

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 2, 2018**

*What is the Divine Service?* If you are new to Calvary, you may have never heard the term ‘Divine Service.’ As Lutherans, we believe that this hour of ‘worship’ is not based on our service to God, but His *divine* service to us. For a basic summary of what we believe is here occurring, please read hymn #602, “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives,” in our hymnal.

+ *Our Christian Communion Statement* +  
The **Sacrament of the Altar** is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for us Christians to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, as instituted by Christ Himself. The Scriptures teach Christians to commune together at the Lord’s Table, dependent on three presuppositions:

- Proper discernment of the bodily presence of Christ (1 Cor. 11:27-29)
- Unity of doctrine and confession (Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor 1:10; Hebr. 13:10)
- A clear conscience toward and love for fellow communicants (Matt. 5:23-24; Rom. 15:5-6);

Therefore, in Christian love and for the safety of all, we ask all who are not yet members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, or those who refuse to be reconciled with fellow penitents, to refrain from communing until you have spoken with the pastor. *Thank you.*

**\*\*\* ORDER OF SERVICE \*\*\***

**LITURGY Divine Service Setting III (p. 184)**

*Insert, Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18; (antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.)*

**Choir Prelude:** “*The Lord at First Did Adam Make*”

**Gathering Hymn:** 331, “The Advent of Our King”

**Advent Hymn:** Insert, “O Come, O Come, Immanuel” (in place of *Gloria in Excelsis*)

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 332, “Savior of the Nations, Come”

**Distribution Hymns:** 341, “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”  
350, “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”  
339, “Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors” (Choir.v3 8:00am)

**\*\*\* SERVING AND ASSISTING TODAY \*\*\***

8:00: Elder: Steve Baker; Ushers: Steve Robertson, Joe Baker, Jim Foerster, Ken Jones  
Acolyte: Kyle Festa

10:30: Elder: Vic Kovachevich; Ushers: Chris Wilson, Gary Eiklor, Dan Fehrman  
Acolyte: Aaron Trenery

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Ron and Nancy Versluys.

+ *In Preparation for the Divine Service* +  
*During the week, the household ought meditate upon the proclamation of the Sunday prior and, late in the week (perhaps Friday and Saturday), familiarize itself with the focus of the Sunday to come. Thus, Next Sunday’s readings: Malachi 3:1-7b, Philippians 1:2-11, Luke 3:1-14*  
**Next Sunday’s chief hymn: 344, “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**  
*All are encouraged – perhaps on Saturday night or early Sunday morning – to make use of “Christian Questions with their Answers” (Section 4 of the Small Catechism), prepared by Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament. Also, individual Confession and Absolution is available each week by appointment.*

**\*\*\* THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES \*\*\***

Today: **Divine Service with Holy Communion** .....8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Bible Class and Sunday School.....9:15 AM  
*Evening Circle Cookie/Craft Sale between services*

Mon.: Board of Trustees.....7:00 PM

Tue.: Board of Elders.....7:00 PM

Wed.: Advent Supper.....5:30 PM  
Confirmation Class.....5:45 PM  
Midweek Advent Service.....7:00 PM  
Choir Practice after service

Sat.: Ladies’ *Book of Concord* Study.....9:00 AM

Sun.: **Divine Service with Holy Communion**..... 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Bible Class and Sunday School.....9:15 AM  
*Advent Dinner & Hymn Sing after late service*

**\*\*\* CHRISTIAN EDUCATION \*\*\***

*We welcome all members and visitors to join with us in learning the life-giving doctrine of Christ! We hope to see you in one or more of the classes below!*

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** This morning’s study of the *Epistle to the Hebrews* continues chapter 7’s discussion of Jesus’ priesthood. What’s the difference between the Aaronic priesthood and the “priesthood according to Melchizedek”? Join us this morning, 9:20-10:15, as we read and meditate upon this wonderfully comforting epistle!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** Children are encouraged to join us this morning at 9:15 in the main gathering area downstairs. For the next few weeks, children have a brief study of Advent lessons, then use their hour to prepare their Christmas program for the 16th! This morning: “The Birth of John Foretold.”

**CATECHISM (CONFIRMATION) CLASSES** This Wednesday, we begin our Advent schedule: class will meet 5:45-6:35, following the dinner prayer and the opportunity for students to bring dinner upstairs to eat while they learn. Parents, please be aware of any need for students to be assisted in getting upstairs with their food promptly and ‘successfully’! Thanks!

**CALVARYBOOK CLUB** Our review of our current book, *The Benedict Option*, is scheduled for this Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:45pm. RSVPs are appreciated, as Pastor makes plans to provide refreshments for the evening. Hope to see you Friday!

**BOOK OF CONCORD STUDY GROUPS** How does the Book of Concord teach us our confession of the faith for daily life in a fallen world? All are invited and encouraged to benefit from meeting every third Saturday in the Gathering Room with one of the following groups:

**Ladies:** Our next study is *this Saturday, December 8, 9:00-10:30*. We consider the Solid Declaration’s discussion of “The Third Use of God’s Law” and how that applies to today’s preaching and life. All ladies are invited to join us in the Gathering Room.

**Men:** Our next study is (tentatively) scheduled for *Saturday, December 29, 9:00-10:30*. We continue to discuss Luther’s explanation of the Ten Commandments. We wrap up 2018 with discussion of the Third Commandment. All men are invited to join us in the Gathering Room!

**\*\*\*ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\***

**Welcome in the name of Christ!** Whether you are a visitor with us this morning or a member of Calvary, we would appreciate you filling out the pew registry located toward the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to please read the introduction to the Sacrament of the Altar as found inside the front cover of the bulletin. *Thank you.*

**NEWSLETTER** *Calvary News* is now out for the December-January edition. You'll notice that we have 'streamlined' the newsletter to cut production costs and remove/reduce items that may be redundant to weekly bulletin announcements. Please remember that our website has useful information and listening/learning opportunities.

**ADVENT LUNCHEON** Next Sunday is our Advent Luncheon and Hymn Sing! The catered luncheon begins around 12:00 (see the menu on the bulletin board). You can still sign up, but please do so by tomorrow at 9 a.m., as we need to submit an approximate count to the caterer. Desserts can be brought in by any members that wish to share their sweets. Any help to clean up is appreciated, so that we can all enjoy the hymn sing after dinner, (beginning around 1:15pm.)

**ADVENT SOUP-SUPPERS** Beginning this Wednesday, December 5, we will have Wednesday night soup-suppers prior to the Advent service. We start eating about 5:30pm but food is available until around 6:15. Clean-up begins at 6:30, so that everyone can attend the 7:00 Advent service. If you would like to share a dish to pass, please sign up outside the church office as to which week you would like to bring your dish. Thank you!

**GIVING TREE IN NARTHEX** All the tags have been taken from the Giving Tree for the children at Christ the King, Chicago! Just a reminder: Donation deadline is next Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. *Thank you for your generosity!*

**WARM CLOTHING DONATIONS** The Ladies Service Guild would like to thank all who donated to the Elgin Wayside warm clothing collection. The donations will certainly be useful and appreciated in the cold winter months ahead now upon us.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** Today is the last day to sign up to donate a poinsettia plant to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. The cost is \$10.00 per plant. Sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. *You may leave the payment on the secretary's desk. Thank you!*

**SUNDAY COFFEE & DONUT SET-UP** The sign-up sheet for coffee and donuts will soon be posted for the new year. Please consider helping to set-up or clean-up on a Sunday, for everyone to enjoy a cup of coffee during Bible Study. Many thanks to all have helped in the past!

**SANCTUARY UPDATE** Over the next two weeks, the sanctuary will progress to looking like the project is about 75% done. Woodworking details are being completed this week, staining is wrapping up, the crucifix is about to be put on the wall, and the chancel floor installation begins one week from tomorrow... In the new year, our focus will be on implementing the remaining large items: the furnishings, the altar rail, the stained glass. Indeed, our committee's volunteers will enjoy the Christmas pause! Thanks for your support and patience!



**CALVARY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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**ADVENT MIDWEEK SERIES: "THE WORD MADE FLESH"**  
**Evening Prayer: Wednesdays, 7:00pm**  
**Dinner: 5:30pm-6:30pm**