev. Mike Redeker

DCE: Jonathan Peterson

Organist: Richard Scott

Acolytes: Tucker Klein, Christopher Brossard

Elders: Don Olbert, John McDowell

Ushers: Jeffrey Vrbas, Carl Boydston

Josh Ammon, Dave Gruner

Greeters: Betty Crinklaw, Karen Stoll

PRAYER REQUESTS— *“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*

Prayer requests for you, family with permission, or by a pastor, may be sent to

admin@mlgi.org & sec@mlgi.org

Messiah's Prayer List

Continued health and healing: Chris Ballard, Ralph Bickel, Mary Ann Bradshaw, Peter Chaney, Darlene & Darrel Clark, Lucy Clemmer, *John Feliciano, Carol Haller*, Stephen Hildebrand, Doug Johnson, Jimmie Kenner and family, Emogene Kukuk, Carrie Lamgo, *Tom Moore*, Illona Rennels, Bob Rennick, Dorothy Roberts, Esther Schlauger, Karen Skoog, *Bill & Deborah Stacy*, Shane Walz, Romaine Webb, Jeff Vagneur, *Gary*.

Fighting serious diseases: Sharon Breshears, Bill Brodak, Denise Currie, Courtney Grieger, Misty Hannah, Steve Kaskus, Shane Larsen, Anna Marie Mautz, Barb Moore, John Moseman Sr., Melani Perschbacher, Debra Proctor, Shirley Robinson, Diana Walcher.

Continue to fight cancer: Ralph Bickel, Karen Caldwell, Tyler, Rhonda Covington, James Hamleton, Les Hawkins, Leslie Hendricks, Barbara Huff, Mike Jerome, *Arthur Kluegel*, Chuck Magner, Marshall Mead, Walter

Netzke, Lela Ottman, Amy Poulin, *Rick Reimers*, Loretta Siilata, Skogen, *Nickie Wilke*.

Home Hospice Care: Arlene Ottman

Called Home:

Serving in the military: Jake Bradshaw, Jack Eberhard, Jessie Mello, Karen and James Moore, Caleb Schmidt, Brandon & Kayt Soine, Eric Stahly.

Messiah Lutheran members

Messiah Lutheran faculty & staff

Messiah Lutheran Church/School

Mavericks of Messiah: *Continue to pray for the college students.*

Missionaries: Rev. Tim Norton to the Navajo Nation and **Rev Dr. Karl Heimer**, Ysleta, El Paso Texas.

Celebrating Birthdays:

16th - Jonathan Peterson

17th - Alexa Peck

21st - Ralph Bickel

Wedding Anniversaries:

Don & Carita Pacini (47)

Donny & Emilie Olbert (53)

CALENDAR FOR THE Week of December 15, 2024

Sunday 9:00am **Worship, Communion, Facebook Live**
 10:30am **Fellowship, Coffee, Bible Study**
 10:30am **Young Adult Bible Study- MPR**
 10:30am **Battle Ready Modules- Computer Lab**
 12:30pm **Church Council- FH**
 6:00pm **Sipping/Searchng- 2478 Patterson Rd #14**

Monday

Tuesday 9:00am **Quilt ladies- FH**
1:00pm **Ruth Circle- FH**
6:30pm **Lydia Circle- Library**

Wednesday 8:30am **Chapel**
9:30am **Bible Study- FH**
5:00pm **Advent Soup Supper**
7:00pm **Christmas Pageant**

Thursday 1:30pm **Dorcas Circle- Library**
6:15pm **Handbells**
6:30pm **Bible Study- Zoom**
 7:00pm **Adult Choir**

Friday

Saturday

Sunday 8:45am **Hand Bells Concert**
9:00am **Worship, Communion, Facebook Live**
 10:30am **Fellowship, Coffee, Bible Study**
 10:30am **Young Adult Bible Study- MPR**
 10:30am **Battle Ready Modules- Computer Lab**

1:00pm **Dona Ramsey's Recital**
6:00pm **Sipping/Searchng- 2478 Patterson Rd #14**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF December 15, 2024

INCOME FOR THE PERIOD: Nov. 5th thru Dec. 11th

Weekly Donations \$ 27,185.82	Month to Date \$45,625.91	Weekly Need
\$23,540.00	Monthly Need \$94,160.00	
***→ YTD Actual Income: \$461,190.89		
***→ YTD Budget Income: \$517,877.33		***→
YTD difference: -\$56,686.44		<u>ATTENDANCE: Thanksgiving Eve</u>
12/04/24- 45	Sun. 12/08/24- 197	

Cookie Tins for Seniors- It's cookie tin time! **Tins are ready**, so if you are an **OWL**, (Older Wiser Lutheran) be sure to grab your '**Cookie Tin**' in the **Narthex**.

Barb & Tom Moore have a room for rent with a private entrance. In place of payment for rent tenant would be caring for Tom and doing various household chores. Please call **Barb** at **970-250-5349**.

Investment Opportunity?? The Church is preparing to put **Jack Rider's Condominium** up for sale. **580 Bookcliff Avenue #18**. 1-Bedroom, 1-bath, 512 square ft with parking. \$130,000. Close to St. Mary's Hospital. Contact **Debbie Fenske (970-245-2838)** for additional information.

Advent Soup Suppers- There is **1 Advent** Soup Supper left on **Dec. 18th** hosted by the 7/8 Class for their class trip. Soup Supper is from **5 to 6:45 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Please come and enjoy great soup, fellowship and prepare for the birth of our Lord.

Messiah Handbell Choir- Has prepared special Christmas music that will be presented from the front of the Sanctuary **before the service** at **8:45am** on Sunday, **Dec. 22nd**. Come early and hear our bells praise the Lord's birth!

Christmas Poinsettias- Poinsettias are available for purchase to help decorate the sanctuary. **\$15/plant**. Funds over and above the cost of the plants support the youth going to the **National Youth Gathering 2025**. Please see the box in the **Narthex**, fill out a slip and drop it with your payment in the box. You get to take your plant home (or give it to someone else) after **Christmas Day worship**. Place your order **TODAY**.

Recital- Dona Ramsey will be holding a recital here at **Messiah** in the sanctuary Sun. **Dec. 22nd** at **1pm** and all are invited!

A New 2025 Communion Volunteer sign-up sheet- is posted in the **Narthex**. Please consider volunteering to **set up or cleanup** with this communion service opportunity.

National Youth Gathering- Fundraisers have been greatly supported by the church. Thank you for reading the most recent fundraising opportunities email. Contact **DCE Jonathan** if you're not receiving these emails.

CMU Sunday Dinner- We'll sign up for **two more opportunities** to serve in the **Spring semester**. The students are very grateful for God's provision through us. Here are a few comments from volunteers:

***Four baseball players ate mountains of pasta.**

***Connected with our regular student who lives in his van and is incredibly thankful for this meal.**

***Taylor (Christ Center coordinator) had a good conversation with some long-distance runners. They were so thankful for Sunday Suppers as their calorie intake is super high!**

***One of the church volunteers remarked how every single student is so polite and thankful.**

***A really fun night!**

Gift Wrapping Service Opportunity- Dyslexia Foundation of Western Colorado is looking for volunteers to wrap gifts near **JCPenny**. Follow this link signup.com/go/yEbmKAB for available times throughout the Thanksgiving Advent season. Contact **Cerise Hock** at **970-208-5432** with any questions. **DCE Jonathan** will be signing up. Contact him if you'd like to join or set up your own group and pick a time.

Luke2 Shirts- Luke2 shirts have arrived and been distributed. Don't forget to wear your Luke2 shirts during the Advent Season in hopes of helping the Holy Spirit place Christ centered thoughts in people who see you wearing it. Donors made it possible to have some extra Luke2 shirts. If someone says, "Cool shirt!" remember we have the opportunity to say, "Thanks! Would you like one?"

LCMS Foundation Gift Planning- Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith. Someday, when the Lord calls you home, your estate will turn over the financial assets to family, ministry or other charities. Have you ever considered preparing a letter to each of the beneficiaries of your estate, sharing with them why the Lord directed you to share with them? Maybe this could translate into face-to-face conversations right now. Your Messiah Gift Planning Counselor can ask you questions, assisting you to become specific about how your faith translates into your gifting plan. **Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.**

Messiah's Radio Ministry-Sunday mornings at **8:30am – 9:00am** on radio station **1100AM/KNZZ**. It is followed by The Lutheran Hour at **9:00am**