

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 23, 2018



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READINGS

Micah 5:2-5a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

In Our Prayers

The family of Donna Adams, who recently passed away due to pneumonia and complications of MS. Blessed are the Saints who die in the Lord.

For Kimi Jannsen, for her safe recovery from surgery and health of mother and baby.

For Judi Weigle, sister of Donna Holdridge, who was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: At the Jordan River, led by Joshua, Israel leaves the desert in this week's Sunday School lesson "Entering the Promised Land." In Baptism, led by Christ, we leave behind the desert of sin, death, and Satan so we may enter into the promised land of heaven. Parents might ask, "What did the Israelites create to remind them of their crossing into the Promised Land? What do you have to remind you of your Baptism?"

2019 BOX ENVELOPES: The 2019 box envelopes are ready for pickup out in the Narthex. **Please note: ALL 2019 box numbers have changed from 2018's, so your current number will *not* be the one you'll use starting this January.** For members who don't currently have a box number for a fiscal end-of-year tax statement and would like to start

tracking your Sunday tithes for your 2019 taxes, contact the office today!
We have leftover available box numbers up for grabs!

ANNUAL "THANK YOU" GIFT TO CHURCH STAFF: As we move into a new church year, let's take a moment to be thankful for the faithful preaching, teaching, and worship that we receive at Messiah. There are a number of workers in our church who make that possible. We traditionally collect a monetary "thank you gift" for our dedicated church staff to present to them at our Christmas Eve service. I ask each of you to prayerfully consider contributing to these gifts. To do so, please place your gift in a designated envelope and put it in the offering bag or deliver it to the church office by **today!**

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE: Christmas Eve's Candlelight Service starts at **7:00 pm** with readings and hymns.

CHRISTMAS DAY: The matins service for Christmas starts at **9:30 am** this year. We look forward to seeing you as we welcome the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS IS A-COMIN'! GET YOUR GREETING CARDS NOW! Don't wait until the eleventh hour! Eliminate one more source of holiday stress by getting your Christmas cards now. Just \$1.00, ours are a fraction of the price from the retail stores. Come pick up yours today!

THIS MONTH'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANGES TO THE NURSERY: Due to some challenges related to the nanny service we have been using to staff our nursery on Sunday mornings, the Church Council has decided to end our contract with this staffing company as of the last Sunday in November. This decision was also made due to the large cost associated with providing this service (totaling \$6,000+ this fiscal year so far). The nursery will continue to be available for use during both services and the Education Hour, but there will no longer be a paid nanny present to provide childcare. Therefore, parents will need to remain present with their children while making use

of the nursery. We are working to set up an audio connection for the TV in the nursery that currently only broadcasts video of the service. If there is enough interest, we can work to arrange a system for volunteers to help staff the nursery during the Education Hour. If you have any specific questions or concerns about this change, please contact Lisa Lindstrom in person or via email (lisa.lindstrom78@gmail.com).

MEN'S NIGHT OUT: The next Men's Night Out will be held on Monday, January 14th at 6:00 pm at Mazatlan Restaurant, located at 6003 244th St. SW in Mountlake Terrace. Please RSVP to Brian Danforth, 206-363-5654.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The first Wednesday of each month after the midweek service, we serve a hot meal to the attendees. We need volunteers to prepare a casserole, salad and dessert for 8 people. Please contact Jean Mindemann, 206-526-9523, if you can help.

AMAZONSMILE: Are you an Amazon customer? Did you know you can have a small portion of each purchase donated to Messiah Lutheran Church if you order via AmazonSmile? The merchandise and prices are exactly the same as Amazon.com—but the benefit is that .5% of your purchase will be donated to a charity of your choice. You can set Messiah Lutheran Church as the beneficiary. Go to Amazon.com, and do a search for AmazonSmile to learn more about this program.

A MOBILE LUTHERAN BIBLE STUDY...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Birth of John the Baptist, The Book of Obadiah, Thy Kingdom Come, The Apostle Thomas, Ahab Steals Naboth's Vineyard and more. You can listen live or at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

DAILY READINGS

December 23: Is. 43:25–44:20; Rev. 11:1–19; **24:** Is. 44:21–45:13, 20–25; Rev. 12:1–17; **25:** Is. 49:1–18; Matt. 1:1–17; **26:** Is. 49:22–26; 50:4–51:8, 12–16; Matt. 1:18–25; **27:** Is. 51:17–52:12; Matt. 2:1–12; **28:** Is. 52:13–54:10; Matt. 2:13–23; **29:** Is. 55:1–13; Luke 1:1–25.



Messiah Lutheran Church's annual

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24th, 7:00 pm

Join us.

