

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday After Christmas

December 29, 2019



INTROIT

Jeremiah 31:15-17; antiphon: Hosea 11:1



- P** When Israel was a child, I | loved him,*
and out of Egypt I | called my son.
- C** Thus says the Lord: “A voice is heard in | Ramah,*
lamentation and bitter | weeping.
- P** Rachel is weeping for her | children;*
she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they | are no
more.”
- C** Thus says the Lord: “Keep your voice from | weeping,*
and your | eyes from tears,
- P** for there is a reward for your work, de- | clares the Lord,*
and they shall come back from the land of the | enemy.
- C** There is hope for your future, de- | clares the Lord,*
and your children shall come back to their own | country.”
- C** 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** When Israel was a child, I | loved him,*
and out of Egypt I | called my son.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READINGS

Isaiah 63:7-14; Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:13-23

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today we will be wrapping up our first

unit of the new "Enduring Faith" curriculum, "God Creates a World and a Kingdom", with a review of our journey through the Old Testament up to this point. And we will begin the second unit, "God Redeems His People", next Sunday 1/5/2020. With this second unit, we will span from the divided kingdom of Israel into the New Testament and the start of Jesus' ministry.

2020 BOX ENVELOPES: Messiah uses a box envelope system to track each member's annual giving for that year's taxes. All 2020 box envelopes are ready for pick up now in the Narthex. Please note that nearly ALL 2020 box numbers have changed from 2019's, so your current number will not be the one you'll use starting in January. For that reason, it is imperative that all members recycle their old 2019 envelopes at that time. Don't see a box with your name on it out there? Contact the office and a number will be assigned to you. **Also, please pick up your envelopes today if you have not already done so.**

WE DID IT! GOAL MET! As of Sunday, December 8th, Messiah has reached her fundraising goal to help support LMSNW in their continued ministries in hospitals, care centers, jails and prisons. With our members donations in for this financial campaign, our support means that LMSNW can expand its ministries in King County jails, Kent Regional Justice Center, Monroe Penitentiary and other locations by adding an additional chaplain to their staff. **Thanks for your generosity.** It truly makes a difference in the lives of others.

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Please note, this year we will be will not be holding the Evening Prayer service.

2020 SERVICE SCHEDULES: Don't have access to the internet, but still want access to the Jan – June 2020 schedule for your volunteer service? Fret not! Near the emergency exit perpendicular to the Sacristy door, a wall file folder has been installed. There, all service schedules for all ushers, elders, readers, etc will be found in the appropriately marked folders. Otherwise, all schedules will be updated and reposted periodically.

THIS MONTH'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD DRIVE THANK YOU: The weight of this year's Thanksgiving Food Shower donation received by North Helpline Food Bank came to a total of 489 pounds. Thanks to all our members and their generosity this holiday season.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES: Thank you to those of you who filled a Shoebox for Samaritians Purse. We were able to send off 23 boxes. That will make 23 children who receive these boxes very happy **and** give their family the opportunity to learn about Jesus through the 12-week program they are invited to participate in when receiving the box. You are helping spread the message of the good news, **JESUS**.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT: The next Men's Night Out will be held on Monday, January 6th at 6:00 pm at Scott's Bar & Grill, located at 8115 Lake Ballinger Way in Edmonds. Please RSVP to Brian Danforth, 206-363-5654.

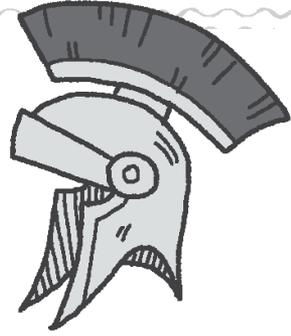
AMAZONSMILE: Are you an Amazon customer? Did you know you can have a small portion of each purchase donated to Messiah Lutheran Church if you order via AmazonSmile? The merchandise and prices are exactly the same as Amazon.com—but the benefit is that .5% of your purchase will be donated to a charity 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.

TALK RADIO FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON... You can listen to Christmas hymn studies on "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come," "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising," "We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth," "Let All Together Praise Our God," and "From East to West." Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

DAILY READINGS

December 29: Is. 55:1–13; Luke 1:1–25; **30:** Is. 58:1–59:3, 14–21; Luke 1:26–38; **31:** Is. 60:1–22; Luke 1:39–56; **January 1:** Is. 61:1–11; Luke 1:57–80; **2:** Is. 62:1–12; Luke 2:1–20; **3:** Is. 63:1–14; Luke 2:21–40; **4:** Is. 63:15–65:7; Luke 2:41–52.

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



What is The Festival of the Holy Innocents?

The Festival of the Holy Innocents is the day that we remember the children that were murdered at Bethlehem. These children are considered by some to be the first Christian martyrs. The word martyr (pronounced MAR-ter) comes from a Greek word which means "witness."



What is the whole story of the Holy Innocents?

We learn in Matt. 2:1–18 that King Herod didn't like the idea that a new King was born. He thought that if he killed baby Jesus, his worries would be gone. So he gave orders to have all of the boys in Bethlehem two years and under killed. Herod's soldiers marched into Bethlehem and did just that! But Herod and his soldiers didn't know that an angel had told Joseph in a dream to take Jesus and Mary and escape. When the soldiers stormed Bethlehem, baby Jesus was safe and sound on his way to Egypt. If you think about it, Jesus was saved from death as a baby so that He could die for us a man. What a great and glorious God we have! He keeps His promises!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, discuss the meaning of the word martyr. At home, read the story of the Holy Innocents. Be sure to give them examples of other martyrs by reading their stories in Scripture. For example, read the story of Stephen in Acts 6 and 7.





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Christmas