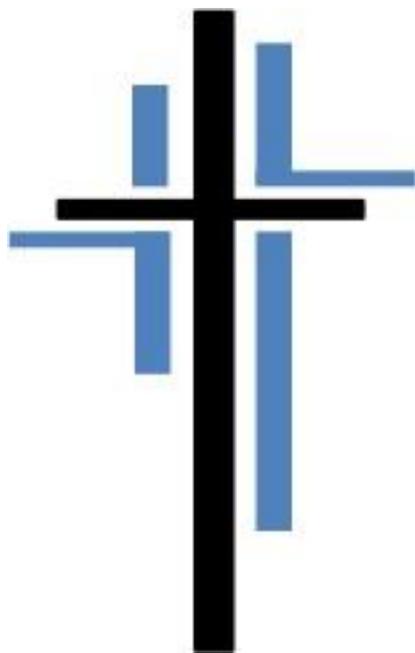


EMAIL BLAST FOR DECEMBER 6, 2020



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

December 6, 2020

Hearing God's Call & Responding in Love,
We Share Jesus With All!

NOTE: The order of worship for TONIGHT'S MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICE is at the bottom of this blast, after the Sunday announcements. The link is there, also.

FROM PASTOR ED

John the Baptist came proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, and prepared Jesus' way into the world of 1st century Palestine. God told Isaiah to comfort his people who had suffered long

enough. Repentance and the comfort of God's promise are two of the foundations of our Advent preparations. Just as surely as we need God's comfort today, our recognition of our need may also remind and reveal to us those places where we need to turn away from ourselves and turn back to our God.

This Wednesday our Lenten Worship Services begin borrowing of the story of "It's A Wonderful Life," to examine some of the themes of the season. Service begins at 6:00 pm and following worship we will leave Zoom open for a bit and will encourage anyone who wants to stay to turn on their cameras and have a virtual coffee hour. I will even have a couple of discussion questions to keep things lively.

Remember to send me pictures of your Nativity sets/scenes. The pictures that have come in so far are so neat, I can't wait to share them with you.

CHECK OUT PASTOR ED'S PODCAST AT pastor-ed.com.

OUR 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP IS ALSO AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, contact the church office for the link.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

+ + + + +

Prelude *My Secret Garden*, by Jason Tonioli Joyce Wanamaker
You are invited to use this time of musical offering to prepare for worship, to open yourself to God, our Father, his Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, present in this place.

Welcome

Congregation please stand

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God, who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy, who fills the hungry with good things.

C: Amen.

P: Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Faithful God,

C: we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil surround us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

P: God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW # 249

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tiding of the King of Kings.

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

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.

Liturgy (sung)

ELW p.138

Kyrie

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Canticle of Praise – Glory to God in the highest

ELW p. 139

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: 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.

Congregation may be seated

Lighting the Advent Candle

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW # 240, v. 2

Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

Special Music

He Is the Gift

Chuck Wanamaker

Adventures in Liturgy

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13** (congregation reads responsively)

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.**Gospel Announcement**

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Mark, the first chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.*Congregation please stand***Gospel Reading**

Mark 1:1-8

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ*Congregation may be seated***Sermon**

Pastor Ed Foster

Hymn of the Day

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

ELW # 256

“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

*Congregation please stand***Profession of Faith–Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,**

maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

Presentation of Our Offerings

Offering Prayer

All: Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

Holy Communion

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choir of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (spoken)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our savior.

Congregation may be seated

Distribution (please open your communion packet)

P: The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you.

Congregation please stand

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Congregation may be seated

Announcements

Sending Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

ELW # 254
Tune: Hyfrydol

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Dismissal

P: Hearing God's call and responding in love,
C: **we share Jesus with all!**

Postlude

I Wonder As I Wander, arr. R. Hartsell

Joyce Wanamaker

Fellowship Time

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WORSHIP LEADERS

PastorEd Foster
Organist/PianistJoyce Wanamaker
Choir Director.....Tracy Garrett
Handbells Director..... Katie Heaford

10:00 AM

Altar Guild..... Melba Bangert
Liturgist Vanessa Hebrank
Lector..... Teri Stout
Sound Technician Michael Wagner

COMING THIS WEEK

December 6-13

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion followed by fellowship time on Zoom
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Midweek advent Worship (on Zoom) “It’s a Wonderful Life in Christ”
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Worship & Music Committee (on Zoom)
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion followed by fellowship time on Zoom

† *Prayer Concerns* †

OUR MEMBERS

Ron & Jane Kornfeind—recovering at home from COVID-19

Shirley Clark— recovering at Arrowhead Senior Living

Jim Ziehl—serious health concerns

Delaney Brumm—prayers for Mayo Clinic doctors as they establish a care plan

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Lisa Lind—prayers for tumor reduction & good test results on December 8 (Kat Lacroix's niece)

Linda Wagner—complications of COVID-19 (Michael Wagner's mother)

Christian condolences & hope are extended to Nancy Caldwell & to the congregation of West Lake Christian Church on the death of Pastor Kelly Caldwell on December 1.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Mary Bowton

J.C. Buck

Bill Corliss

Kelly Covey

Pr. Kimberly Cunningham

Dave Deily

Marianne Howley

Kay Hunt

Mike Janesch

Bev Kidder

Tracy Kidder

Linda Kimberling

Jim Lane

Gene Melton

Julie Patterson

Helen Pragman

Diane Reams

Loren Saathoff

Pat Shank

Rose Marie Unrein

Joan Wilken

Clarion Winzenburg

Bob Worthley

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock

Eric Blomberg

Ben Brammeier

Shade Bullock

Aaron Davis

Tanner Glodt

Kristine Hubbard

Jason Ites

Jason Judge

Nathan Karls

Adam Kralina

Jordan Lindeman

Glenn Maddock
Tristan Morgan
Adam Peterson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 6

WELCOME TO KENT MEMORIAL Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our savior. If you are visiting for the first time or searching for a church home, please email the church, office@kentmemorial.com, and share your address and phone number.

CARE CORE for December is Linda Williams, 573-374-9147.

POINSETTIAS AT THE ALTAR If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia to a loved one, please email or call the church office – office@kentmemorial.com, 573-374-5267. Altar Guild requests a donation of \$14.50 per poinsettia.

NOTES--

- Communication to members and friends will continue via weekly email blast concerning upcoming services and associated guidelines.
- If you need to schedule time on Zoom for your meeting or Bible Study, call the church office.
- Communion will be celebrated every Sunday with the pre-filled wafer/cup combination. You may stop by the church to pick one up for the on-line service.

ADVENT SERVICES We will begin our mid-week Advent services this Wednesday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. The theme is “Our Greatest Gift: A Wonderful Life in Christ,” based around the movie, “It’s a Wonderful Life.” From Pastor Ed: The movie is a Christmas classic. George, Mary, Clarence and even grumpy old Mr. Potter, have become a part of our holiday experience, the sound track so often playing in the background of tree decorating and cookie baking. But in the background of this movie are serious questions about meaning and value and purpose. Who knew George Bailey was an existentialist?! George and the gang will lead us through these days leading up to Christmas reminding us that it is Christ who makes our lives precious, and because He does, they are precious indeed.

Week One: Everyone’s Praying for George

Week Two: The Town Comes Together

Week Three: The Angel Proclaims

Following worship we will leave Zoom open for a bit and will encourage anyone who wants to stay to turn on their cameras and have a virtual coffee hour.

To join the midweek Advent services on Zoom, contact the church office.

A TABLE between the main sets of doors into the church has individual communion servings, the latest newsletter, a new phone directory, the daily devotional materials, and a lot more. Also, there is a basket for you to drop off your giving envelopes. If you need the door code, call Tracy in the church office, 573-374-5267, or on her cell at 214-206-5807. Or you may mail your offering to the church: Kent Memorial PO Box 155 Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST UPDATE (573-374-4425) Volunteers are needed at CFC for December 15, 17 and 19. **IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT JIM MELLODY OR CHUCK WANAMAKER SO WE KNOW WHO TO EXPECT.** Currently the store is operating on a week by week basis out of concerns for the health of volunteers. If store is closed during this time period, you will be notified. The number of families in need has increased and will continue to increase during this season. Thanks to all.

CfC needs: flour, sugar, beans, salad dressings, ketchup, and mustard. Also gently used shoes.

CHRISTMAS AT KENT MEMORIAL

December 2	6:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Worship
December 9	6:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Worship
December 16	6:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Worship
December 24	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

We begin our mid-week Advent services this Wednesday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom, “It’s a Wonderful Life in Christ.”

December 2: Everyone’s Praying for George

December 9: The Town Comes Together

December 16: The Angel Proclaims

Following worship we will leave Zoom open for a bit and will encourage anyone who wants to stay to turn on their cameras and have a virtual coffee hour.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OUR GREATEST GIFT ~ A Wonderful Life in Christ

Midweek Advent Service

December 2, 2020

Everyone’s Praying for George

*Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
That the mountains might quake at your presence. Isaiah 64:1*

Prelude Immanuel (From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable) Joyce Wanamaker

Welcome

Call to Worship

¹Give ear to my words, O LORD;
give heed to my sighing.

²**Listen to the sound of my cry,
my King and my God,
for to you I pray.**

³O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;
in the morning I plead my case to you, and watch.

⁴**For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil will not sojourn with you.**

⁵The boastful will not stand before your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.

⁶**You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful.**

⁷But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,
will enter your house,
I will bow down toward your holy temple
in awe of you.

⁸**Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness
because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.**

Service of Light

Holden Evening Prayer

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW # 257

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh;
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Prayer of the Day

All: We pray to you, dear Lord, that you would watch over each one of us as we await the arrival of your Son Jesus, to our towns and into our hearts. Let his presence be a welcome blessing to us all, and may we grow to love him more and more as we live our lives and work for him to his glory. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 64:1-9

Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

The Movie Clip

It's a Wonderful Life

Homily

Everyone's Praying for George

Pastor Foster

Benediction

Final Blessing

Holden Evening Prayer

Postlude

Deck the Halls, arr. B. Barrett

Joyce Wanamaker

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this evening. Our hope is that this Advent season will be special for each of you as you prepare to welcome the Christ Child.

Thank you, Dan Garrett for manning the sound room.

Thank you, Vanessa Hebrank for sharing Holden Evening Prayer.

Next Wednesday we meet again at 6:00 p.m. to continue our Advent exploration of the theme "Our Greatest Gift ~ *The Town Comes Together*."

Our Advent Offerings are designated to be shared with Community for Christ and Helping Hands Homeless Shelter.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held at 6:00 p.m. on December 24. Special Music will begin at approximately 6:40 p.m. Bring your family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the birth of Jesus.