

## Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

### UP-COMING IN DECEMBER:

#### ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

This annual concert conducted by our Immanuel Lutheran College will be held on Friday, Dec. 15th at 7:30 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire.

#### CHRISTMAS CAROLING:

Plan to set aside the evening of Sunday, Dec. 17th to participate in Christmas caroling to the residents of Artisan and Heritage which now includes Duane Riggert. Come, join us sing praises to our new-born King. Please meet at church by 5:30 p.m.

#### HANNAH'S HELPING HANDS:

The Ladies will be meeting for their Christmas gathering and have a baby shower for Lauren Albrecht at their monthly meeting, Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m. Lauren is registered at Target. We encourage all ladies to come.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE:

Our New Year's Eve Service will be held on Sunday Dec. 31 at 7:00 p.m. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated. Close out the old year and welcome the new with worship and praise to our Triune God and partaking of our Lord's Supper and a hymn sing afterward.

**NEEDED:** Pastor needs 9 men to help read for Christmas Day as we will once again celebrate Christmas with "The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols." Please see Pastor if you can help read

**FREE:** There are free Advent Devotion booklets for every household—individuals and families—in the entry-way on the little table. The devotions start Dec. 4th and continue through Dec. 23rd. Please take one and enjoy family devotions this Advent.

### Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church and School is a confessional Lutheran Church.

We proclaim to a world dead in sin that salvation is a gift of God's grace; that Jesus Christ paid the full sacrificial price—His very life—so that gift of salvation could be ours. If you are interested in learning more, please call Pastor Bernthal at **608-233-2244** or **e-mail** him at [mbern@juno.com](mailto:mbern@juno.com)

More Information and Audio Sermons at [www.peacethruchrist.org](http://www.peacethruchrist.org)

# Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church and School

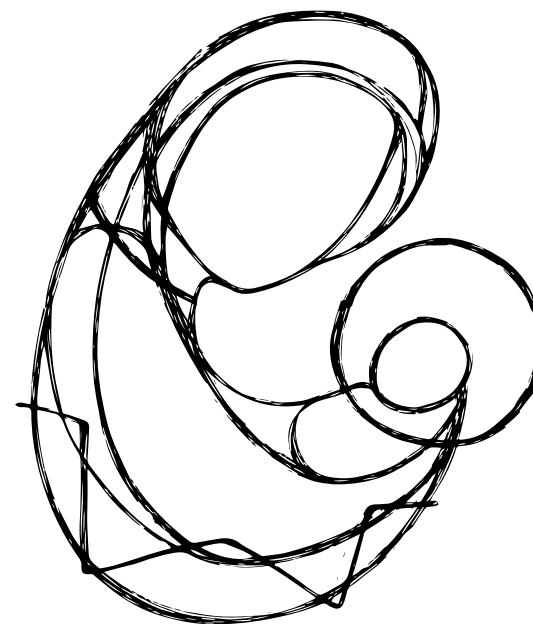
Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • Organist: Mrs. Chris Gerbitz

Church/Office (608) 233-2244 Parsonage (608) 442-9986

3232 West Point Rd. Middleton, Wisconsin 53562

[middletonlutheran.org](http://middletonlutheran.org)

First Sunday in Advent • December 3, 2017



A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

*"There is an appointed time for everything.  
And there is a time for every event under heaven".*

ECCLESIASTES 3:1



Pre-service Preparation: Psalm 143

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Communion Liturgy, p. 15

**Opening Hymn:** . . . . . **63**

**Before Sermon:** . . . . . **701**

**Offering:** . . . . . **441 (1-2)**

**During Distribution:** . . . . . **315**

**After Benediction:** . . . . . **70**

## Scripture Readings:

### Isaiah 40:1-11

The wilderness preacher is to prepare the way for the King’s coming—a coming that will show the LORD’s glory, as He had promised. His coming will ransom Israel from all her sins and give her everlasting comfort and peace.

*“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” Says your God. 2 “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the Lord’s hand Double for all her sins.” 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; 5 The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” 6 The voice said, “Cry out!” And he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers,*

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**LAST WEEK:** Worship 38 S.S. 4 Bible Class 18

**OFFERINGS** 11/26 for Unified Budget: \$1,916  
Preschool Supplies: \$100

**PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE:** This Saturday from 9-noon.

### CLC NEWS

- Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN has called Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer, pastor of Trinity, Spokane, WA to be their co-pastor.

### MID-WEEK ADVENT:

Our mid-week Advent services begin this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. This year’s series theme is:

### Christmas In Revelation:

*He Who Was and Is and Is to Come.*

**Dec. 6th**—Revelation 19:11-16  
The King who Judges and Makes War: Matt Ude

**Dec. 13th**—Revelation 5:1-14  
Judah’s Lion Who Opens the Scriptures: Mark Bernthal

**Dec. 20th** —Revelation 12:1-6  
The Seed of the Woman who Slays the Dragon: David Ude

We pray your Advent Worship prepares you for your Christmas celebration and worship of the Christ-Child.

### IN YOUR MAILBOX:

December Calendar & Newsletter

### 2018 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Africa

Applications are being accepted for the 2018 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. You can find more information and apply online at: [www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/](http://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/)

### MISSION HELPER HELP:

Kirsten and Nichole Brandle and six young members from our sister congregation, Messiah Lutheran, Hales Corners are signing up to go on next summer’s trip to Africa to help spread God’s Word. They are requesting our prayers on their behalf and also asking that if anyone would like to help defray the cost of their trip to give their offerings to Peace Thru Christ or send them to Messiah Lutheran Church 12145 W. Edgerton Ave. Hales Corners, WI 53130. Please see the letter on the bulletin board in the entry-way for more information.

## PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

We are glad to have you this morning worshiping your Savior with us. Advent means “coming.” We are celebrating the coming of our Savior in the flesh as a baby born in Bethlehem; His coming into our hearts through faith; and His coming again on Judgment Day. May His coming move you to come again to His house to hear His Word and worship Him as your Lord and Savior. Also, please sign our guest book.

### HOLY COMMUNION:

The Lord’s Supper is being celebrated this morning. We encourage all of our members to attend this meal of forgiveness from our Savior. Since it is a confession of oneness in faith and doctrine, we ask that only members of Peace Thru Christ or of a sister congregation in the CLC come forward to partake of the Lord’s Supper. If you have any questions concerning this practice called “Close Communion,” please see Pastor Bernthal. Thank you.



### This Week:

**Today** 9:00 a.m. Sunday School:

Jacob Returns to Canaan

Bible Class: Revelation 20

10:00 Family Worship

11:10 a.m. Choir

11:30 a.m. Church Council

### Tuesday

10:30 a.m. Bible Class at Artisan

### Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Advent Worship I

8:15 p.m. Choir

Organist: Gail Schaefer

**Thursday** 10:45 a.m. Bible Class  
at Heritage

**Saturday** 9-noon Preschool Open  
House

### Next Sunday

9:00 a.m. S.S./Bible Class

10:00 a.m. Family Worship

11:10 a.m. Choir

### IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:

Cleaners this week:

Church—Albrecht

School: Brandle.

Counters today:

Matt Schaser & Gail Schaefer

*the flower fades, Because the breath of the Lord blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.” 9 O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” 10 Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him. 11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young.*

## Romans 15:4-13

Christ is the One whose coming is foretold. What was written about Him in the past was written for our learning and for a blessing to us. We are called to glorify the Savior in our lives. Filled with joy and peace, may we overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*4 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.*

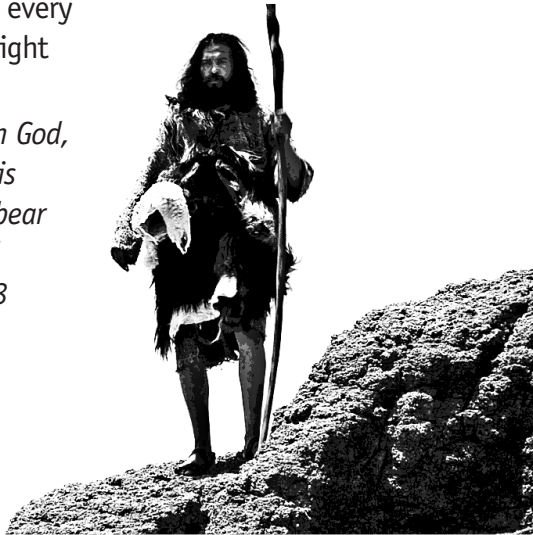
## John 1:6-8, 19-28

John pointed away from himself. He confessed freely, "I am not the Christ." He declared that his role is the one described by Isaiah, "the voice of one calling in the wilderness." The humility of John's witness is a meaningful example for every Christian as we too let our light shine to the glory of God.

*6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.*

*9 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites*

*from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." 22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the Lord,"' as the prophet Isaiah said." 24 Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" 26 John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.*



**The Sermon:** read/listen to sermons at [www.peacethruchrist.org](http://www.peacethruchrist.org)

Sermon Text: **Luke 3:7-18**

## LET GOD'S HERALD PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS

**I: He proclaims the coming of a Stronger One.**

**II: This Stronger One will pour out His Spirit.**

**III: This Spirit will create lives pleasing to God.**

*7 Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin 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. 9 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." 10 So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" 11 He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." 12 Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" 13 And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." 14 Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages." 15 Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not, 16 John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire." 18 And with many other exhortations he preached to the people.*