

Messiah Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Third Sunday in Advent
Gaudete

December 14, 2025

Divine Service III

Messiah Lutheran Church

Rev. James A. Roemke, Pastor

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Website: www.messiahkenosha.org Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/calendarmlc>

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Pastor's Email: pastorroemke@yahoo.com

VISITORS WELCOME! A special welcome to any visitors and guests who are with us today. Please sign the guestbook near the front door and introduce yourself to the pastor after the service. We pray that the hearing and receiving of the Word of God in our midst will be filled with joy and thanksgiving!

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated every Sunday and on Feast Days. Visiting communicant members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are invited to commune today. All other visitors are asked to speak with the pastor before coming to the altar. If there is time before the service, introduce yourself to the pastor or an elder. Other visitors are invited to use this time for prayer. If you desire information about attending communion, you are encouraged to visit with the pastor after the service today.

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION are found in the cover of the hymnals. Take some time before the service begins in quiet preparation and prayer. **Please turn off and put away all electronic devices during the service.**

+SERVING TODAY+

Elder: Jeff Vallis

Ushers: Mark Varvil & Roger Jeschke

Greeter: Vicky Nelson

Organist: Henry Buehrens

Altar Guild: Cara Zietz & Tamara Weathersby

Fellowship: Joan Chianelli

LSB 338

Confession and Absolution

p184

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

Introit

Ps. 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4–5



again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, You were favorable | to Your land;*

You restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of Your | people;*

You covered | all their sin.

Will You not revive | us again,*

that Your people may re- | joice in You?

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*

for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.

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.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie

p186

Benedictus

p226

Salutation and Collect of the Day

p189

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1–8

¹Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Gradual

Psalms 80:1–2



You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*

Stir up Your might and come to | save us!

Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*

You who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1–5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be

judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Psalms 80:2

Alle- / luia.

*Stir / up Your strength,**

*and come and / save us!**

Alle- / luia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–11

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to Him, “Are you the One who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.”

⁷As they went away, 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? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send My messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.”

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Apostles' Creed

p192

Sit

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

p192

Prayer of the Church

Sit

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

Stand

Preface *p194*

Sanctus *p195*

Lord's Prayer *p196*

The Words of Our Lord *p197*

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei *p198*

Sit

Distribution

Arise, O Christian People *LSB 354*

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People *LSB 347*

Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices *LSB 811*

When All the World Was Cursed *LSB 346*

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *p199*

Thanksgiving *p200*

Salutation and Benedicamus *p201*

Benediction *p202*

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *LSB 344*

+VDM A+

**Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum
The Word of the Lord endures forever**

+PRAYER LIST+

- ✘ Those who serve in our armed forces: Lena Roemke, Rianon Asbury, Exavier Padro, & veterans.
- ✘ For all those suffering from illnesses or other trials, including: Rylie Snodgrass, John Funk (friend of Steve and Sarah Billings), Michelle Knull, Roger & Sara Lyngen, Linda Polcin, Anita Brothers, the Nevius Family, Nicole Padro (daughter of the Brayas), Jan Sandberg (mother of Jim Sandberg), Sarah Hagerman, Ken Gundlach (uncle of Sarah Billings), Brandon Smith (son-in-law of Jeff & Amy Vallis), Wayne & Jeannie Pannette (brother-in-law and sister of Marilyn Dissen), Linda Davis (sister of Steve Billings), and Larry Mills (friend of Mike & Sandy Martin).

+ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14th+

- ✘ **ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES** conclude this Wednesday, December 17th. We will have Advent Matins at 9:00 am, as an alternative to those who are not able to come in the evening. At 5:45 pm we will have a Mexican potluck dinner; sign-up on the bulletin board. At 6:30 pm we will have Advent Evening Prayer.
- ✘ **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** This week we continue discussing the book of Zephaniah. This will be the last Wednesday morning Bible study of the year; we will resume in January.
- ✘ **ELECTRONIC GIVING:** This is the perfect time to consider switching to automatic contributions if you have not done so yet. It is easy and convenient and costs the church nothing, whereas the expense of paper envelopes increases every year and most likely also the cost to you for checks. Contributions can be weekly, semi-monthly, bi-weekly, or monthly and can be adjusted at any time. See Lesa if you have any questions or would like her to set it up for you. You can also enroll yourself by clicking on the Vanco graphic on our website, messiahkenosha.org.
- ✘ **POINSETTIAS:** Please submit poinsettia payments today.
- ✘ **CHRISTMAS GIVING:** Twelve youths at the Shalom Center are in need of gifts this Christmas. Tags with wish lists for each youth are posted in the fellowship hall. If you would like to shop for someone in need, please take the tag with the wish list and leave your name and phone number on the matching tag. Wrapped gifts should be returned to church by Sunday, December 21st. See Kris Kochman or Amy Vallis with any questions.

+CONTRIBUTIONS+

Lord's Work contributions budget YTD as of 12/12:	\$256,500
Lord's Work contributions received YTD as of 12/12:	\$197,490
Difference:	-\$59,010
Restricted contributions YTD as of 12/12:	\$38,619

ATTENDANCE 12/7: 75

BIRTHDAYS

12/14 John Hernandez
Jude Nevius
12/17 Kelvin Nelson
Tamara Weathersby
12/19 Karen Nichols

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

12/16 Andrew Gerlach
12/19 John Adams

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT MESSIAH

Christmas Eve	4:30 pm	Service of Lessons & Carols
	11:00 pm	Midnight Divine Service
Christmas Day	9:00 am	Christmas Divine Service