

ADVENT I

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church
3232 West Point Rd. Middleton, WI
Church of the Lutheran Confession
PASTOR: Mark H. Bernthal (233-2244)
TEACHER: Ms. Jennifer Ohlmann
ORGANIST: Mrs. Gail Schaefer

REACTIONS TO JESUS' BIRTH

PRE-SERVICE PREPARATION: Psalm 85

P: O LORD God of hosts, How long will You be angry against
the prayer of Your people?

C: Restore us, O God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine,
And we shall be saved!

HYMN 702(1-4): "As Angels Joyed With One Accord"

P: We begin in the name of our Triune God:

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

ALL: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you. *

C: And with you, His servant.

P: Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the LORD.

C: With hearts uplifted thanks to Him we render:

With joy we come before Him,

In gratefulness implore Him,

With thankful hearts adore Him, Evermore!

* To the melody of "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

P: You call us, O God, to watch and to wait for Your love to be revealed in Jesus Christ. We are good at watching for many things. We are good at watching for things which might interfere with our enjoyment of life. We are good at watching for things we think we need in this life---watching for those pre-Christmas sales on items we long to have. How good are we at watching for signs of Your love?

ALL: Advent God, forgive us for paying more attention to satisfying our own needs, rather than seeking You and Your will for our lives. Forgive us for being more interested in possessing the material things of life, rather than Your spiritual gifts.

P: Turn our lives around so that we are looking in the right direction—towards You.

ALL: Help us through Your Word, which is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION—based on I Cor. 1:5-8

P: Hear the Good News: In Jesus Christ we have been forgiven! We have been enriched in everyway—in everything we say and in everything we know. In addition, through God's grace, we do not lack any spiritual gift as we wait with anticipation for Jesus to be revealed. He is the one who will keep us strong to the end, so that we shall be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful and in His Son He forgives all of our sins.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Te Deum Laudamus----p. 35-37 Lutheran Hymnal

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed, page 12

HYMN 272: “When All the World was Cursed”

**Midweek Sermon Series: REACTIONS TO JESUS' BIRTH....
JOHN LEAPED FOR JOY!**

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

HYMN 104: “Now Praise We Christ, the Holy One”

PRAYER: O God, receive and bless these gifts which we bring in response to Your many gifts You have given to us. May they reflect our gratitude for the diverse gifts with which You have enriched our lives—

ALL: especially the gift of Jesus Christ, whose birth we await with eagerness, joy and anticipation.

P: We have been enriched, O God, in every way through the love which was so beautifully and clearly revealed by Jesus. We give thanks to You, Jesus, for initiating this act of love by entering our human history in the way we all enter it—as a baby born of woman's flesh.

C: We draw our breath in wonder at such a normal yet such an unimaginable act.

P: As we wait once more to celebrate this wonder-filled event, help us

never to lose that sense of wonder and amazement which accompanies Your most holy birth of the Virgin Mary.

ALL: We praise and adore You, holy Jesus, for the precious gift of Yourself, Your very life for our salvation! Hear our prayers and hymns of praise as we lift our hearts and voices to You. This Advent season enter our hearts with joy and peace and with all spiritual blessings.

P: In Your great love prepare us for Your coming. Help us to welcome You as You come to us in Your Word, which grants us salvation, and in Your sacraments, which seal our pardon. Make us ready through genuine repentance to welcome You when You come again in power and great glory on the last day. Help us to see ourselves as willing servants of Your Gospel, so that with righteous lives and loving hearts we will ever praise You as Lord and Savior to others.

ALL: To the glory of Your name we make these requests.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: Amen, Amen, Amen.

HYMN 705: "Come. O Long-Expected Jesus"

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU

A heartfelt welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ. May our Advent preparation lead us to worship and adore our Savior and King! Please come again next Wednesday as we continue our Advent worship of our coming Savior.

ADVENT THEME:

REACTIONS TO JESUS' BIRTH...

John Leaped for Joy...Dec. 1
Herod was Troubled with Fear...Dec. 8
Shepherds Responded in Faith...Dec. 15

WELL UPDATE: This fall we learned that we have a leak in the water line supplying the parsonage from the well. During the troubleshooting process the problem seemed to correct itself. It has since returned. The leak has not limited water supply to the parsonage, but has caused two problems. First, the primary manifestation of the issue is that the sump pump in the parsonage basement stairwell is running very frequently. If we do not get this corrected soon, that tank may freeze and we will likely end up with the water seeping into the basement. Second, we are paying higher electrical bills due to higher pump usage and sump pump usage. The council has authorized the repair of the situation, which will lead to a \$2500 unbudgeted expenditure in December. Please take this matter to the Lord in prayer as we remember the Giver of all good gifts in our offerings for the month of December.

“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7