

Your redemption is drawing near!

Luke 21:28

Peace Lutheran Church of Orofino ID

13946 1st Ave 7:30 am Bible Class, 8:00 am Worship Service <u>orofino.clclutheran.org</u>

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clarkston WA

1107 14th Street 10:00 am Sunday School, 10:15 am Bible Class, 11:00 am Service www.ClarkstonLutheran.org

Members of the Church of the Lutheran Confession – CLC

Organists: Deena Irby, Donna Lowary, Sue Martin

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1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2012

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

The Hymns: 55, 705, 75, 76:1

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 2

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation sings:**



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.



Who made heaven and earth.

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



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.



(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 COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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



The Old Testament Bible Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. 5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

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!



PASTOR The New Testament Bible Reading comes from Matthew chapter 24, beginning there in the 37th verse.



The New Testament Bible Reading

Matthew 24:37-44 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.





P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Congregation stands for:

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.

Congregation sings Hymn 705

THE SERMON

Romans 13:11-14 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

> Theme: "THE TIME IS NOW!" I. To wake up II. To get dressed III. To look forward to a new day





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!

<u>PRAYERS</u> - (Pastor) <u>THE LORD'S PRAYER</u> - (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.

Congregation sings Hymn 75

Congregation stands for:

THE BENEDICTION



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.



The Closing Hymn 76:1



<u>A n n o u n c e m e n t s</u>

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

WELCOME EVERYONE! Especially any visitors who may be with us. We are glad you are here and invite you to join us again soon in our worship of the One true God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. If you'd like to become a member, we offer a free "Information Course" in which the Pastor will meet with you at your convenience to study and discuss the Bible's teachings. Just ask!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT PEACE IN OROFINO

Today – church decorating after service
Thursday – 1st Midweek Advent Service at 7:00 pm
Sunday Dec. 9 – (at St. John's) Ladies Christmas party and Men's chile feed.
Sunday Dec. 16 - Holy Communion
Sunday Dec. 23 - No morning service. 1:00 pm Christmas Eve service with potluck following.
CHRISTMAS DAY – 8:00 am service

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S IN CLARKSTON

Today: Potluck, church decorating.
Wednesday – 1st Midweek Advent Service at 7:00 pm
Sunday Dec. 9 – Ladies Christmas party and Men's chile feed.
Sunday Dec. 16 – Holy Communion. Afternoon caroling to the shut-ins.
Please consider joining us carolers for an afternoon of singing favorite Christmas carols to our shut-in members.
Christmas Eve – 7:00 pm service
Christmas Day – 11:00 am service

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE Will be held in place of Sunday School for the next three weeks at St. John's.

LADIES AID CHRISTMAS PARTY All women from both congregations are invited to this celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus next Sunday December 9 at 12:00 noon at the Pastor's house. Hosted by Desirae Naumann next to 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 ladies are having their Christmas party, the men of both congregations are planning on a chili feed at St. John's church. Mild to very hot n' spicy will be served. If you have a favorite chili recipe, you are welcome to bring it along.

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.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES THIS WEEK The first of three midweek services is scheduled to begin at 7:00 pm this Wednesday at St. John's and 7:00 pmThursday at Peace. In these services we praise our God for His coming to earth the first time and look forward to His second coming which He has promised is very soon. You are invited! **"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18**

CHRISTMAS CARDS Boxes of Christmas cards are still available at St. John's in the back of the church. The prices are on each box. Payment may be made to "St. John's Ladies Aid."

CLC NEWS <> The Rev. David Reim, Vernon BC, has returned the call from the Board of Missions to India and Africa.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown." Revelation 3:11

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!

The Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. 5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

THE GRADUAL

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- 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:
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The New Testament Reading:

Matthew 24:37-44 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Old Testament Reading for 1st Sunday in Advent <u>Isaiah 2:1-5</u>

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the prophet Isaiah gives us a beautiful picture of the church of Jesus Christ in its New Testament fulfillment, when people from all nations will know the God of their Salvation. The end result will be the heavenly Jerusalem, a place of perfect peace and fellowship with God. We read...

The New Testament Reading: <u>Matthew 24:37-44</u>

Are you ready for Christ's coming? The Apostle Paul encourages us to "put aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" He echo's Isaiah's words, "Let us walk in the light of the LORD!" We read...

PASTOR: Here ends the New Testament Bible Reading. **P:** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

