

Messiah Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Academy

2026 22ND Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140
The Rev. Gregory Grenyo, Vacancy Pastor
Church: 551-8182
Christ Lutheran Academy: 697-6044

Third Sunday in Advent– December 11, 2011

VISITORS WELCOME! – A special welcome to any visitors and guests who are with us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service, and we pray that you will hear and receive the Word of God with joy in our midst.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: During the offering we ask that you sign the friendship register located at the center aisle of each pew. Please hand the filled in sheet to the usher as you exit. Let the usher know if you don't have a pad in your pew.



OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE : In the fullness of time, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Until the end of time, His grace is still given to us as He promised it in the Lord's Supper. As we receive His gift today, we would ask *guests* who desire to commune to speak with the pastor *before* the service. In joyful obedience to the teaching of Scripture, we practice closed communion.

PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION: O Lord, our God, in the name of whose only-begotten Son we have been called to be Christians and have been blest with Baptism for the remission of sins, make us, we pray, ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins and to give thanks with grateful hearts to you, O Father, to your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

VACANCY: Pastor Smallwood and Pastor Grenyo are helping with the vacancy. Pastor Grenyo will be in the office every Sunday from 8:00 to 8:30 am if you need to speak with him. Pastor Smallwood will handle emergencies and visit our shut ins. Pastor Smallwood may be reached at (262) 287-3389.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS NEEDED: Questions or gift drop-offs may be directed to Diane Kentala, Kate Tobalsky, Heidi Tobalsky and Kris Kochman. All gifts are needed no later than Dec. 15. Thank you!

BAKLAVA/BISCOTTI FUNDRAISER: CLA is completing it's annual Baklava & Biscotti Fund Raiser. Delivery is TODAY! If you have any questions, please contact Jodie Nigro 262-492-7613. THANK YOU

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The Senior, Children's, and Handbell Choirs of St. John's Lutheran Church, 1501 Erie St, invite you to attend their 55th Annual Christmas Concert TODAY at 7:00 p.m. All in attendance are invited to a reception following the concert in the school cafeteria.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Wednesday December 14th, Midweek Advent Service, Vespers, 7:00pm
Sunday December 18th, Advent 4, Divine Service, 9:00am
Wednesday December 21st, Midweek Advent Service, Vespers, 7:00pm
Saturday December 24th, Christmas Eve, Divine Service, 7:00pm
Sunday December 25th, Christmas Day, Divine Service, 10:00am (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, ADULT CATECHESIS, OR CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS)

BABY ITEM COLLECTION: The students of Christ Lutheran Academy would like to announce their tenth annual baby item collection. Rather than exchange Christmas gifts with one another, the students traditionally collect new and gently used baby items such as diapers, blankets, and clothing and donate them to Care Net Family Resource Center of Kenosha. The items will be collected at both Lamb of God and Messiah from now through Epiphany. We thank you in advance for contributing to this worthwhile cause!

FAMILY IN NEED: A local social service agency requests help for a family in need that is setting up a new home. If you have any of the following (gently) used items, they would be appreciated: 2 twin beds, couch/love seat, end tables, dressers (3), pots and pans, dishes etc. Please contact Carmyn, from KAFASI, at 498-4769.

BENEVOLENT FUND: Thank you to all who gave to the benevolent fund in November. \$939.25 was collected. This is wonderful! Even so, some members of our congregation are still in need of financial assistance. The good news is, you may still give to this fund. However, we will no longer be collecting at the door. You may place a check or cash directly into the offering plate. If you are writing a check, please write benevolent fund on the memo line. If you wish to give cash, please place it into an envelope marked "benevolent fund". "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, *and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*" (Galatians 6:10 ESV)

+ DIVINE SERVICE II+ THE PREPARATION

Opening Hymn.....**347**
Confession & Absolution.....167

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit Insert
Kyrie (*Lord have mercy*)..... 168
Gloria in Excelsis..... omitted
Collect..... Insert
Old Testament..... Insert
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gradual.....Insert
Holy Epistle.....Insert
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Alleluia 173
Holy Gospel Insert
Sermon Hymn**345**
Sermon
Nicene Creed 174
Prayer of the Church..... 175
Offering..... 175
Offertory 176

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface to the prayers..... 177
The Lord's Prayer 179
Words of Institution..... 179
Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)..... 180
Dist. Hymns.....**344, 338, 341**
Nunc Dimittis.....182
Prayer.....183
Benediction.....183
Final Hymn **349**

*Please Remain Standing for Final Hymn
Announcements*

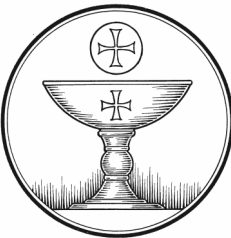
In Our Prayers

- For all expecting mothers: Kelly Pederson
- For all the children and Christ Lutheran Academy Staff: Debi Tauschek (Headmaster), Karen Moe, Elyse Ahlgrimm, Ruth Mallman, Stephanie Zuehls, Kris Grenyo, & Christa Hegland.
- Exor Padro, Joshua Jacobs, Ted & Katie Hart, Rob Gray, and Allen Weber, our members and family members who serve in the armed forces.
- Shut-Ins: Elsie Rintamaki, Arby Tobalsky, Marlene Jeschke, and Lillian Sciortino.
- For all those suffering from illnesses or other trials, including Dennis Metallo, Joe Kayon, Mary Louise Trapp (mother of Bob Trapp), Richard Cleereman, Cheri Jennings (cancer, CLA parent), John Hrupka, and Allen Swift (hip replacement on 11/23).
- For Messiah as we prepare to call a new pastor.

Christ’s Servants Today

Elder: Pat Tauschek
Ushers: Sam Braya & Chuck Leisten
Greeter: Toni Marshman
Altar Guild: Lois Metallo & Gail Kulbacki

Organist: Evone Hagerman
Cookies: Kate & Heidi Tobalsky



INCOME

Average Budget Income needed in a week	\$3,600
Budget Income received 11/30	\$267
Budget Income received 12/4	\$3,018
Budget Income received to needed	-\$582
Received to Budget YTD 2011 (Deficit)	-\$24,288

Attendance 12/4: 100 Communed: 79

This Week’s Events for Messiah

Dec. 13th	LWML Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14th	Women’s Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
	Children’s Catechism at LOG	4:15 p.m.
	Advent Service	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 15th	Parish Planning	6:00 p.m.
	Spiritual Life	7:15 p.m.

Future Events for Messiah

Dec. 21st	Women’s Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
	Children’s Catechism at LOG	4:15 p.m.
	Advent Service	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Divine Service	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 25th	Christmas Day Divine Service	10:00 a.m.

Wedding Anniversaries

No anniversaries this week

Baptism Anniversaries

12/11	Nathan Corey
	Noah Corey
12/14	Edwin Brieman
12/17	Jessica Sawtell

Birthdays

12/14	John Hernandez
12/15	Crystal Stoll
	Mary Siebert
12/17	Tamara Weathersby

Pray for our members

12/11	Garett Koch
12/12	Debbie Davidson
12/13	Ryan Busse
12/14	Cheryl Moe
12/15	Allen Weber
12/16	Denise Jacobs
12/17	Allen Swift

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John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: “*Prepare the way of the Lord . . .*” (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah’s coming through repentance, for “*all flesh is grass*” (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, “*Are you the one who is to come . . . ?*” (Matt. 11:2). Jesus’ works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord’s hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The “*stewards of the mysteries of God*” (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ’s overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God’s people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.