

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

NEEDED—USHERS: Any male communicant member who is not presently serving as an usher but who would like to help serve in 2017, please see Pastor Bernthal before the New Year's list is typed out. Please do so by New Year's Eve. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS DAY SONG

SERVICE: will be one hour earlier at 9:00 a.m. because Pastor Bernthal will also be conducting the Christmas Day

Service at Faith, Markesan which begins at 11:00 a.m. Please make this note on your calendar.

CHRISTMAS PARTS: Parents, your children have received their Christmas parts. Please help them learn their parts so the practices can run smoothly and not be too time consuming. We will have practice this Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and next Saturday time to be determined.

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

More Information and Audio Sermons at middletonlutheran.org



Peace Thru Christ Church/School is a Member of
The Church of the Lutheran Confession. www.clc.org



Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church and School

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas
Organist: Mrs. Chris Gerbitz

Church/Office **(608) 233-2244** Parsonage **(608) 442-9986**
3232 West Point Rd. Middleton, Wisconsin 53562
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Second Sunday in Advent • December 4, 2016

Hear my prayer, O Lord, Give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness. 2 Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous. 3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead. 4 Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed. 5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands. 6 I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs for You like a thirsty land.

Selah

Psalm 143:1-6

Pre-service Preparation: Ps. 143

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Communion Liturgy, p. 15

Opening Hymn: 29

Before Sermon: 63

Offering Hymn: 702 (1, 4, 7)

During Distribution: 307/313

Closing Hymn: 309

Scripture Readings:

I Samuel 17:32-51

The battle is the LORD'S! Remember man looks at the outward appearance. David was no match for Goliath, but Goliath was no match for the Lord! David knew and believed this and told Saul so. David trusts that the Lord will protect him even as the Lord did when David fought the lion and the bear. Imagine how amazed David's brothers and the other soldiers must have been. Probably no one gave David a chance. When Goliath cursed David by his gods, David makes a wonderful statement of faith. In the face of danger David gave all credit to God. That was the secret to David's life. Are we trying to manage our life on our own? Are we attempting to fight our battles on our own? As hard as we try, we cannot! Remember, "THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S!"

Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." 33 And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him;

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MID-WEEK ADVENT:

Our second mid-week Advent services is this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Advent mid-week Series is: The Canticles of the Christ-Child. This week we listen to the The Nunc Dimittis – Luke 2:25-32 – Pastor Matthew Ude.

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

NO WEDNESDAY

NIGHT BIBLE CLASSES:

While Pastor Bernthal serves the vacancy at Faith, Markesan there will be no Wednesday night Bible Classes.

CLC NEWS:

- Zion Lutheran, Lawrenceville GA, has called Pastor Michael Wilke, pastor of Gethsemane Lutheran, Saginaw MI.
- St. Stephen Lutheran, Mountain View, and St. Stephen Lutheran, Hayward CA, have called Pastor Luke Bernthal, pastor of Grace Lutheran, Valentine NE, Peace Lutheran, Mission, and St. Paul's Lutheran, White River SD.

- Pastor Timothy Wheaton has returned the call extended to him by Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids MI

PRE-SCHOOL MEETING:

The State representative to help us in our setting up a pre-school will be meeting with our B.O.C.E. and other members on Tuesday, Dec. 13th at 12:30 p.m. We pray the Lord bless this meeting and our efforts to establish a pre-school to teach little ones the Good News of Jesus.

ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

The 2016 ILC Christmas Concert is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 16th at 7:30 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING:

Sunday, Dec. 18th at 5:30 p.m. We will go to Artisan, Heritage and then Duane Riggert's apartment. Please meet around 5:30.

WANTED:

Any new phone numbers, new addresses, or e-mail addresses for our 2017 church directory. Please give them to pastor before the New Year. Thanks!

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PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

We are glad you are here this morning to hear the Good News of our Savior. May our Advent worship be one which prepares the way for the Lord Jesus to come into our hearts through repentant faith. Please, come worship your Savior-God with us again and please also sign our guest register.

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: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
Bible Class: Revelation 7
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
11:10 a.m. Choir

Monday In Markesan

Tuesday 10:30 Bible Class at Artisan

Wednesday In Markesan
7:00 p.m. Advent 2
8:10 p.m. Choir

Thursday 10:30 a.m. Bible Class at Heritage

Saturday 9:30 a. m. Christmas Practice

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—Meyer/Schaser.
School—Bernthal
Counters today: Matt Schaser & Gail Schaefer

LAST WEEK: Worship 44 S.S. 9
Bible Class 19 Thanksgiving 40
Advent I 29

OFFERINGS 11/24 & 27 & 30 for
Unified Budget: \$2,527
\$100 ILC Student Aid Fund

IN YOUR MAILBOX: December
Calendar & Newsletter

for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.” 34 But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep his father’s sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, 35 I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.” 37 Moreover David said, “The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you!” 38 So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. 39 David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, “I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them.” So David took them off. 40 Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd’s bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. 41 So the Philistine came, and began drawing near to David, and the man who bore the shield went before him. 42 And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was only a youth, ruddy and good-looking. 43 So the Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 And the Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!” 45 Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord’s, and He

will give you into our hands.” 48 So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David. 51 Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

Matthew 3:1-12

We hear John the Baptist preparing the way for the Messiah-Savior. John preaches repentance and remission of sins. Many are led to repent. However John warns the Pharisees and Sadducees against lifeless formalism in their worship. He tells them not to depend on their ancestry back to Abraham for their salvation. We have salvation only through faith in the promised Messiah-Savior whom Abraham believed in.

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 Now 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.”

The Sermon: read/listen to sermons at www.middletonlutheran.org

Sermon Text: **Psalms 34:1-9**

David Invites us to share in the experience of TRUSTING GOD!

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. 3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together. 4 I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears. 5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed. 6 This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them. 8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.