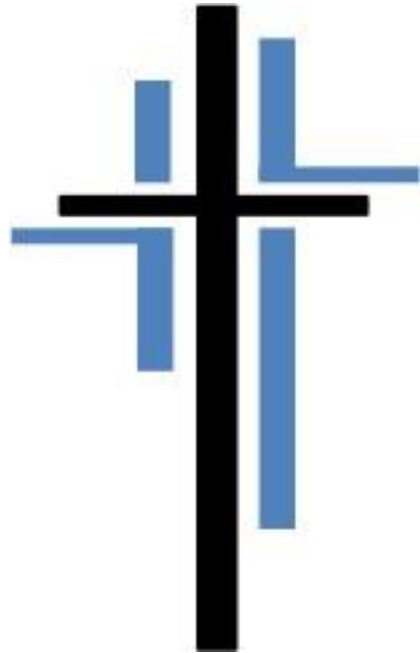


Email Blast for December 18



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

December 18, 2022

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

FROM PASTOR ED

Of all the characters who make an appearance in the Nativity Story, Joseph may be the most enigmatic. He seems almost an afterthought or an embarrassment; the child to be born by his beloved is not his own, yet the child will bear his name and his family heritage. Joseph's brave, even heroic faithfulness can nearly be missed, yet the salvation of the entire world depends on him.

As we approach the holiness of the incarnation, our faithfulness will not always be seen, lauded or praised, but as we respond to God's call, we bring the gifts of God to the world. Like Joseph, your faith,

your love, your willingness to believe God's word and act upon it even when it seems impossible, makes room for the Christ Child to thrive in the world He came to save.

The Kingdom of God it is at hand!
Shalom,
Pastor Ed

OUR WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, contact the church, 573-374-5267.

Welcome to Worship

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

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Prelude

Greensleeves with Coventry Carol

Margo Strothmann

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.

Lighting the Advent Candle -- Joseph

P: Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, he took her as his wife (Matthew 1).

P: Today we remember Joseph, called to believe the most unlikely of stories, to trust God in the face of ridicule and dishonor, and hoping against hope that his beloved Mary was faithful, and the mother of God.

C: Today we give thanks for Joseph, who raised God's Son as his own, believing God and risking everything to protect this holy family. And we give thanks as well for the Josephs among us, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their faith that God has called them to love, protect and nurture their holy families.

P: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, whose love of God transformed his love of his family into heroism, and provided a place for the Christ Child to lay his head.

Prayer of Confession

All: We know the words, O God. We decry the commercialism of the season and bemoan the loss of the meaning of these days of your Son's birth. We shake our heads and wonder at how secular this sacred time has become. We know the words, and yet we have become too-willing participants. We have spent more time shopping, and decorating, and cooking than we have in praying our devotions. Forgive us our sins, O Lord.

Words of Forgiveness

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Lord, give us not the Christmas we have chosen but rather give us the Christmas you have chosen. Give us a glimpse of holiness, and let the hunger and longing well-up in us until we feel compelled to go in search of the one who is lying in a manger.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

ELW # 254

Liturgy Setting 4

ELW p. 147

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.

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 here 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. 148

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 sins 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 hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ed

Special Music

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Jane Maher & Amber Gray

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

Old Testament p. 650

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (congregation reads responsively)

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD! God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

New Testament p. 144

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Announcement

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

New Testament p. 1

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Ed Foster

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW # 257, v. 1 & 4

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: God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Reception of Offerings *Please fill out the red friendship pad and pass it to your neighbor*

Offertory

Veni Emmanuel

Margo Strothmann

Offering Prayer

P: Eternal God,

C: you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Holy Communion

ELW p. 152

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...

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, 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.

Congregation may be seated

Distribution

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.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. You may commune in place using a communion kit, if preferred.

Communion Hymns	<i>Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee</i>	ELW # 836
	<i>O Master, Let Me Walk With You</i>	ELW # 818
	<i>Love Divine, All Loves Excelling</i>	ELW # 631

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	ELW # 267, v. 1 & 2
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The Dismissal

P: Hearing God's call and responding in love,

C: we share Jesus with all!

Postlude	Excerpts from <i>Good King Wenceslas</i>	Margo Strothmann
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Fellowship Time	EVERYONE IS WELCOME
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WORSHIP LEADERS

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

10:00 AM

Altar Guild..... Ruth Osterbur
Greeters/Ushers Bill & Katie Heaford
Liturgist Joyce Burke
Lector.....Judy Ward
Sound & Zoom Technician.....Mike Ward
Coffee Fellowship..... Ruth & Randy Osterbur

COMING THIS WEEK

December 18-25

Today	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts) Handbells Rehearsal
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Community for Christ Volunteers
	6:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Advent Worship & Potluck
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Community for Christ Volunteers
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (live-streamed) with Communion
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (cookies & cocoa)

† *Prayer Concerns* †

OUR MEMBERS

Carolyn Garrett
Linda Kimberling
Marsha Gust
Don Stout
Ken Gerardy

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Blanche Lacroix -- serious health concerns (Sister-in-law of Ray and Kat Lacroix)
Donna Englebert -- speedy knee replacement recovery (friend of Ray and Kat Lacroix)
Marsha Kidwell, Director, Quality Industries – surgery
Ron Ferguson—serious health concerns (friend of Judy & Mike Ward)
Barry Mabe—serious health concerns (son of Peggy & Herb Worker)
Dan Rogers—serious health concerns (friend of Al & Cindy Mohling)

Christian condolences & hope are offered to the family of Pauli Timbrook, who died Dec. 12.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Pam Babcock	Linda Harris	Rev. Bill Peterson
Shirley Clark	Bryan Hastings	Ron Roberts
Evelyn Clements	Mike Holmes	Marcia Robbins
Emma	Marianne Howley	Karen Tischnor
Mary Beth Fair	CF Huff	Ellie Torres
Stacey Flect	Teresa Joslin	Bernie Wiegel
Barbara & Bob Gislason	Terry Miller	Melissa Wiles
Carla Glusing	Larry Mausbach	Larry Wilson
Jerry Hansen	Steve O'Connor	Jody Ziehl
Debbie Hanshaw	Mike Page	

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock	Aaron Davis	Matt Lee
Eric Blomberg	Tanner Glodt	Jordan Lindeman
Ben Brammeier	Kristine Hubbard	Glenn Maddock
Dylan Craig	Jason Ites	Tristan Morgan
Salathiel (Sal) Caudill	Jason Judge	Adam Peterson
Shade Bullock	Adam Kralina	Trent Simmons

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 18

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 sound room. We invite you to stay for coffee and fellowship (and donuts!) after the service. If you are visiting for the first time or searching for a church home, please include your address and phone number on the Red Friendship Pad and let us know. First time here? Please introduce yourself to Pastor at the end of the service.

CARE CORE for December is Eldeen Hanke, 573-873-3579.

JOIN US AS WE BAPTIZE River Lee Morgan on Saturday, December 31, at 11:00 a.m. Parents are Abby (Kruse) and Tristan Morgan.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES continue on Wednesdays at 6pm until December 21. Advent offerings will be shared between Helping Hands Homeless Shelter and Kent's Social Ministry. Following worship each week, we will gather to share a potluck supper. You are invited to bring a dish or dessert to share.

POINSETTIAS Altar Guild has decked the sanctuary with poinsettias. If you would like to dedicate one (or more) of the poinsettias in honor or in memory of a loved one, the cost is \$15 each. Please complete the pink donation form in the bulletin and place it, along with a check made out to ALTAR GUILD, in the offering plate or drop it off in the office. All orders must be received by Sunday, December 18.

FINAL CONCERT TODAY The Greater Lake Area Chorale Christmas season ends this afternoon with our final concert at Christ the King Lutheran, Lake Ozark, at 2pm.

WE'RE IN SOUP SEASON! Each Sunday through the winter, Kathy Fair makes soup for any of us who would like to take some home for lunch so we don't have to cook. Check out this week's offering in the fellowship hall.

COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST (CFC) NEEDS YOU Holiday season is here, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. HELP is needed at Community for Christ on Tues. Dec. 20 and Thur. Dec. 22 for those in need, please sign up. (Closed Dec. 24) **We need 3 to 4 helpers** for retail in addition to men working downstairs. Men need some new assistance with receiving goods and selling. Give CFC a couple of hours your first time. Want to work in food pantry, sort and hang clothes downstairs or bring up additional clothes, make a note when you sign up. Thanks to all that have volunteered and to those who want to try for the first time. Again, **please sign up!** An enjoyable time will be had by all! Merry Christmas to all!

CFC FOR DECEMBER From the Kent representatives on CFC Board, numbers of those helped by CFC from Jan. 2022 through Nov. 2022..... New clients in 2021 (102), new clients in 2022 (142) 40% increase, Families assisted in 2021 (946), in 2022 (1336) 41% increase, Food requests in 2021 (334), in 2022 (489) 45% increase. Thanks to all who have contributed to blue box and volunteered during Kent week. Community for Christ sends a big Thank You to all. Merry Christmas!

Here are a few other things we could use in the food pantry

Cereal (hot & cold)

Condiments, like catsup, mustard, salad dressings, etc.

Cleaning supplies

Size 4 and 5 diapers (our babies are getting bigger!)

Baby wipes

Deodorant (Men & woman)

Shampoo (Woman)

Body wash (Women)

Again thank you so very much!! The food pantry has been very busy. Already this year we have greatly surpassed last year's stats on food, and really on everything.

Karen Mellody

Thrift Store & Outreach Director