

St. Paul Lutheran Church

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: David Reim Phone 549-5250

Organist: Julie Reim **Usher:** Guy and Ken

Preparation for worship: Psalm 45 (Hymnal pg. 133)

Last Sunday of the Church Year 2011

You will see Him Coming in the Clouds
with Great Power and Glory!

† † †

Invocation:

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C:



A. _____ men.

Opening Hymn: 609 Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

Call to Worship:

P: "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;

C: Men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth.

P: For the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

C: Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

P: Now when these things begin to happen,

Announcements

Today: Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20

Monday: Board of Doctrine Meeting at 11:00 to 2:00

Catechism Class with Mattie and Justine at 4:00

Wednesday: Zoom Bible Study with Kenneth at 9:30

Bible Study with Karrie at 3:00.

Thursday: Pacific Coast Study Club at 1:30

Visit George Rosenberg in Armstrong at 3:00

Friday: Catechism Class with Natalie and Tyler at 4:30

Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Advent

Worship Service at 10:00

Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20

Coffee and Snacks

We are allowed to have coffee and snacks with our Bible Study hour.

If you would like to bring something, please coordinate with Marlies.

Choir and Instruments

If you would like to sing or play your instruments for Christmas, please speak with the pastor today to plan rehearsal times.

Congregation Christmas Dinner

We rejoice to finally be able to have a Christmas Dinner which is planned for December 12th. After the service today we will discuss how to plan our dinner in a safe and responsible way.

PCHS

The Pacific Coast High School Committee met last Sunday and discussed three possible paths forward:

1. Establish an online high school for Pacific Coast congregations.
2. Step back and take a look at the whole landscape of Christian education within our synod and consider a broader approach.
3. Focus on starting an online resource of classwork which could be expanded over time. Make this available for parents to use in homeschooling and elsewhere.

The committee needs more input and ideas from the congregations to decide how best to proceed to meet the needs of our members. The next meeting is planned for Dec. 5th. Please bring your ideas.

The Spirit of Advent

Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, of longing. There is a yearning for deliverance from the evils of the world, first expressed by Israelite slaves in Egypt who cried out from their bitter oppression. It is the cry of those who have experienced the tyranny of their slavery to sin and Satan, and yet have hope of deliverance by God through His Son!

Advent also speaks of the expectation of accountability before God and His judgment against sin. Therefore, the Season of Advent is a time of penitence for sins. It is only through the life, death and resurrection of the One born in Bethlehem, that we can look forward to His coming for judgment. By repentant faith we do prepare for His Advent at the end of the world.

The spirit of Advent is expressed well in the parable of the ten virgins who anxiously await the coming of the Bridegroom (Matt 25:1-13). There is profound joy at the Bridegroom's expected coming. And yet a warning of the need for preparation echoes through the parable.

Colors of Advent

Historically, the primary color of Advent is **Purple**. This is the color of penitence. This points to an important connection between Jesus' birth and death. The nativity, the Incarnation, cannot be separated from the crucifixion. Jesus came into the world to redeem lost sinners. So our humble repentance is an important part of our preparation. Purple is also the color of royalty, which is fitting as we prepare for our King.

For redeemed children of God there is also great joy as we await Jesus' Advent. This joy of the season is reflected in the shift from purple to pink or rose for the third Sunday of Advent. Let us prepare our hearts for Jesus' return and celebrate with Joy His coming to save us.



C: look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” (Luke 21:25-27)

P: “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.

C: For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

P: Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass,

C: and to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:34-36)

Confession of Sin: From Psalm 32

P: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

P: When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long.

C: For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.

P: I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden.

C: I said, “I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.”

Cong. & Pastor: Oh Lord, our merciful and gracious God, we humbly confess all our sins unto You. We plead for Your mercy, Lord. Do not deal with us according to our sins, but graciously forgive us for Jesus sake and richly bless us with Your love. Grant that we may worship You today with clean hands and a pure heart and may our worship and praise be acceptable in Your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: God our Father has had mercy upon us. He has given His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into death for us and for His sake He forgives us all our sins.



Sing: Melody of hymn 292

**O faithful God, thanks be to Thee
For You forgive iniquity.
You grant us help in sin's distress,
And soul and body You shall bless.**

**O Lord, we bless Your gracious heart,
For You Yourself do heal our smart
Thro' Christ our Savior's precious blood,
Which for the sake of sinners flowed.**

Responsive Reading: from Psalm 98

P: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! For He has done marvelous things;

C: His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

P: The Lord has made known His salvation;

C: His righteousness He has openly shown in the sight of the nations.

P: He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;

C: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

P: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth;

C: Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

P: Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of a psalm,

C: Shout joyfully before the Lord, the King.

P: For He is coming to judge the earth,

C: With righteousness He shall judge the world, and the peoples with equity.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 51:4-6 (Printed on Back)

Gradual

P: I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord:

C: Thoughts of peace and not of evil.

P: Then shall you call upon Me and pray unto Me, and I will hear you:

C: And I will turn your captivity and gather you from all the nations and from all places.

Responsive Reading: Revelation 22:12-20 selected verses

P: Jesus says, "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me,

C: to give to every one according to his work.

P: I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life,

C: and may enter through the gates into the city.

P: I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches.

C: I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.

P: And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come.

C: Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

P: He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

C: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Closing Hymn: 613 Jerusalem the Golden

The Season of Advent

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new Church Year. Advent is a season of preparation. Jesus' First Advent has made it possible for us to look ahead with anticipation to Christ's Second Advent. Just as a little child can't wait till Christmas, so we are waiting with anticipation for Jesus' second coming and we prepare our hearts to meet Him. Therefore we focus on our reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ which gives us Hope, Peace and Joy.

Advent also symbolizes our spiritual journey. Knowing that Jesus will come again in power gives us a reason for holy living. It gives us a profound sense that we live "between the times" and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us as God's people.

Offerings from Thankful Hearts:

Hymn 441 st. 1-2 (while offering is presented)

**We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

**May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!**

Prayers for the Church:

The Lord's Prayer: 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

L: The peace of God which surpasses all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

6 Cre ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re
12 new a right spir - it with in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pre - sence, and take not your ho - ly Spir - it from me. —
22 — Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
28 hold me with your spir - it free. Cre - ate in me a clean
heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with in me. —

P: Lord, You have been favorable unto Your land:

C: You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37

(Printed on Back)

Confession of Faith: Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 605 The World Is Very Evil

Sermon Text: Jude 1:20-25

Theme:

How to Be Ready for Christ's Return.

1. Keep yourself in the Love of God.
2. Rescue others from the fire.
3. Give Glory to God our Savior.

Hymn: 616 Forever with the Lord

