

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday in Advent

December 1, 2019



INTROIT

Psalm 118:25-28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.

Spoken:

- P** Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; *
righteous and having sal- | vation.
- G** Save us, we pray, | O Lord! *
O Lord, we pray, give | us success!
- P** Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord! *
We bless you from the house | of the Lord.
- G** The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us. *
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!
- P** You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you; *
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.
- G** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; *
righteous and having sal- | vation.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 21:1-11

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: "A Prophet Serves" is the title for this week's lesson. Having been raised in the tabernacle from the time he was a young child, Samuel continues to serve Eli the priest. One night, Samuel runs to Eli, thinking Eli is calling his name. Eli sends Samuel back to bed, assuring him he had not called. As the pattern repeats, Eli tells Samuel to lie down once again but then next time respond, "Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears" (1 Samuel 3:9). When the Lord calls once again, He gives

Samuel a vision of how Samuel will succeed Eli rather than Eli's "worthless" sons. Discuss how God used the prophet Samuel to do His work.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS: Please be sure to pick up a devotional for our next Advent series, Behold the Child, in the narthex.

FOUND: A piece of women's jewelry has been found in the parking lot following last Sunday's service. If this is yours, please contact the office with a description of the object, office@messiahseattle.org or 206-524-0024.

IN NEED OF GIFT CARDS? The holidays are coming and once again, Concordia requests that you think SCRIP for all your gift card needs. **We will be at our usual location in the hallway outside the Fellowship Hall.** Stop by and see us, get some things checked off you list and support our school in the process!

ANNUAL "THANK YOU" GIFT TO CHURCH STAFF: As we move beyond Thanksgiving and into a new church year, let's take a moment to be thankful for the faithful preaching, teaching and worship that we experience at Messiah. There are a number of workers in our church who make that possible. Messiah traditionally collects a monetary "thank you gift" for our dedicated church staff to present to them at our Christmas Eve service. We 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 December 22nd.**

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIDWEEK ADVENT SCHEDULE: Mark your calendars again! The midweek Advent services have been scheduled as listed below. Dinner will be held at 6:00 pm and service will be at 7:00 pm these evenings.

Behold the Child

December 4: For You And All The World

December 11: To Set You Free From All Your Sorrow

December 18: For You, To Bear Your Flesh In Weakness

28TH ANNUAL NATIVITY EXHIBIT: Nativity Exhibit NW is excited and grateful to be returning to Messiah Lutheran Church again for the 2019 exhibition. This year, as in prior years, they would like to request some additional volunteers to help ensure this year's success. They are asking for the following:

- Wednesday, December 4th - We would love to have volunteers to help with taping the boxes we use to build the lift structure. This is a repetitious but easy job that can be done sitting if needed. We would welcome anyone who would be willing to help us between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, for whatever length of time works for them.
- Friday, December 6th and Saturday, December 7th - We would welcome volunteers to help with keeping the refreshment table supplied, directing guests on arrival, and answering general questions.

If you are able and willing to donate your time, please follow up with Leslie at nativityexhibitnw@gmail.com.

ADVENT DINNER – DECEMBER 4, 2019: Messiah Ladies Guild will serve baked potato and salad from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. The freewill offering collected will go to Lutheran Women's Missionary League mission projects.

THIS MONTH'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE IN THE NARTHEX! Have you grabbed yours for the holiday this year? Only one dollar, this is a great way to help support Messiah's missions. Grab yours today!

DECORATING MESSIAH WITH POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS: Members who wish to contribute to the purchase of poinsettias for Christmas will find a sign-up sheet next to the flower chart in the hallway. The cost for each poinsettia is \$12.00. Please use a designated envelope, labeled **Poinsettia**, and place it in the collection with your Sunday offerings. You are welcome to take your flowers home after Christmas Day service.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT: The next Men's Night Out will be held on Monday, December 9th at 6:00 pm at Mama Melina Ristorante, located at 5101 25th Ave NE. Please RSVP to Brian Danforth, 206-363-5654.

LADIES' GUILD ANNUAL "OUT TO LUNCH": Ladies' Guild will be meeting for our annual luncheon on Wednesday, December 11th at Standford's Restaurant, located at 401 NE Northgate Way. We get started at noon and all Messiah ladies are invited to attend. RSVP to Marjorie Longan, at 206-525-8131. Hope to see you there!

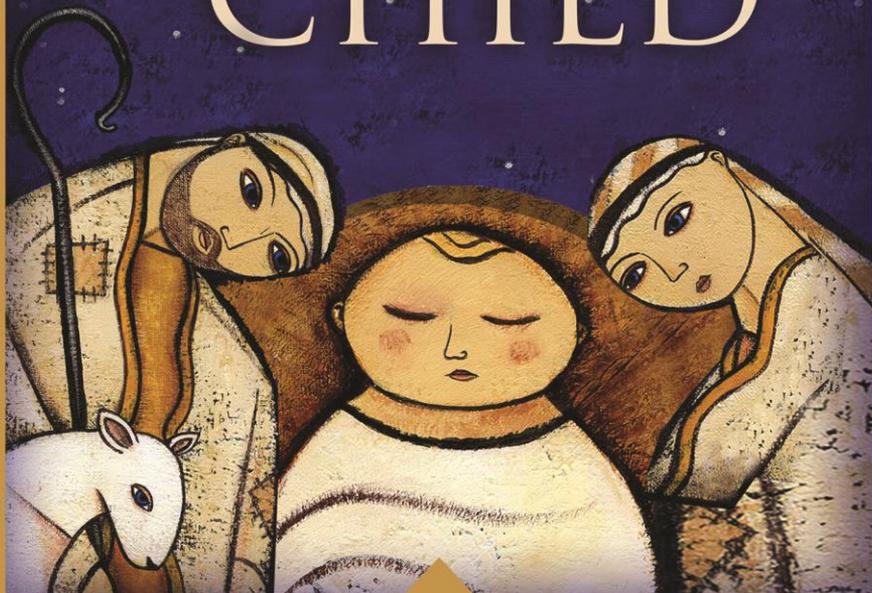
HELPERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATING: Advent is already here and it's time to get the church building ready for Christmas. A small group of volunteers is needed to help decorate the sanctuary on December 14th beginning at 9:00 am. Additionally, all the children are invited to help decorate the tree in the sanctuary after the Christmas program practice on December 14th around 1:00 pm. Contact Josh Pemberton at 425-221-1119 for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Fill your hearts with joy as we await our Savior's birth at Behold the Child, the children's Christmas program, which will take place during the education hour on Sunday December 15th. The program is expected to begin at 9:45 am. The children will be practicing songs and group speaking lines during Sunday School in the weeks to come, and we will have a dress rehearsal on Saturday December 14th at 10:00 am. It will be very important for all the children to be in attendance at the rehearsal so they feel comfortable with how the program will run in the sanctuary, and the solo speakers will get to practice speaking into the mic. If your child cannot attend the dress rehearsal, please let Lisa Lindstrom know ASAP.

EDUCATION HOUR REFRESHMENTS! Starting in January, we are asking that you sign up to provide the refreshments for the education hour on Sundays. You can provide whatever food that you would like but remember to include set-up and clean-up. Sign-up list will be posted in the kitchen. Questions? Call Jean Mindemann @ 206-526-9523.

A DAILY, 15-MINUTE, VERSE-BY-VERSE BIBLE STUDY...The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. Pastor Weedon will be leading a study this week on John 5: The Healing at the Pool on the Sabbath, Jesus Is Equal with God, The Authority of the Son, Witnesses to Jesus and more. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org and on the LPR mobile app.

BEHOLD *The* CHILD



JOIN US FOR THIS ADVENT
MIDWEEK SERIES

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
Advent Dinners at 6:00 pm

December 4: For You And All The World
December 11: To Set You Free From All Your Sorrow
December 18: For You, To Bear Your Flesh In Weakness

+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE**
+ + +



What is Advent?

Advent marks the beginning of the Church Year. Advent is made up of the four Sundays that come right before Christmas. In other words, the deeper into Advent you go, the closer you get to Christmas Day. For Christians, the First Sunday in Advent is kind of like the “New Year’s Day” of the Church Year calendar.

Why do we celebrate Advent?

The word Advent means “coming.” During Advent, we prepare for the coming of the One who was born that first Christmas in a stable. We prepare for the One who saved us from sin, death and the power of the devil: our Lord Jesus Christ! What a wonderful and exciting time of preparation!



At home, in order to help your children better prepare for the birth of Jesus, try using an Advent devotional booklet provided by the church for family devotions.

