

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

3014 McKinley St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Website [www.gloriadeilcms.org](http://www.gloriadeilcms.org)

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**Organist:** Angela Huizel

**Ministers:** All members of Gloria Dei

*Caring Sharing Serving Reaching*



# 2017

## Worship Schedule for December

<b>December 3 Advent 1 w/HC</b>	<i>"When The Lord Comes"</i>	<i>Isaiah 64:1-9</i>	
<i>Isaiah 64:1-9</i>	<i>Psalms 80:1-7</i>	<i>1 Cor. 1:3-9</i>	<i>Mark 13:24-37</i>
<b>December 10 Advent 2</b>	<i>"Clear A Path, Make A Straight Road"</i>	<i>Isaiah 40 1-11</i>	
<i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i>	<i>Psalms 85</i>	<i>2 Peter 3:8-14</i>	<i>Mark 1:1-8</i>
<i>FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup></i>			
<b>December 17 Advent 3 w/HC</b>	<i>"The Joy of the Season"</i>	<i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</i>	
<i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</i>	<i>Psalms 126</i>	<i>1 Thess. 5:16-24</i>	<i>John 1:6-8, 10-28</i>
<b>December 24 Advent 4</b>	<i>"How Can This Be?"</i>	<i>2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16</i>	
<i>2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16</i>	<i>Psalms 89:1-5 (19-29)</i>	<i>Romans 16:25-27</i>	<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>
<b>December 24 Christmas Eve</b>	<i>"Pondering These Things"</i>		
<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>	<i>Psalms 96</i>	<i>Titus 2:11-14</i>	<i>Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)</i>
<b>December 25 Christmas Day w/HC</b>	<i>"The Light Shines in the Darkness"</i>		
<i>Isaiah 52:7-10</i>	<i>Psalms 2</i>	<i>Hebrews 1:1-6 (7-12)</i>	<i>John 1:1-14 (15-18)</i>
<b>December 31 1st Sunday After Christmas</b>	<i>"Christmas Joy"</i>		
<i>Isaiah 61:10-62:3</i>	<i>Psalms 111</i>	<i>Gal. 4:4-7</i>	<i>Luke 2:22-40</i>

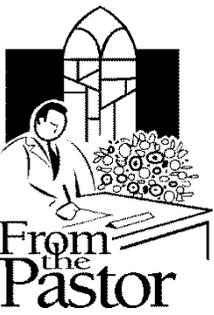
## POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Beautify our Sanctuary for Christmas by donating a poinsettia! The cost is \$13.50 and they are available in red, white or pink.

Place your order no later than Sunday, December 3. You will be billed directly from the church. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board or call the church office to place your order.

*You may also bring in your own poinsettias,  
but we would still like you to sign up.*





## *What does Christmas mean to You?*

If you were asked to describe the meaning of Christmas to someone from another country who had never experienced it before, what would you say? Would you describe Christmas as a lot of parties, decorations, colored lights and presents? Would you say that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus, God's Son and our Savior from sin? Would you mention that the real meaning of Christmas includes repentance and the give of gifts in thanksgiving in response to God's greatest gift of salvation through His Son? Would you begin by explaining what the season of Advent is all about before you expounded on the meaning of Christ?

I ask these questions because I believe too many have lost the meaning of Advent and in turn have lost the true reason for the Season of Christmas. SO let me begin with Advent to help you have an answer should this situation arise. Advent is the season of repentance, a season of preparation. In short, Advent emphasizes Christ's coming **"IN THE FLESH,"** His first coming His Incarnation and birth in the manger in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-20). The Season of Advent emphasizes Christ's coming to us **"IN GRACE"** that we might be saved eternally from our sins (Matthew 26:26-28; 2 Timothy 3:14-17) The Season of Advent also emphasizes Christ's coming **"IN GLORY"** on the last day as King of kings and Lord of Lords to judge the living and the dead.

The penitential tone of Advent reminds us that Christ's birth was made necessary by our sins. The original color of Advent was purple, the same color as Lent, denoting penitence for sin. The wonder of all this is that Advent prepares us for Christmas where our holy God fulfills His promises of the Old Testament and dwells with His sinful people in a sinful world. *"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us"* (John 1:14). This is why Jesus said, *"Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the ages"* (Matthew 28:20) This is why Jesus said, *"Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them"* (Matthew 18:20). This is why He promised, *"I will never leave You or forsake you!"* (Hebrews 13:5). This is why He has given us His Holy Spirit as our Comforter to assure us of His presence with us.

Think of the wonder of this. Our God does not stand aloof in the heavens pitying the poor creatures He has created. No! He came here to His creation, was born in a lowly manger to poor parents, and lived His life as the sinless Son of God, clothed in human flesh, that He might save us from our sins, and help us in the midst of our hurts. To that end, He endured the pain and suffering of the cross so that sin, the cause of sickness and death, could be conquered. He is present with us to help in all our circumstances of life. He endured the pain and suffering of the cross so that we would not have to endure the pain and suffering of hell for all eternity.

Christ's healing touch is still felt today by every sinner who is forgiven, every child who is baptized, every penitent Christian who receives His Body and Blood in faith, every unbeliever who is converted and brought to faith in Christ their Savior. His healing touch is felt by all who have been healed from any ailment, sickness or pain. His power to help is felt by us every time He effects good in the midst of the sinful world in which we live. His joy is with us especially at Christmas when we mediate on His birth and His presence with us.

Yes, the wonder of Christmas is Emmanuel, "God with us", Jesus, whose very name means "the one who saves", is with us in the midst of the joys and hurts of our daily lives. His grace with us each day assures us that God's ultimate Christmas gift will not only last for the season of Christmas, but will last for all eternity. On the last Day, the Christ, Who is Emmanuel, "God with us" is coming in all His glory to bring blessings of heaven to you. All this is what Christmas is all about. May the joy of Christmas and the gift of the Christ Child enable you to see God and His salvation more clearly in your life this holiday season.

***Have a Blessed Advent and Christmas Season!!!***

# THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.

Hosted by Rev. Greg Seltz (unless otherwise noted)

## December 3 "Advent Adventure"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Sometimes our faith gets weaker, sometimes it grows stronger. Let's take this Advent to heart, and "live by faith, & not by sight." (Mark 13:24-37)

## December 10 "Prep Time"

Speaker Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Preparing for Christmas is quite different than preparing for Christ. Today's LHM message explores those differences. (Mark 1:1-3)

## December 17 "Life Narrows Down"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dale A. Meyer

John the Baptist had a passion for the Lamb of God. What's your passion in life? How far into the future will it take you? (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

## December 24 "The Greatest Story Ever Told"

Speaker Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

What is your favorite story? This Christmas Eve Day, The Lutheran Hour speaks about God's greatest story. (Luke 1: 30-32a)

## December 31 "Children of Promise"

Our identity as God's children encourages us to live in His grace, to embrace the freedom Jesus won, and to resist the ways of the world that strive to keep us captive. Galatians 4:4-7)

## Time of Grace

Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.

Pastor Mark Jeske

St. Marcus Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI

KMSP Fox 9 Sunday 6:30 am

Channel 23, Cable 8 Sunday 9 am

Direct TV Ch 369 Wednesday 5:00 pm

DishNetwork Ch 263 Wednesday 5:00 pm

[www.timeofgrace.org](http://www.timeofgrace.org)



Thank you to those who helped  
with the  
CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Thanks to all of you who donated to Operation Christmas Child. We delivered 28 boxes for children overseas who may not otherwise have received a gift this Christmas season.



OFFICIAL ACTS



NONE

## SALVATION ARMY

Please remember those less fortunate by filling our grocery cart for the Salvation Army Foodshelf. As a reminder, ethnic foods are in high demand. Things that are needed are cooking oil, canned fruits and vegetables, ramen, spaghetti sauce and noodles, flour, rice, macaroni and cheese, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, etc. Due to the holiday season, food shelves are in need of food more than ever! Thanks for your very generous donations this year!

Remember to bring in  
ALUMINUM CANS!

Proceeds go to the mission of  
the Church Council's choosing!



The whole being of any Christian  
is faith and love.

Faith brings the person to God,  
Love brings the person to people.  
Martin Luther



## Salvation Army Christmas Gift Collection Tree.

**Please bring your gifts  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**

The Social Ministry Committee will again this year be collecting new gift items for children ages 0-14 years for the Salvation Army. You may purchase anything that is appropriate. There is a greater need for gifts for 6 – 14 year olds. We will be collecting the gifts from November 19<sup>th</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>. You may bring them to church and place them under the Christmas tree. *The Salvation Army's auditor has requested we put a dollar amounts on the gifts that we give. **Would you please put a rounded-off estimated dollar amount of the items you donate?***

**Thank you so much!!**

### **IDEAS:**

**BOYS 6-14:** Legos, Play tent, Tonka Trucks, Walkie Talkies, Hot Wheels, Children's Camera, Remote Control Cars, Star Wars toys, NBA/NFL clothing and gear, MP3 player.

**GIRLS 6-14:** Barbie Dolls (multi-cultural), Children's Camera, Scooter, Bead/Jewelry Kits, Art Kits/Projects, Make-up kits, Hair Accessories.



How can you help to beautify the altar area at Gloria Dei? **2018 sign-up sheets for Altar Care, Flowers, Fellowship and Candles** are on the entryway

bulletin board. Find a partner and sign up for a month of Altar Care. Sign up early to get the month that works for you! Flowers can be ordered through the church (\$20 per bouquet plus \$10 delivery fee) or you can bring your own. Candles are \$6. **Thanks to all who helped with altar duty during 2017!**

*Pam Morelli & Patty Lyrenmann*

**DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR  
2018 CALENDAR!**



**Graciously donated by  
WASHBURN-MCREAVY  
FUNERAL HOME**

## **Midwest Youth Dance Theatre Presents "The Nutcracker"**

Midwest Youth Dance Theatre will present four performances of The Nutcracker, Friday, Dec 8 at 7 pm, Saturday, Dec 9 at 2 pm and 7 pm and Sunday, Dec 10 at 2 pm at the Hamline University Drew Fine Arts Center, 1526 Hewitt Ave, St. Paul. In The Nutcracker, a cast of over 60 dancers ranging in age from ten to adults tells the classic story of the young Clara, her holiday gift of a Nutcracker and the dream that follows that night. For more information or to purchase tickets call 651-644-2438.

### **CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS as of October 31, 2017**

October Total Income	\$9,542.05
October Total Expense	\$12,432.89
October Net Loss	\$2,890.84

### **YEAR TO DATE**

1st Quarter Net Loss	\$5,397.28
2nd Quarter Net Gain	\$60,457.75
3rd Quarter Net Loss	\$5,872.69
2017 YTD Net Gain	\$46,296.94

**NOTE:** Without the special gifts received this year of \$71,054.14, we would have a YTD Net Loss of \$24,757.20.

A detailed report is available in the office.

## **DECEMBER KOA**

Our next meeting will be Thursday, **December 21st** at noon. Our theme will be "Christmas Symbols". We will talk



about the many symbols of Christmas and their meaning.

We will be having a Pot Blessing. See the signup sheet on the

bulletin board and choose an item to bring. If you are unable to make something or get out to buy something or need a ride let Verlayne know. Also please bring an item for the food shelf.

## Holiday Craft Hop

Annual Holiday Craft Hop held in the beautiful and historic Grain Belt Brewhouse, 77 13<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, **Saturday, Dec 2, from 12 noon to 5 pm.** This massive holiday craft sale offers more than 60 local makers of handmade textiles, wood, pottery, jewelry and more. *Do your holiday shopping early!*

### Used Book Sale!

Bargain hunters and book lovers take note: Northeast Library, 2200 Central Ave NE, will hold a sale on Friday, Dec 1 and Saturday, Dec 2 from 9 am – 4:30 pm. Pierre Bottineau Library, 55 Broadway St NE, will hold a sale on Saturday, Dec 2 from 10 am – 2 pm. Hundreds of adult and children's fiction and non-fiction books in hardcover and paperback, **including large print books** and some audio books, CDs and DVDs will be available. Items are withdrawn from the Hennepin County Library system or donated by the public. Funds raised will benefit the Library.



### The Holiday Train is Coming to Town

*Join the celebration with musical guests and family fun!*

Support the food shelves at Eastside Neighborhood Services by bringing a cash or healthy non-perishable food donation to the Holiday Train. Event is free and open to the community and will feature a night of holiday lights, live music and family fun.

Featured Musical Guests include Terri Clark, Dallas Smith, Kelly Prescott  
Saturday, December 9  
8 – 8:30 PM

Lions Park on 37<sup>th</sup> Ave NE between 37<sup>th</sup> Ave and Stinson Blvd  
Holiday Train will arrive at 7:45 PM.

### **HOLIDAY BAKE & CRAFT SALE** **December 9 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Scandinavian and other baked goods, quilt sale, crafts, lunch and more. Saturday, Dec. 9, 9 am-2 pm. Lunch served 11:30 am-1:30 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 825 51st Ave. NE, Columbia Heights. 763-571-9721

### **Christmas Fundraiser at Bywood East**

**December 14 @ 9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**Bywood East Health Care**, 3427 Central Ave. NE, is having a Christmas fundraiser on **Thursday, Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** Large selection of holiday baked goods, plus grilled hot dogs, pop, chips and their famous chicken soup for sale. Many residents have been working on craft projects that are available for purchase as well. Proceeds will be given to the Sunshine Club which provides transportation for outings, Christmas gifts, and entertainment for Bywood East residents.

Info: Mary Farnham 612-788-9757.

## **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CONCERT**

Buetow Music Center Auditorium, 300 Hamline Ave. N, St. Paul  
Friday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 pm; Saturday, Dec. 2 at 4:30 pm.; Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m.  
Tickets: Adults \$15, Seniors/Students \$12 612-343-3390 or ticketworks.com

### **The Concordia University, Department of Music, Theatre & Dance Presents: Christmas Vespers Service**

Graebner Memorial Chapel, 1259 Carroll Ave, St. Paul  
**Sunday, December 10 | 7 PM**

Concert Band, Vox 9 (vocal jazz ensemble) and Shades of Harmony Gospel Choir  
**Free | No tickets or reservations required!**

### **LIFE LINE SCREENING COMING TO GLORIA DEI IN 2018**

Mark your calendars for Monday, February 5, 2018  
Watch for more information and registration closer to the event.

### **Simply Giving Program**

*Endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union*

The **Simply Giving**® Program is an automated stewardship program that helps members live generously. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make automatic payments to nonprofit organizations through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. Thrivent Federal Credit Union has contracted with Vanco Payment Solutions to provide electronic payment processing services at reduced rates – so your generosity goes further.  
Call Vanco Payment Solutions at 800-675-7430 to get started.

### **Annual Pledge Letter and Commitment**

**Several weeks ago the annual pledge letter and commitment card** was put in your mailbox at church. These commitment cards were collected on Thanksgiving. If you still have not turned in your commitment card, please know it is not too late. There are extra cards and envelopes on the usher's shelf in the back of the church. Fill one out, place it in a sealed envelope with your name on the front, and place it in the offering plate at church. Or, below is a commitment card to be filled out and placed in an envelope, and mailed to the church. Thanks!

## **DONATION COMMITMENT CARD**

During these tough economic times we need to continue to support our church. One of the most effective ways of demonstrating commitment is in the amount we give in our service to the Lord each year.

*Remember – the person who plants a few seeds will have a small crop and the person who plants many seeds will have a large crop. 2 Corinthians 9:6*

I/We plan to give: \$\_\_\_\_\_ weekly or \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas is coming. It is a joyous time of feasting. The Church feasts upon the Word of God in sermon, song, and sacrament. We hear the proclamation of the message of the angels: *"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord"* (Luke 2:10–11).

We mingle our voices with theirs as we sing, *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased"* (Luke 2:14)! We receive the proclaimed Savior, Christ the Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in manger, but wrapped in bread and wine placed into our mouths for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We feast in great joy indeed because of this great blessing from our Lord and God.

God's people in ancient Israel also feasted with great joy. The Lord showered His abundant blessing on His people. And He commanded them to feast upon it (Deut. 16). The people were to go to the place appointed, where the Lord would make His name dwell, and give offerings, each man as he was able, according to the blessing of the Lord that He had given them (Deut. 16:10, 15, 17).

And there the Lord would bless them with joy as they feasted upon what the Lord had provided. They ate of the choice parts of their offerings. They enjoyed the company of all the people of God as they together heard His promises of blessing, sang of His bountiful goodness, and partook of what He gave.

We feast on the Word who became flesh to dwell among us, not just during Christmas, but throughout all the year. We feast not just on the salvation He has wrought for us in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, but we feast also on all the temporal blessings that God gives out of His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We enjoy the rich bounty that God provides, not only in Word and Sacrament, but also in house and home, property and income, family and friends.

Let us then, as did our brothers in the faith from ancient Israel, give as we are able, according to the blessing of the Lord our God that He has given us. Let us, like them, give generously of the first fruits of our income, which He gives, so that all may know and enjoy the salvation He gives and the joy we have in the Savior born in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.

### ***Prayer for the Season***

Dear Heavenly Father, Please grant us grace over the holiday season to be loving to our families and the others you entrust to us. Give us the energy we need to show hospitality and to do so with a cheerful heart. Help us find time amongst the chaos to be alone with you so that our strength can be renewed. We thank you for your Son, for bringing Him into this world to reconcile us to you and grant us forgiveness. Help us keep Him at the center of these busy days and to share this Gospel message as we are going. Thank you for your many spiritual gifts. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

# Special Occasions for Special People



2 <sup>nd</sup> Shirley Slagle 4 <sup>th</sup> Margaret Maxwell 8 <sup>th</sup> Alex Martinez 16 <sup>th</sup> Dolores Kluwe 19 <sup>th</sup> Pat Vogel 20 <sup>th</sup> Gwen Johnson 25 <sup>th</sup> Lori Sharbono 27 <sup>th</sup> Rudy Holzinger 31 <sup>st</sup> Millie Demcho	<p><i>No Anniversaries</i></p>
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## DECEMBER SERVANTS

<b>Elder: Karmon Christopherson</b>	<b>Altar Care: The Lyrenmanns</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Counters</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> To be Announced 10 <sup>th</sup> To be Announced 17 <sup>th</sup> To be Announced 24 <sup>th</sup> To be Announced 25 <sup>th</sup> To be Announced 31 <sup>st</sup> To be Announced	3 <sup>rd</sup> Verlayne Sather & Shirley Slagle 10 <sup>th</sup> Dale Raschke & Wade Billmeyer 17 <sup>th</sup> Tom & Patty Lyrenmann 24 <sup>th</sup> Al, Pam, Aaron Morelli 25 <sup>th</sup> Jean Brede & Tom Harris 31 <sup>st</sup> Derald & Chris Hadrath
<b>Candles</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Shirley & Rudy Holzinger – Nephew Adam’s birthday on Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> Open 17 <sup>th</sup> Open 24 <sup>th</sup> Shirley & Rudy Holzinger – in Memory of Parents 25 <sup>th</sup> Open 31 <sup>st</sup> Open	3 <sup>rd</sup> Open 10 <sup>th</sup> Open 17 <sup>th</sup> Open 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Poinsettias 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Poinsettias 31 <sup>st</sup> Open

## Hinges

Opening Your Church’s Doors to the Community.

Get your copy now!

Discussion sessions are being scheduled in January.

If you sign up for flowers or candles after the newsletter is published, be sure to let the office know. We want to make sure that flowers are ordered and you are properly acknowledged in the bulletin notes. Thanks!



# December 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AA – Alcoholics Anonymous AlAnon1 – Beginners Group AlAnon2 – Families of Alcoholics NA – Narcotics Anonymous TLWCC – Trinity Living Word of Christ					<b>1</b> 5 pm TLWCC Music Practice  8 pm AA/AlAnon <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>2</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>3 Advent 1</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship w/HC  6 pm NA	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm AlAnon 1  8 pm AA/AlAnon 2	<b>5</b> 5:30 pm <b>ERC</b>	<b>6</b> 10 am Bible Study 6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Class	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> 5 pm TLWCC Music Practice  8 pm AA/AlAnon <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>9</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>10 Advent 2</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship  6 pm NA	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm AlAnon 1  8 pm AA/AlAnon 2	<b>12</b> 10 am Shut- In Baskets  7 pm <b>All Boards</b>	<b>13</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Class	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> 5 pm TLWCC Music Practice  8 pm AA/AlAnon <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>16</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>17 Advent 3</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship w/HC  6 pm NA <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm AlAnon 1  8 pm AA/AlAnon 2	<b>19</b> 7 pm <b>Council</b>	<b>20</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Class	<b>21</b> 12 noon <b>KOA+</b> <b>Pot Blessing</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Symbols</b>	<b>22</b> 5 pm TLWCC Music Practice  8 pm AA/AlAnon <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>23</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 10 am Worship   <b>5pm Christmas Eve</b> <b>Service w/HC</b> 6 pm NA	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> <b>10 am Christmas Day</b> <b>Service w/Holy</b> <b>Communion</b>  6:30 pm AlAnon 1  8 pm AA/AlAnon 2	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Class	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> 5 pm TLWCC Music Practice  8 pm AA/AlAnon <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>30</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>31 New Year's Eve</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship  6 pm NA						



# Pray For Us Calendar

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforus](http://lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

**ADVENT: THE SECOND COMING — DECEMBER 1-15** Advent means coming. We anticipate the promised return of Christ as the judge of the world. We look with hope to the day of the resurrection of all flesh, when those who believe in Christ will rise to everlasting life.

*The Church waits for the Second Coming in repentance, hope and faith. For the following, we pray “Lord, have mercy.”*

**1.** For hearts that imitate the generosity and graciousness of Jesus. Pray that God’s people would be eager to show forth the love of God through their good works for neighbor.

**2.** That the Lord would preserve His Word and Sacraments in our midst, so that we may be kept strong in the one, true faith until Christ’s return.

**3.** That the people of God would be faithful in their attendance of the Divine Service, where God

strengthens our faith toward Him and our steadfast love for one another.

**4.** That all the people would fear God and find hope in His gracious forgiveness through Christ.

**5.** For all who do not believe in Jesus, that they might hear the Gospel and believe.

**6.** For all Christians, that we might repent of our sins and prepare for Christ’s return.

**7.** For steadfast faith as the world writhes and groans in anticipation of the day of judgment.

**8.** For the ministers of the Word, that they would be faithful to their calling.

**9.** for the Church’s missionaries, that through them the Word would go forth into the world with power.

**10.** For our government, that we might live peaceable and quiet lives.

**11.** For parents, that they would see their role in raising children as a holy calling from God in these last days.

**12.** For patience, as we wait for Christ’s coming, that we might believe God is not slow in keeping promises, but patient.

**13.** For those who mourn the loss of loved ones, that the promise of the resurrection may be their hope.

**14.** For those who are dying, that they may entrust their whole lives unto God who keeps them.

**15.** For the coming of Christ. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



## INVOLVEMENT IDEAS

- Listen to Worldwide KFUE when you travel, anytime, anywhere by visiting [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org).
- Find the local LCMS congregation where you are going on vacation so you can worship there by visiting [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) and using the Church locator.
- Give a gift of support to a missionary. Visit [lcms.org/missionarysupport](http://lcms.org/missionarysupport).

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS — DECEMBER 16-31** During Advent we rejoice that God sent His Son to be the redeemer of the world. We gather with all Christians to celebrate this gracious gift from our heavenly Father. We trust in Christ alone as our Savior.

*The Church gathers to thank God and ask for faith to trust in His gift of a Savior. For the following, we pray “Lord, have mercy.”*

**16.** For faithful reading of the Old Testament, that all who read may see Jesus as the promised Savior.

**17.** For opportunities to proclaim the Gospel in this season. When the world is open to hearing the story of Christmas, may we be unashamed in our witness.

**18.** That all Christians might see the needs of their neighbor and love with the love of Christ.

**19.** For those who only attend worship at Christmas, that the Spirit

would work faith through the hearing of the Word.

**20.** That we may believe the truth of the two natures in Christ.

**21.** For St. Thomas, apostle. That with him we might believe and confess that Jesus is Lord and God.

**22.** For faithful readings of the New Testament. That all the words of the apostles and evangelists may result in faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

**23.** For pastors who serve as Christ’s under-shepherds in our midst. That they might proclaim the truth of the Good News of Christmas.

**24.** Rejoice that Jesus is Immanuel. God is with us to save us.

**25.** Rejoice in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen His glory — glory as the only-begotten of God.

**26.** Thank God for St. Stephen, the first Christian Martyr. That we might also serve God with our lives — thoughts, words and deeds.

**27.** That God would grant us faith to believe that He comes to us in the Means of Grace.

**28.** For all those who face depression and desperation at this time of year. That God’s gift of love in Christ would gladden their hearts.

**29.** For all those who travel. That God would grant them safety.

**30.** That all would know and believe in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus for the world’s salvation.

**31.** That the Lord would abundantly bless the efforts of the LCMS and its partners in the coming years. That the Gospel is the primary focus of all that is done and proclaimed.



#### MISSIONARY & PERSONNEL BIRTHDAYS

Download the prayer cards of missionaries and other personnel from [lcms.org/prayercards](http://lcms.org/prayercards).

- Dec. 3** John Wolf, Kenya
- Dec. 6** Alan Ludwig, Russia
- Dec. 9** Anita Clausing, Kenya
- Dec. 10** Eva Rickman, Asia
- Dec. 11** Martha Mahlburg, Sri Lanka
- Dec. 14** Ted Krey, Latin America and the Caribbean
- Dec. 15** Eddie Hosch III, Peru
- Dec. 18** P.A. Richard-Wokoma, Africa
- Dec. 20** Brian Gauthier, Panama
- Dec. 24** Thomas Aadland, Kenya
- Dec. 28** Peter Kolb, Thailand
- Dec. 29** Carol Halter, Hong Kong; Noel Schaff, Taiwan
- Dec. 31** Megan Mantey, Uganda; Charles St-Onge, Latin America and the Caribbean

#### MILITARY CHAPLAINS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER:

Chaplain Joseph Watson, Vance AFB, Okla.; Chaplain Philip Houser, Adjutant General Office, Neb.; Chaplain Ronald Cox, New Era, Mich.; Chaplain Patrick Pooch, Travis AFB, Calif.