



St.

rch

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

Phone: 507-433-1957

Cell: 507-219-2517

Church Office:

Phone: 507-433-8191

Worship Services broadcast on Austin Cable Channel 181, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
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December 6, 2020

2nd Sunday in Advent

PRESERVICE PRAYER Heavenly Father, as we, in this Advent season prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit. As we hear Your Word may the Spirit work true repentance in our hearts that we may come before You confessing our sin, and trusting in Jesus for full and free forgiveness. As we prepare to celebrate His birth, ready our hearts for His return that we may live before you for all eternity. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

HYMN 68: The Advent of Our King

1. The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.
2. The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.
3. O Zion's Daughter, rise To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise The peace He comes to bring.
4. As Judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.
5. Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The old man all be put away, The new man all put on.
6. All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One, Through all eternity.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Together let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.

Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: 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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11

“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!”

Says your God.

²“Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her,

That her warfare is ended,

That her iniquity is pardoned;

For she has received from the LORD's hand

Double for all her sins.”

³The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the LORD;

Make straight in the desert

A highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be exalted

And every mountain and hill brought low;

The crooked places shall be made straight

And the rough places smooth;

⁵The glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

And all flesh shall see *it* together;

For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶The voice said, “Cry out!”

And he said, “What shall I cry?”

“All flesh *is* grass,

And all its loveliness *is* like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,

Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it;

Surely the people *are* grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the word of our God stands forever.”

⁹O Zion,

You who bring good tidings,

Get up into the high mountain;

O Jerusalem,

You who bring good tidings,

Lift up your voice with strength,

Lift *it* up, be not afraid;

Say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*,

And His arm shall rule for Him;

Behold, His reward *is* with Him,

And His work before Him.

¹¹He will feed His flock like a shepherd;

He will gather the lambs with His arm,

And carry *them* in His bosom,

And gently lead those who are with young.

(NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the Prophets:

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,

Who will prepare Your way before You.”

³“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

Make His paths straight.’ ”

⁴John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” (NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 605: The World Is Very Evil

1. The world is very evil, the times are waxing late;
Be sober and keep vigil, The Judge is at the gate;
The Judge that comes in mercy, The Judge that comes with might,
To terminate the evil, To diadem the right.

2. Arise, arise, good Christian, Let right to wrong succeed;
Let penitential sorrow To heav’nly gladness lead,
To light that hath no evening, That knows no moon nor sun,
The light so new and golden, The light that is but one.

3. O home of fadeless splendor, Of flow’rs that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children Who here as exiles mourn.
Midst pow’r that knows no limit, Where knowledge has no bound,
The beatific vision Shall glad the saints around.

4. Strive, man, to win that glory; Toil, man, to gain that light;
Send hope before to grasp it Till hope be lost in sight.
Exult, O dust and ashes, The Lord shall be thy part;
His only, His forever, Thou shalt be and thou art.

5. O sweet and blessed country, The home of God’s elect!
O sweet and blessed country That eager hearts expect!
Jesus, in mercy bring us To that dear land of rest,
Who art, with God the Father And Spirit, ever blest.

THE SERMON: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Theme: Looking Forward to the Day of the Lord

I. Understanding the Timing

II. Shaping our Lives for that Glorious Reality

SERMON TEXT: 2 Peter 3:8-14

“But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless.” (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN 64: 1, 3, 5: Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes

1. Jesus, Thy Church with longing eyes
For Thine expected coming waits.
When will the promised light arise
And glory beam from Zion’s gates?

3. Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew,
Our foes repel, our wrongs redress,
Man’s rooted enmity subdue,
And crown Thy gospel with success.

5. Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for the appointed hour
And fit us by Thy grace to share
The triumphs of Thy conquering power.

BENEDICTION;

C: Amen.

Hymn 50:2-3 Thanks We Give and Adoration

2. Thanks we give and adoration For Thy Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Thy salvation In our hearts and lives abound;
Ever faithful, Ever faithful To the Truth may we be found!

3. So whene'er the signal's given Us from earth to call away,
Borne on angels' wings to heaven Glad the summons to obey,
May we ever, May we ever, Reign with Christ in endless day!

CALENDAR

TODAY: Thank you for coming to hear the Word. Sunday school and Bible class are scheduled to follow the service. We will wrap up our discussion of a special video mission evangelism series prepared by the CLC's Committee on Domestic Fields. We will meet in the fellowship hall spreading out with families at individual tables to maintain social distancing.

Used bulletins should either be taken home or deposited in the wastepaper basket at the narthex door. Your offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the nave.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism via ZOOM at 4:00 p.m. – 5:30.

Midweek Advent meditation begins at 7:00 p.m. The theme for our midweek meditations this year is Advent Proclamations. This coming Wednesday we will consider the Advent Proclamation: "Prepare the Way of the Lord! "The text is Isaiah 40:3-8.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Sunday school and Bible class are scheduled to follow the service. Next Sunday's sermon text: John 1:6-8, 19-28.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

December 16 the last of our Midweek Advent Services at 7:00 p.m.

December 20 Regular worship with Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. A church council meeting will follow the service. We are **NOT** able to have a Children's Christmas Program this year.

December 25: Christmas festival worship at 9:30.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: Nov. 29 worship – 12 Bible Class - 9; Sunday school – 0
Dec. 2 Midweek Advent worship - 13

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,250.00	Memorials	
Offerings Received	\$1,385.00	Property Imprv. Fund	\$150.00
Needed for Year:	\$58,750.00		
Received for Year:	\$52,809,00		

December Church Cleaning - Nelson