



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2021 Newsletter

Volume 27
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From Pastor Joel Skindlov

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Blessed Advent! As we enter the month of December, we are less than 25 shopping days until Christmas! Advent means to come or arrival. The first season of the Church year, Advent offers Christians time to watch, wait, prepare, and live in the hope of Jesus' arrival into our life and world. Where is Christ arriving in your life in these next days and weeks? Where do you notice God's presence in your life and surroundings? We turn the page on Mark's gospel readings and focus on the Gospel of Luke throughout this next year. Luke's gospel contains one of, if not the most recognizable accounts of the Christmas story, the birth of baby Jesus that you might be familiar with. I always enjoy Linus' telling of the Christmas story, mostly because I had a ratty, but comforting blanket that I carried around with me until first grade. Beginnings are important and Luke begins with a couple notes on the order and specifics of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. "I, too decided, after investigating everything very carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed" (Luke 1:1-4). Then Luke begins at the beginning, the birth of John the baptizer, his parents, the encounter of Zechariah, John's father, with the angel Gabriel.

Reading over these stories we are reminded of God's faithfulness and continuity, amid the twists and turns of life. Zechariah was a priest, and he was chosen to enter into the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. While he was in the sanctuary, Gabriel shows up and the message that he and his wife will have a child gets announced to him. Zechariah, in all of his human fallibility, all his wondering, asks the question that is on most people's minds, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years" (Luke 1:18). Gabriel's response is fear inducing, yet hope filled, "I am Gabriel, I stand in the presence of God and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur"

Luke 1:19-20).

Does Zechariah get the raw end of the deal? It seems like he was just asking a clarifying question. One commentator noted that maybe Zechariah, because of his priestly status, might have remembered that God has a penchant for working in mysterious and seemingly impossible ways. (see, Harper Collins Study Bible, pg. 1762). Yet both Zechariah and Elizabeth's relationship with God reveals the challenges, joys and struggles of the life of faith.

The watching and active waiting for God's arrival can be both exhilarating and confusing, even when a messenger of God seems to speak in such an audible and straightforward way. The life of discipleship does not always seem that straightforward, yet God's faithfulness continues on through you and me, through faithful and flawed people, through the likes of Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah and Joseph, even that camel hair wearing prophet John proclaiming,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God" (Luke 3:4-6).

As you journey through this Advent season, where do you notice Christ's arrival and activity in your life? Where do you see the steadfast love and faithfulness of God at work in your life and the lives of your household, neighborhood and community? God has and continues to work and act in us and through us, so that "all flesh shall see the salvation of God". Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas!

Peace, Pastor Joel

P.S. We have a few different Advent devotional resources available during this season. Paper copies are available at the church and we will email out a couple of devotional resources. Please contact Pastor Joel with any questions about these resources.

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Caritas Needs For December

Food: peanut butter, jam/jelly, top ramen, individually wrapped trail mix, meat sticks, tuna and chicken salad pouches

Necessities: paper towels, tooth paste and individually wrapped tooth brushes, shampoo, deodorant

(non perishables)

Please don't tie bags shut!

Caritas Outreach Ministries,
1228 W. Nebraska, Spokane 99205



From The President

Listen, I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. *Revelation 3:20*

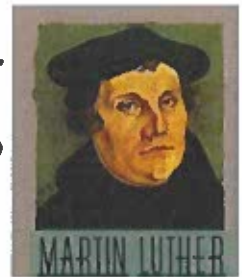
As you know Advent begins on Sunday, November 28th. The season of waiting. I hope that you will find an Advent Devotional to read at home during this time. My choice is an Advent devotional with daily readings written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a remarkable man who really understood the meaning of waiting at the end of his life.

Recently I have been giving a lot of thought in regard to what we as individuals can do to help our fellow Prince of Peace members. The pandemic has been hard on all of us in different ways. There are some who have been forgotten and we need to find a way to get them reconnected. We have some with medical issues who may not be able to come back. At one time Prince of Peace had looked into doing a Stephens Ministry. This is an expensive program and as good as it is, may not be appropriate for us at this time. However, it is my belief that a few committed members can go out in our church community to reach those who may be unable to attend services, are ill or perhaps just in need of companionship. Presently we have a Deacon program at Prince of Peace and that will continue. Our Deacons perform a valuable service and continue to be needed. What we would like to find are perhaps 6 members who would be willing to spend some of their time to visiting, witnessing and praying with these people. Seeing to any needs that they may have. Christ in Luke 10: 1 appointed 70 to go out and spread the word. I believe there is much we can do for our Church family. Pastor Joel and I have been giving this some thought. Guidelines for this ministry have not been firmly established as of this writing. At this time we would like to know if any in the congregation might be interested. We will plan to have a training meeting early in January and then move forward. If you personally feel comfortable joining this ministry please let us know.

Yours in Christ
Curtis Froscheiser

Martin Luther Quotes

*"This is what is meant by 'thy king cometh.'
You do not seek him, but he seeks you. You do
not find him, he finds you."*



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church publishes a monthly newsletter for members, friends and churches in the area. News articles, address changes, questions or comments should be addressed to:

Newsletter Editor

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Office closed on Fridays
June-August

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Service – 9:00 am
(Contemporary Service 3rd Sunday
of the month) Also, Worship currently



Saturday, December 18th
POP Fellowship Hall 7am– Start cooking
8am-Enjoy breakfast & discussion

Serving You This Month

December	Altar Guild <small>*Claudia Crawford-early bird helper (thank you)</small>	Worship Assistants	Altar Flowers	Media	Ushers
5	Claudia Crawford	Abby Liezen	No Flowers-Advent		Joe Rock
12	Claudia Crawford	John Renford	No Flowers-Advent		Doug Elliott & Mel Neblesieck
19	Claudia Crawford	Susan Ames	No Flowers-Advent		Paul & Sue Parrish
24-7pm	Claudia Crawford				
24-9pm	Claudia Crawford				Donna Claypool
26	Claudia Crawford	Mike Sanborn			Donna Claypool

Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, December 5

1st Reading: Malachi 3:1-4
 Psalm: Luke 1:68-79
 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-11
 Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, December 12

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20
 Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6
 2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
 Gospel: Luke 3:7-18



Sunday, December 19

1st Reading: Micah 5:2-5a
 Psalm: 80:1-7
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10
 Gospel: Luke 1:39-45[46-55]

Sunday, December 26

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26
 Psalm: 148
 2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-17
 Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

December

Birthdays

1st - Randy Fleiger
 3rd- Ethan Staley
 5th- Karen Heimbigner
 8th- Marie Tamura
 13th Don Schneuker
 14th- Cliff Hendrickson
 Keith Humphrey



16th- Helen Cogley
 21st- Stephanie Feist
 22nd- Michelle Buckley
 Delores Shelton
 23rd- Barbara Wisor
 26th Sue Parrish

Anniversaries

15th- Harold & Tammy Fleiger
 Jake & Angela Rapp
 21st- Bill & Susan Burgermyer
 29th—Al & Barbara Wisor



News from POP

POP's Tree of sharing

The tree and tags are up! Tags and gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 12th. Please wrap your gifts and include the tree tag on the outside.

Thank you for helping our community!



Church Office Hours

The week following Christmas, the church office will be closed or have very limited office hours. If you need to send out a prayer request or in case of emergency, please contact Ami at 509-251-1173



Advent Kindness

Check out the 24 days of kindness count down tree on the bulletin board outside the nursery. Each day has a suggested act of kindness to share. Use the suggestion or create your own kindness!



Advent Services

Holden Evening Prayer
Wednesdays during Advent
December 1, 8, & 15

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Friday, December 24
Family Candlelight Service — 7 pm
Candle Light Service- 9pm



To Ponder:

" . . .He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant; later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."

Hebrews 12: 10b-11

"Am I prepared to let God grip me by His power and do a work in me that is worthy of Himself? Sanctification is not my idea of what I want God to do for me; sanctification is God's idea of what He wants to do for me, and He has to get me into the attitude of mind and spirit where at any cost I will let Him sanctify me wholly."

Oswald Chambers



Bible Study: 10:30 am Wednesday, December 1, 2021 (Potluck lunch)

Baby Quilters: 9:00 am Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Charity Quilters: Not meeting

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Craft Show.

Crafters
Bakers
People who set up and took down
Workers on the day of the show
Getting the word out to family and friends
Packing bean mix and cookie plates
Making Lefse
Everyone who attended



Total raised was close to \$4000.00 which will be dispersed in January to local organizations who help women and children. We will meet the first part of January to designate where funds will go. If you want to be involved, please contact the Church office and you will be notified of the meeting day and time.

The quilt raffle raised \$291.00 which will used to buy batting and backing for charity quilts.

Thank you to Sandy Swanson (Renee Bottjen's mom) who donated the beautiful quilt. Linda Hansen (a church member) was the lucky winner.





Community Events



Thursday, December 2, 2021

7pm

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Coughlin Theater, Gonzaga University

<https://gonzagaperformingarts.eventue.net>



Arise Wind Ensemble Concert

Saturday, December 4, 2021

3pm

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Coughlin Theater, Gonzaga University

<https://gonzagaperformingarts.eventue.net>



Monday, December 6, 2021

7:30pm

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Coughlin Theater, Gonzaga University

<https://gonzagaperformingarts.eventue.net>



Candlelight Christmas Concert: Evening Performance

Saturday, December 11, 2021

7:30pm

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Coughlin Theater, Gonzaga University

<https://gonzagaperformingarts.eventue.net>

AdventWord

Prince of Peace will be using AdventWord, as one devotional resource, during this Advent season. The faith formation resource offers one word each day and a brief reflection. Many Christians around the world participate in this spiritual practice.

Check out the website, adventword.org for more details.

#AdventWord

a global advent calendar

28	PROMISE	12	EXPECTATION
29	STRENGTH	13	SHARE
30	SOUL	14	EXULT
1	PATH	15	STIR
2	JUSTICE	16	GLADNESS
3	FULFILL	17	BOUNTIFUL
4	HEART	18	SING
5	PRAISE	19	BLESSED
6	EVERLASTING	20	FEED
7	OFFERING	21	GENERATIONS
8	MESSENGER	22	MAGNIFY
9	SPLENDOR	23	FLOCK
10	REPENT	24	GREETING
11	COMPASSION	25	CHILD

www.adventword.org 2021

December 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 10:30 am Women's Bible Study & Potluck 6:15 pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service	2	3	4 10:00 am Christmas Tree Decorating
5 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"	6	7 1:00 pm Bible Study 1:00 pm Praise Group 7:00 pm All Committee Night	8 6:15 pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service	9	10	11
12 CARITAS SUNDAY 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"	13	14 9:00 am Baby Quilters 10:00am Exec. Council 1:00 pm Bible Study 1:00 pm Praise Group	15 6:15 pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service	16	17	18 7:00 am Men's Breakfast
19 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"	20	21 1:00 pm Bible Study 1:00 pm Praise Group 7pm Council Meeting	22 6:15 pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Candlelight Services at 7pm & 9pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"	27 Church Office Closed	28 1:00 pm Bible Study 1:00 pm Praise Group	29 6:15 pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	30	31	