

The Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2018



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

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The Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2018

8:30 & 11:00 am - Holy Communion Services

9:45 am - Sunday School & Bible Classes for All Ages

1:30 pm - Christmas in Brass Concert

Monday, 7:00 pm - Longest Night Service

Order of Service: (8:30) Divine Service Setting Four, LSB page 203
(11:00) See Printed Order of Service

Hymns: 338, 347, (357, 803), 350

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (Pew Bible, Page 914)
Philippians 4:4-7 (Pew Bible, Page 1140)
St. Luke 7:18-28 (Pew Bible, Page 1000)

Sermon Zephaniah 3:14-20

“DAUGHTER OF ZION, REJOICE!”

Special Music: Anne Forler & Jennifer Massicotte (*organ/piano duet*)

Serving in God’s House Today: Pastor Nolan Astley (Preacher), Pastor Roland Syens (Officiant), Pastor Robert Morley (8:30 Communion Assistant), Pastors William Chuol & Gary Weber (11:00 Communion Assistants), Jennifer Massicotte (Organist), Finnley Gallacher (8:30 Acolyte), Amy Khazaei (11:00 Acolyte), Isaiah Bridgemohan, Kristopher Griffin (8:30 Sound Operators), Jack Chuol, Claude Massicotte (11:00 Sound Operators).

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers this morning we remember ***the families of Ellie Jackola and Howard Knipfel***, both long-time members of our congregational family. Ellie passed away this past Monday in North Bay, ON and Howard was called home to the Lord on Tuesday. Howard’s funeral is tomorrow at 11 am at Walser’s Funeral home. A memorial service for Ellie will be held at Holy Cross next spring. In addition we pray for ***God’s peace to be upon the nations***. We especially remember ***the ongoing civil war in South Sudan*** as members of the Nuer community observe the 5th anniversary of a massacre in which over 20,000 Nuer people were killed in ethnic violence. We pray also that God would bless ***our outreach into the community this Christmas season***, especially as we host the Christmas Brass concert this afternoon and the Longest Night Service tomorrow evening

Holy Baptism Today at the 11:00 am service, we rejoice as ***Owen Barry Cloney*** is received into the family of God in the waters of Holy Baptism. Owen is son of Christopher & Kellie (née Duench) Cloney. His baptismal sponsors are Graham & Jillian Duench.

Christmas in Brass Concert here at Holy Cross **today at 1:30 pm**. This neighbourhood Christmas Concert is a Brass Ensemble featuring Holy Cross' own Mitchell Kehn. A freewill offering will be taken.

Today's Education Hour...

Sunday School will be practicing for the Christmas Service in the sanctuary this morning.

Adult Bible Class will continue to look at the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah recorded by Isaiah in his "Servant Songs." Today we will look at the 3rd Servant Song to see how it points to Christ, but also guides our work as a church today. Grab a coffee and join the discussion beginning at 10:00 am **Adult Bible Class will meet in the Green Basement this morning.**

Coming Events...

Longest Night Service...Christmas can be a difficult time for those who are experiencing loss in their lives, especially the loss of a loved one. Come join us at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for a special service of God's hope and comfort, **tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.** Refreshments to follow.

Children's Christmas Service Practice this **Saturday, December 22!** If you are in grades 3-7 please come to the church at 9:30 am. If you are in preschool to grade 2, please come at 10:30 am. We look forward to having you join us!

Calling all Bakers It's that time of year again where we ask if you can share some of your treats for the luncheon after the Children's Christmas Service next **Sunday, December 23**. The fellowship committee would appreciate **nut-free** cookies, squares, or Christmas cake to serve with the sandwiches, veggies & dip, cheese, tea & coffee. We hope to see everyone in the gym for some fellowship and a bite to eat.

St. John's Kitchen On **Thursday December 27**, we have an opportunity to serve a hot lunch to the homeless and working poor in our community. There are many different opportunities to participate in this day, as it truly takes a team of people for this ministry. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parlour if you would like to take part. Contact Anita Syens if you have any questions 519-896-7574

Youth Lock-In – Not tired out from the holidays? **December 28-29** will be the Youth Lock-In for Grades 8-12. Keep your eyes on your email for more details.

Moncton Mission presentation during the Adult Bible class time on **Sunday, December 31**. Join us in the Sanctuary to hear how God's Word was shared by members of Holy Cross at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Moncton, NB.

Men's Retreat will be held at the **Guelph Bible Centre on March 1 and 2, 2019**. The speaker will be Rev. Charles St-Onge, Pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal. The topic will be Science and the Bible. The cost will be the same as the 2015 retreat, \$125 for lodging, meals and snacks or \$85 if no accommodation required.

Prime Time Bible Study! Join us from 1:30-2:30 to delve into God's word and what it means for our lives today. This will be our last Bible Study until January 10.

Prime Time – There is NO Prime Time Event on the last Thursday of December! We will see you on **Thursday, January 31**.

Please Note...

Advent Devotional Booklets are available at the Welcome Centre. Why not sit around the supper table, read a bit and meditate on God's Word, of the Advent and coming Christmas season? These can be rich moments for all families.

Christmas Invitations are available at the Welcome Centre. Invite a friend, family member or church member you haven't seen in a while to join us during this joyous season.

Fill the Clothing Tree in the Parlour! We distribute gifts of toques, mittens, scarves, socks & children's items right after Christmas.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday Attendance:	56 & 384 & 220	Total 660	('17 – 333)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 36 Staff: 12	Total 48	('17 – 58)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 43 Staff: 1	Total 44	('17 – 56)
YABS:	Pupils: 8 Staff: 2	Total 10	('17 – 7)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 5 Staff: 1	Total 6	('17 – 8)

Weekly Calendar

Monday December 17 to Sunday December 23, 2018

Monday	Longest Night Service, Church	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Board of Stewardship, <i>Church Library</i>	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Church Band, <i>Mezzanine</i>	8:30 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prime Time Bible Study, <i>Church Library</i>	1:30 p.m.
	Church Choir & Dinner, <i>Church, Concordia Club</i>	6:30 p.m.
Saturday	Sunday School Rehearsal, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 p.m.
Sunday	The Fourth Sunday in Advent	
	Divine Service, Church	8:30 a.m.
	Children's Christmas Service, Church	10:00 a.m.
	Congregational Christmas Fellowship, <i>Gym</i>	11:15 a.m.
	Nuer Language Service, Church	2:00 p.m.