

**John the Baptist: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low"**



Peace Lutheran Church of Orofino ID

13946 1st Ave

7:30 am Bible Class, 8:00 am Worship Service
orofino.clclutheran.org

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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Church: 509 758-8261 Home: 509 295-6109 Cell: 920 266-5384

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 9, 2012

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 138 (front of the hymnal p. 154)

The Hymns: 709, 710, 85:1-3&13-15, 91:5-6

Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father, make us diligent in the use of Your Word, and enable us by the grace of Your Holy Spirit to walk before You in fervent faith and all holy obedience, that with constant watchfulness and prayer You will help us prepare our hearts for the second coming of Your Son, Who will take us to live with Him in His eternal Kingdom. In His saving name, Amen.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn 709

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:



A - men.

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.



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.



A - men.

(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: Daughter of Zion:
C: Behold, your Salvation is coming.
P: The Lord shall cause His glorious voice to be heard:
C: And you shall have gladness of heart.
P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:
C: You who lead Joseph like a flock.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father"



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



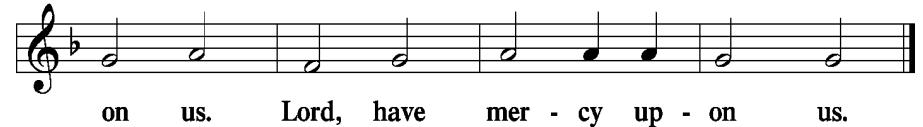
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

THE KYRIE

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



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE GLORIA

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



1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You

sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,

by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;

Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, "Ho - ly,

ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"

THE SALUTATION (Greeting)

PASTOR The Lord be with you.

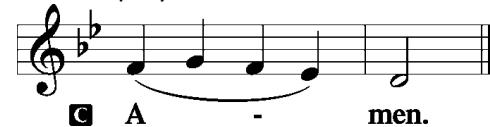


C And with thy spir - - it.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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

PASTOR Let us pray.



C A - men.

THE BIBLE READINGS

God speaks to us.

The Old Testament Bible Reading:

Isaiah 11:1-10 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. 3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

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: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined:

C: Our God shall come.

P: Gather My saints together before Me:

C: Those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: The powers of heaven shall be shaken:

C: And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Hallelujah!



C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PASTOR The New Testament Bible Reading comes from Matthew chapter 3, beginning there in the 1st verse.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The New Testament Bible Reading

Matthew 3:1-12 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" 4 And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

PASTOR: Here ends the New Testament Bible Reading.

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

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 710

THE SERMON

Romans 15:4-13 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. 5 Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, 6 that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. 8 Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers, 9 and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: "For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name." 10 And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!" 11 And again: "Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!" 12 And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Theme: "THE CHRISTCHILD BRINGS US TRUE UNITY"

- I. That gives glory to God (5-6)
- II. That reaches out to others (7-12)
- III. That fills us with spiritual blessings (13)

THE OFFERTORY

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

Cre - ate in me a clean heart O God, and re-
new a right spir - it with - in me
Cast me not a - way from Thy pre - sence, and

take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me
Re-store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Thy free spir -
it. A - men.

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.

Congregation sings Hymn 85:1-3 & 13-15

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.

C A-men, a-men, a - men.

The Closing Hymn 91:5-6

Announcements

"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!

TODAY! LADIES AID CHRISTMAS PARTY All women from both congregations are invited to the parsonage (Pastor's house) following service this morning. Please bring a dozen cookies and a \$5 gift to exchange (optional). Call if you need transportation. (Sue Martin – 758-2374). Invite a friend!

TODAY! 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT PEACE IN OROFINO

Today – (at St. John's) Ladies Christmas party and Men's chile feed.

Thursday – 1st Midweek Advent Service at 7:00 pm

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: Ladies Christmas party and Men's chile feed.

Wednesday – 1st Midweek Advent Service at 7:00 pm

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 today and for the next two Sundays at St. John's.

Christmas Eve Children's Goodie Bags At St. John's 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 second of three midweek services is scheduled at 7:00 pm this Wednesday at St. John's and 7:00 pm Thursday 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. Mike Wilke, Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saginaw, MI, has the call from the Board of Missions to India and Africa.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I send My messenger,
And he will prepare the way before Me.

And the Lord, whom you seek,
Will suddenly come to His temple,
Even the Messenger of the covenant,
In whom you delight.

Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.
Malachi 3:1-4

Old Testament Reading for 2nd Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 Jesus is the "rod from the stem of Jesse, the Savior descendant promised through the Jewish line. Through His Word He brings peace and unites even natural enemies. Today, despite the evil world we live in, His Word stands tall and sure in our hearts through faith – like a mighty banner on the battle field! We read...

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. 3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

New Testament Reading

Matthew 3:1-12 John the Baptist preached repentance, and many listened. He also condemned the false religions of the Pharisees and Sadducees, who thought that they could get to heaven by their good deeds and ancestry. John preached the Good News! - To get to heaven takes faith in the promised Savior Jesus Christ. We read... In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The

voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" 4 And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Here ends our NT Reading -

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

