

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 15th, 2019

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes!

The members of Shepherd of the Lakes are very pleased to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join with us in worshipping the Triune God: the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who sets us apart to be God's people through his powerful word. Our church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a group of Lutheran churches committed to the Bible's teaching about life and salvation.

God speaks to us from the Scriptures:

The First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

The Babylonians served as the ax of God that cut off the line of Jesse and made David's family tree nothing but a stump. The lifeless stump was a witness to God's judgment. But behold, a branch is growing! A new shoot sprouts from Jesse's stump, but it wouldn't be the restoration of an earthly rule and reign over Israel. No, God had greater things in mind. Instead, David's greater Son would rule over a renewed earth and heaven.

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 130, on page 114 in your hymnal

The Epistle Reading: Romans 15:4-13

God renewed the hope of his people by raising up the root of Jesse. Hope in him reshapes our hearts and the resulting fruits of repentance show themselves in our renewed lives. Examples of those fruits can be seen in the unity of our walk and our witness and in our acceptance of our brothers and sisters. The Holy Spirit brings forth such faith and fruit to the glory and praise of God.

The Verse of the Day: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

A voice in the desert cried out, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!" A fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, John told his hearers that the Messiah was near: near to the people to save them; near to the religious leaders to judge them. Harvest time had come, and God's winnowing fork was in his hand to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Applying God's Word to our Lives this Week:

Sermon Text: Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon Theme: The Kingdom of Heaven is Near

Holy Communion: In Holy Communion we are receiving Jesus' true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, new life, and salvation. But that's not all. We also receive strength, encouragement, and comfort knowing that in this sacrament **we are at one with our God** through Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, **we are one in faith with those communing beside us**, and **we are joined with all the saints**, who share our common faith. For this reason we practice **close communion**, inviting only WELS or ELS members to partake of the sacrament so as not to call into question the communion that we share. **If you are a visitor, please speak to Pastor Seelow before communing.**

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Worship service attendance for Sunday, December 8th was 42. Our hearts acknowledged God's love for us in all he has blessed us with and showed our trust in his continued blessing by offering him \$3667.17 for the work of his church.

"Whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God!"

GOD'S PEOPLE GROWING AND SERVING

Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

December 15 — 3*

December 22 — 1

December 29 — 2

* Communion Sunday

Cleaning crew this Month: Dave and Dianne Bodey

NEWS AND NOTES

Today's Theme Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!

Midweek Bible Class will meet this Wednesday at 10am.

Christmas Potluck Please make plans to join us for our Christmas Potluck after the service next Sunday. See the signup in the entry way.

Christmas Eve Service Our Christmas Eve service this year will be December 24th at 4pm.

Bedtime Storytime is this Thursday at 6:15.

Next Sunday Worship – 9am Christmas Potluck Brunch 10:15am

OUR PATH OF WORSHIP

“The Common Service”
PREPARATION p.10

Opening Hymn: #14

Confession of Sins: **p. 15**

Prayer and Praise: **p. 16-17**

THE WORD

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 130, page 114

Romans 15:3-14

Verse of the day, p. 18

Matthew 3:1-12

Response, p. 18

Nicene Creed p. 18-19

Hymn of the Day: #16

The Sermon

Create in Me p. 20

The Offering

Prayers, p. 20

THE SACRAMENT

p.21-23

Distribution Hymn: #19

1,2,4

THANKSGIVING p. 24

Blessing, p. 25

Closing Hymn: #9

Shepherd of the Lakes

Ev. Lutheran Church

241 E. Federal Highway, Roscommon, MI 48653



The Third Sunday

in Advent

2019

Pastor Adam Seelow

Phone: Office: 989.275.3070 Cell: 989-324-7162

Email: Shepherdofthelakeswels@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sotlwels