



Your redemption
is drawing
near!

Luke 21:28

Peace Lutheran Church of Orofino ID

13946 1st Ave

8:00 am Worship Service; 7:30 am Bible Study

www.oroфинolutheran.org

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clarkston WA

1107 14th Street

11:00 am Service; 10:00 am Sunday School; 10:15 am Bible Class

www.ClarkstonLutheran.org

Members of the Church of the Lutheran Confession – CLC

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FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2011

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 85 (front of the hymnal p. 140)

The Hymns: 705, 56, 127:3, 611, 710:4

Prayer: *O Lord Jesus Christ, as we celebrate Your advent on this first Sunday of the church year send Your Holy Spirit to open our hearts. Come with Your blessing upon our congregation, giving faithfulness to our pastor and teachers and success to their efforts, bestowing upon all our members brotherly love for one another and a zeal to spread the Gospel. Keep our synod, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, free from error and strengthen the bond of fellowship within it. Finally, come Lord Jesus! Amen.*

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn 705

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, page 5 – Congregation Stands)*

PASTOR In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

PASTOR Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) *Who made heaven and earth*

PASTOR I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) *And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.*

PASTOR Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

CONGR. (sing) Amen. *(congregation is seated)*

THE INTROIT

Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving.

This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often from the Psalms.

P: Unto You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul:

C: O my God, I trust in You.

P: Do not let me be ashamed:

C: Do not let my enemies overcome me.

P: Let no one who looks to you for help:

C: Ever be ashamed.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me to follow in Your paths.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (Hymnal, page 6)

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

(Hymnal page 7 - sing)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

"Glory to God in the highest" (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world. Receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

PASTOR The Lord be with you.

CONGR. (sing) And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The main thoughts for the day are "collected" together in this prayer.

PASTOR Let us pray.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE BIBLE LESSONS

God speaks to us.

The Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 33:14-16 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: 15 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.'

PASTOR Here ends the Old Testament Reading. We continue with the responsive reading of:

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: All those who look to You for help:

C: These shall never be ashamed, O Lord.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me Your paths. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Show us Your mercy, O Lord:

C: And grant to us Your salvation. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The New Testament Reading comes from 1 Thessalonians chapter 3, beginning there in the 9th verse.

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

PASTOR: This ends the New Testament Reading

CONGR: (sing) Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (Hymnal, page 12)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

St. John's Choir – Psalm 24 (Worship Supplement p. 25)

Hymn 56

THE SERMON

Luke 21:25-36 "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 "men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. 27 "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." 29 Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 "When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. 31 "So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 "Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. 33 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. 34 "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. 35 "For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Theme: "ADVENT GIVES THE CHRISTIAN HOPE"

I. Jesus will come in great glory (27)

II. All earthly things will pass away (25-26, 33)

III. God's Word of truth will abide forever (33)

THE OFFERTORY

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

(Hymnal, pages 12-13) (sing)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. While the ushers present our offerings at the Lord's Altar, we stand and sing the offering hymn 127:3:

***As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King!***

PRAYERS - (Pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - (All)

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

Hymn 611

Communion at Peace Lutheran Church

Congregation stands for:

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

PASTOR:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

CONGR. (sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

The Closing Hymn 710:4

*** *Silent Prayer* ***



ADVENT – Preparing hearts for the coming of the Savior

The Advent Wreath

The advent wreath is rich in symbolism, and as such it aids our worship as it reinforces our hope in the ultimate coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath is covered with evergreen. Just as the species of tree is always green, so our hope for eternity is always alive because it rests upon the living Christ. The wreath is also in the form of a circle, which has no beginning and no end. What better way to picture that our life with God is everlasting.

The lighted candles are symbolic of the light of Christ and His Gospel, which alone can lift us out of our sin and spiritual darkness. The 4 candles surrounding the center candle remind us of the 4000 years of waiting for Christ by the Old Testament world. Each of the candles has been assigned a special name with special significance.

The Prophecy Candle is the 1st candle lit the first week in Advent. It is symbolic of the long years of waiting during which the prophets, inspired of God, kept alive the hope that the son of God was coming to redeem His people from their sins.

The Bethlehem Candle is the 2nd candle lit. It symbolizes the preparations being made for the coming of the Christ-child. The prophecy in Micah 5:2 that foretold Jesus' birthplace at Bethlehem may seem to be a minor revelation, but it shows how God prepared even the least detail for the coming of Christ.

The Shepherds' Candle is the 3rd candle lit and reminds us of our responsibility to share the Savior and His promises. The shepherds left their task and went with haste to see the Christ-child, then they returned to tell others about the good news of the Savior.

The Angel's Candle is lit the 4th week of Advent. It reminds us of the activity of the angels before and after Jesus' birth, bearing messages, ministering, protecting, praising; they will be with Jesus at His final coming on Judgment Day, to gather the nations.

The Christ Candle is the center candle lit at the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. It's white color symbolizes the perfect and holy life our Savior led on our behalf. With His death on the cross, the LORD now counts that white robe of Christ's righteousness to each one of us. God's great gift – His Son Jesus!

Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James

CRADLE ROLL St. John's Ladies Aid is sponsoring a "cradle roll" in which they send a series of letters that give spiritual encouragements and devotional materials to families with young children (newborn to 4 years old). The Ladies would like to make this available for member and non-member children. If you know someone who would be able to make use of these things, just email with the names of the parents and children (with birth dates), and their mailing addresses to Desirae Naumann:

ddnaumann@clclutheran.com

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR We invite you to join us in singing for special occasions. The regular practice days will be Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 pm as specified: For November: 29. December: 6 & 13. Also after church as needed (today!!).

"I will sing and make music to the LORD!" Psalm 27:6

ST. JOHN'S REMINDERS:

Midweek Advent Services this Wednesday November 30th 7 PM.

Refreshments to be served after the service.

Next Sunday: Potluck, church decorating, then caroling. Please consider joining us carolers for an afternoon of singing our members favorite carols.

Ladies: . Boxes for the food items will be placed on the back table in the fellowship hall to be assembled on Dec. 4th and distributed with the carolers. Shut ins: Mary Ann Callahan, Velma Diehl, Julia Palmer, Kirby Seiblest, Janice and Lee Wade and Mr. Shearl Lomax.

Christmas Eve Children's Goodie Bags There will be a box set out in the fellowship hall for items for the bags given to the children on Christmas Eve. Candy, goodies, fruit, etc are welcome! This box will be set out for the next 3 Sundays.

Poinsettias for the altar You are welcome to bring poinsettias to decorate the front of church, or you may contribute to the Ladies Aid toward their purchase.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON All women from both congregations are invited to this celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus on Sunday December 11 at 12:00 noon at St. John's in Clarkston. Please bring a dozen

cookies and a \$5 gift to exchange (optional). Call if you need transportation. (Sue Martin – 758-2374). Invite a friend!

MEN'S CHILI FEED While the women are having their luncheon, the men of both congregations are invited over to the Pastor's house for all the chili you can eat. Mild to very hot n' spicy will be served. You may bring your favorite beverage. If you'd like to watch football, that will be available. Invite a friend!

CHILDREN'S PRACTICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Pastor Naumann is our director. Practices will be held instead of Sunday School on December 4, 11 & 18 from 10:15 – 10:45 am.

All of our children have been included in the service and will be receiving their assignments. If you know of any parents who would like to have their children included, please let the Pastor know! May the Lord bless us all once again with the message of our Savior's birth!

ADVENT DEVOTIONS Copies of a daily devotional are available in the back of the church, or from Pastor Naumann. The devotions were written by Pastor David Schaller. They are also available online:

www.redeemerclc.info/documents/devs/2010adventbooklet.pdf

CLC NEWS <> The Rev. Vance Fossum, W. Columbia SC, has returned the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids MI. The congregation has now called the Rev. Delwyn Maas, Phoenix AZ.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I am coming quickly!

Hold fast what you have,

that no one may take your crown."

Revelation 3:11

The Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 33:14-16 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: 15 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.'

THE GRADUAL

P: All those who look to You for help:

C: These shall never be ashamed, O Lord.

P: Show me Your ways, O Lord:

C: Teach me Your paths. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Show us Your mercy, O Lord:

C: And grant to us Your salvation. Hallelujah!

The New Testament Reading:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

The Old Testament Reading for 1st Sunday in Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Prophet Jeremiah records the LORD's promise to send the Messiah – a Branch of righteousness – Whose name is beautiful to our sin-sick souls, for His very name tells us that he will account His righteousness to us. We read...

The New Testament Reading:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Here the Apostle Paul prays for us that God would keep us in the faith until the great Day of Judgment. We read...