

# Peace Lutheran Church of Orofino ID

13946 1st Ave 8:00 am Worship Service; 7:30 am Bible Study www.orofinolutheran.org

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clarkston WA

1107 14<sup>th</sup> 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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#### THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**DECEMBER 11, 2011** 

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 27 (front of the hymnal p. 109) The Hymns: 138, 701, 62, 103:6

Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father, send Your Son into our hearts by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that we, being strengthened by the Sun of Righteousness, may walk before You in fervent faith and all holy obedience. Watch over our little flock, and by faith make us ready at all times for the second coming of Your Son. Forgive us our sins, strengthen our faith, and renew in us a rejoicing spirit in our Advent and Christmas worship. In Jesus name, Amen.

#### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Opening Hymn 138**

#### 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. Congregation. (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: Rejoice in the Lord always:
- C: And again I say, Rejoice!
- P: Let your moderation be known to all men:
- C: The Lord is at hand.
- P: Be careful for nothing: but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
- C: Let your requests be made known to God.
- P: Lord, You have been favorable to Your land:
- C: You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

#### 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

A hymn glorifying and praising our God (Hymn 798:1 - sing)

God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You sovereign Lord! Mighty King whom angels worship, Father by Your Church adored: All creation shows Your glory; Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne Singing "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts and God alone!"

#### 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:

Isaiah 35 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; 2 It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, The excellency of our God. 3 Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert. 7 The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes. 8 A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there, 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**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: You who dwell between the Cherubim, shine forth:

- C: Stir up Your strength and come.
- P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:
- C: You who leads Joseph like a flock. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- P: Stir up Your strength:

#### C: And come and save us. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! PASTOR The New Testament Reading comes from Matthew chapter 11, beginning there in the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse.

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

#### **New Testament Reading**

Matthew 11:2-11 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." 7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

PASTOR: CONGR: (sing) This ends the New Testament Reading *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** – Your Little Ones Dear Lord Are We Your little ones, dear Lord, are we and come Your lowly bed to see; Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind That we the way to You may find. With songs we hasten You to greet and humbly fall before Your feet. Oh, blessed hour, Oh, sweetest night that gave You birth, our souls' delight. Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all Your grace accord, True faith and love to us impart that we may hold You in our heart, Until at last we, too, proclaim, with all Your saints, Your glorious name; In paradise our songs renew and praise You as the angels do Amen.

#### <u>Hymn</u> 701

#### THE SERMON

James 5:7-10 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! 10 My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.

Theme: "PRACTICE THE PROPHETS' PATIENCE" I. As you wait for the LORD's coming (7-9) II. As you endure persecution (9-10)

#### 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 he 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.

#### <u>Hymn 62</u>

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 103:6

# <u>Announcements</u>

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

**TODAY! WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** All the women from both congregations are invited to this celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus at 12:00 noon at St. John's in Clarkston. You may bring a dozen cookies and a \$5 gift to exchange (optional). 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. A variety of chili will be served. If you'd like to watch football, that will be available. Invite a friend!

**PEACE REMINDERS:** Next Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, is our Christmas Eve celebration. No morning service that day, instead we'll have an afternoon service at 1:00 pm followed by a Christmas potluck dinner. Christmas Day, Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup> - regular 8:00 am service time. No Bible Class.

#### **ST. JOHN'S REMINDERS:**

#### **Midweek Advent Service this Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup> 7 PM.** Refreshments served after the service.

**Christmas Eve Children's Goodie Bags** A box is out in the fellowship hall for items for Christmas bags given to the children on Christmas Eve. Candy, goodies, fruit, etc., are welcome! This box will be out for one more week. **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.

**Choir** We invite you to join us in singing for special occasions. Our next practice is 6:15 this Wednesday before church.

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

Practices will be held instead of Sunday School today and the next two Sundays from 10:15-10:45 am. All of our children have been included in the service and will be receiving their assignments. The Christmas Eve Service is scheduled for 6:30 pm, Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. 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! **FINANCIAL RED FLAG UPDATE** Our treasurer wishes to express thanks to all the generous members who have so quickly given to eliminate the \$8,650.00 shortfall from the first 9 months of 2011. Thanks be to God who has moved the hearts of His believers!

2012 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP TO EAST AFRICA Tom Naumann. the second son of Pastor and Desirae, has volunteered for this trip next summer. Tom is in his third year at Immanuel Lutheran College studying to be a pastor. As you can well imagine, the financial cost of such service to the Lord is rather large and in most cases, more than one individual is able to provide through personal savings. The cost of the trip is approximately \$3,000 -\$3500 and this does not include the vaccinations required for travel to a developing nation. An initial down payment of \$2000 to cover the cost of airfare and other trip expenses will need to be raised and sent in to the Mission Helper Program by mid-February. The remaining funds will be used for such up front expenses like Passports, Visas, and passport photos. The cost of in-country transportation, lodging, food, teaching and project supplies, and spending money will not be needed until a few weeks before departure. Of course, we are not all able to volunteer for overseas service, but we can certainly offer our support to those who are able to carry out Christ's great commission in this way. To this end, the Presidents of our two congregations have authorized a "Mission Helper Sponsorship Fund" for anyone who would like to help support Tom with financing this trip. Thank you for your consideration. We will keep you updated on the status of this temporary fund.

**FREE!!** Free copies of a daily Advent devotional written by Pastor David Schaller are available in the back of the church. They are also available online: <u>www.redeemerclc.info/documents/devs/2010adventbooklet.pdf</u> Also free copies of a program of daily Bible Reading for 2012 called "The Bread of Life" are available in the back of church

**CLC NEWS** <> Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids MI has called the Rev. Delwyn Maas, Phoenix AZ.

# WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

# James 5:8

## **The Old Testament Reading:**

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### THE GRADUAL

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- P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:
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# The Old Testament Reading for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent Isaiah 35

In thrilling words, the prophet Isaiah describes the advent of the Messiah. Whoever walks His road shall not go astray. Even death will not stop those who have been ransomed by the blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. They are alive and live forever! We read...

# The New Testament Reading: <u>Matthew 11:2-11</u>

To prove He was the Messiah, Jesus directs the disciples of John and us to the Old Testament Prophets, like Isaiah – those words we just read in the OT. The Savior, who is least of all, came not to be served, but to serve and give His life a ransom for all. We read...