

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 6th, 2015

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: Malachi 3:1-4

The prophet announces to suffering believers in the Old Testament God's special message of New Testament hope and comfort. The Lord promises a herald to proclaim his coming. Let our hearts be prepared!

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 24 on page 73 in your Hymnal

The Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

The Lord's Apostle Paul lovingly instructs the divisive Corinthians on the importance of faithful messengers. Anticipating the coming judgment, the faithful preacher will prepare people with God's message so that they can receive "praise from God."

The Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)

The Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6

As Malachi predicted and as Paul encouraged, John was a faithful preacher of repentance by which the people of God were truly prepared in head and heart.

Applying God's Word to our Lives this Week:

Sermon: **Luke 3:3-6**

Theme: Prepare the way for the Lord!

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, November 29th was 22. 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 \$1125.00 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 13th — 1

December 20th — 2*

December 27th — 3

* denotes Communion Sunday

NEWS AND NOTES

Today's Theme Prepare the way for the Lord.

Council Meeting The council will meet next Sunday following Bible Class.

Midweek Bible Class Our midweek Bible class continues this Wednesday looking at "Dealing with the sins of society."

Christmas Dinner We will have our annual Christmas Dinner following the service on December 20th. Please see the sign up sheet on the entry way table.

Thank you to everyone who helped with decorating the church yesterday morning. A special thank you to the ladies who worked so hard on the Chrismons — Christmas decorations depicting different pictures or Monograms of Christ.

Next Sunday Worship – 9am; Bible Class 10:15; Council Meeting 11:00

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

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 24, page 73

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Verse of the day, p. 18

Luke 3:1-6

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: #27

THANKSGIVING p. 24

Blessing, p. 25

Closing Hymn: #32

Shepherd of the Lakes

Ev. Lutheran Church

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The Second Sunday

in Advent

2015

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