

EMAIL BLAST FOR DECEMBER 20, 2020



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

December 20, 2020

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

FROM PASTOR ED

With the pandemic still being a concern the Council and I have decided to continue to only offer our worship services via ZOOM for the time being. As you can imagine this is an incredibly difficult decision to make, and one we didn't make lightly. We will continue to work to make our services as meaningful as possible under these extraordinary circumstances and continue to pray that we can be together physically as well as spiritually very soon. The council will meet again early in January to reassess the situation, and we will celebrate the birth of our Lord with all our hearts on Christmas Eve.

In order for us to have candlelight for our Christmas Eve candlelight service, there will be candles and holders in the church entry for you to pick up, along with bulletins and communion. There will also be glowstick candles for those little ones who can't hold a candle quite yet.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Mary receives the amazing news that she is to be the mother of the Lord. We can only imagine the range of emotions that she must have felt, but whatever they were she replied in faith, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." As we look forward now to Christmas even and especially as different as it will be this year, that same Christ Child, will make his home with us, and we can respond with Mary, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord."

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

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

To join a worship service, call the church office, 573-374-5267, to get the link.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

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Prelude

Sing We Now of Christmas, arr. M. McConnell Margo Strothmann &
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

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: The sun of righteousness shall rise with shiny beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Gracious God,

C: We acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins - those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace and joy.

C: Amen

Sharing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

ELW #270

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 (spoken)

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

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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Congregation may be seated

Lighting the Advent Candle

P: The fourth candle of Advent is the candle of JOY.

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

sing the glory of his name;

give to him glorious praise. (*Psalm 66:1-2*)

All: I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. (*John 15:11*)

P: Come again O Lord of joy.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW # 240, v. 4

Special Music

Unto Us a Child is Born

Toni & Michael Wagner &
Joyce Wanamaker

Adventures in Liturgy

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Luke 1:46b-55 (congregation reads responsively)

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.

⁵⁰**You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.**

⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,

⁵²**casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**

⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,**

⁵⁵the promise made to our forbears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Announcement

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Luke, the first chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Congregation please stand

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Congregation may be seated

Sermon

Pastor Ed Foster

Hymn of the Day

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Tune: Hyfrydol

Congregation please stand

Profession of Faith—Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Presentation of Our Offerings

Offering Prayer

P: Generous God,

C: 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 (spoken)

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

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

Joy to the World

ELW # 267

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Once in Royal David's City, H. Gauntlett, arr.V. Collingsworth

Margo Strothmann

WORSHIP LEADERS

PastorEd Foster
Organist/PianistMargo Strothmann
Choir Director..... Tracy Garrett
Handbells Director..... Katie Heaford

10:00 AM

Altar Guild..... Ruth Osterbur
Lector..... Teri Stout
Sound Technician Al Mohling

COMING THIS WEEK

December 20-27

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion followed by fellowship time on Zoom
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight worship on Zoom
Friday		Christmas Day Church office closed
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Circle the Lake with Christmas Cheer— hold Eldon Nursing & Rehab Ctr in prayer
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Hymn & Carol Sing with Holy Communion --in the Kent parking lot

† *Prayer Concerns* †

OUR MEMBERS

Charles Niemann—hospitalized with COVID-19
Ingrid Niemann—recovering at home from COVID-19
Don Stout—recovering from back surgery 12/17
Ron & Jane Kornfeind—recovering at home from COVID-19
Shirley Clark—recovering at Arrowhead Senior Living
Jim Ziehl—serious health concerns

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Ellie Torres—non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (Karen & Bill Pragman's 15-year-old great niece)
Lisa Lind—prayers for wisdom, peace & successful Glioblastoma trial programs (Kat Lacroix's niece)
Keith & Kathy Kresse—health concerns (Barb Gidley's friends)
Sandy Robinson—health concerns (Barb Gidley's sister)

Prayers of Joy that Pastor Kimberly Cunningham is cancer free!
And for John Markby who is home and recovering from COVID-19.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Mary Bowton	Mike Janesch	Diane Reams
Delaney Brumm	Bev Kidder	Loren Saathoff
J.C. Buck	Tracy Kidder	Pat Shank
Bill Corliss	Linda Kimberling	Rose Marie Unrein
Kelly Covey	Jim Lane	Joan Wilken
Dave Deily	Gene Melton	Clarion Winzenburg
Marianne Howley	Julie Patterson	Bob Worthley
Kay Hunt	Helen Pragman	

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
Tristan Morgan
Adam Peterson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 20

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. Personal hearing assistance devices are available in the sanctuary sound room. First time here? Please introduce yourself to Pastor at the end of the service.

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, No later than December 21. Altar Guild requests a donation of \$14.50 per poinsettia.

6:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be on Zoom this year. Pre-service music begins at approximately 5:50 p.m. Worship is at 6:00 p.m. Invite your family and friends to join us on Zoom – you may share the link or ask the church office to send it to them.

HYMN SING IN THE PARKING LOT DECEMBER 27 On Sunday morning, December 27, join Pastor Ed in the Kent parking lot to worship and sing those favorite carols and hymns. Stay in your cars or bring chairs to sit outside by your vehicle. Worship will be at 10:00 a.m. Communion and bulletins will be available as you arrive.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated toys, dolls, doll clothes, and games for the Hurricane Deck Christmas Store. There were 35 families picking out Christmas gifts for 64 children. Christmas continues regardless of COVID.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES are due to the church office by Monday, December 28.

CIRCLE THE LAKEWITH CHRISTMAS CHEER! On Saturday, December 19, performers from the Main Street Music Hall, and other singers, will leave Big Surf Waterpark at 10am to carol around the Lake at nursing and assisted living facilities to spread some Christmas Cheer! Kent Memorial is asked to held in prayer the Eldon Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on that day and throughout this holy season. And, if you want to sing, meet at Big Surf before 10am.

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 NEEDS:

Hearty soups

Cereals, hot and cold

Canned fruit

Catsup / mustard / salad dressings

Home Cleaning (bleach & Mr. Clean)

Toilet paper / paper towels

REMINDER--

- 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.
- Bulletins are available in the entry, beside the communion sets.
- Communication to members and friends will continue via weekly email blast concerning upcoming services and associated guidelines.