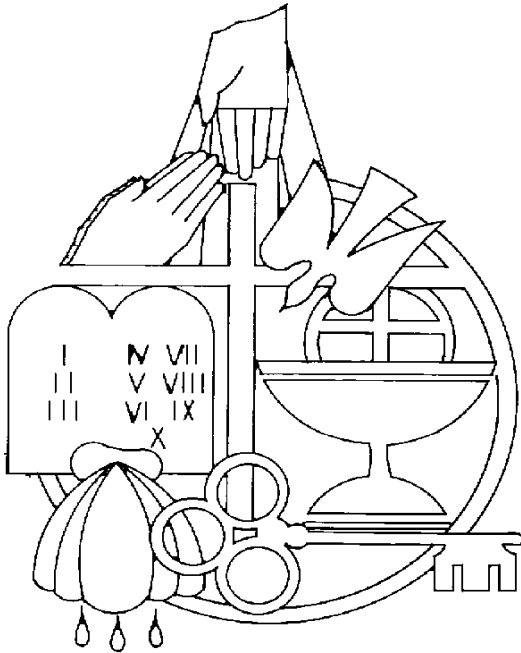


Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor

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✚ **DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY** ✚

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✚ **THE THIRD WEEK IN ADVENT TIDE** ✚

“They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers.”

(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)



This Week in the Church Year

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word ‘Gaudete’ (meaning ‘Rejoice!’) from the historic Introit. In the midst of this penitential season, we are urged to rejoice in the coming of Christ, although He comes in humility on His way of the Cross. While the Gospel begins with the ministry of St. John the Baptist, who calls us to repentance, his preaching and baptizing—and, as Luther likes to say, his pointing finger—all direct us and lead us to Christ Jesus. What is more, even John’s ignominious death under Herod points ahead to the innocent suffering and death of the Lord Jesus. Paradoxically, it is precisely in His Cross and Passion that the only true joy is found.

Emphasis: The Coming of Christ the Crucified Brings True Joy

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[*The Opening Versicles and Psalmody*]:

O Lord, open my lips. And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Psalm 126 (and/or one or more of the appointed daily Psalms listed below)

<i>Psalms</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<i>Morning</i>	24, 150	122, 145	33, 146	50, 147:1–11	18:1–20; 147:12–20	102, 148	90, 149
<i>Evening</i>	25, 110	40, 67	85, 91	14, 16	125, 62	130, 16	80, 72

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Verse: St. Matthew 11:10b

Behold, I send My messenger ahead of You, who will prepare Your way before You.

Readings for the Third Week in Advent Tide:

Sunday, 14 December 2014

Isaiah 30:15–26; Revelation 2:1–29

Monday, 15 December 2014

Isaiah 30:27—31:9; Revelation 3:1–22

Tuesday, 16 December 2014

Isaiah 32:1–20; Revelation 4:1–11

Wednesday, 17 December 14 *(The Prophet Daniel & the Three Young Men)*

Isaiah 33:1–24; Revelation 5:1–14

Thursday, 18 December 2014

Isaiah 34:1–2, 34:8—35:10; Revelation 6:1–17

Friday, 19 December 2014 *(Adam & Eve)*

Isaiah 40:1–17; Revelation 7:1–17

Saturday, 20 December 2014 *(Katharina von Bora Luther)*

Isaiah 40:18—41:10; Revelation 8:1–13

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Third Article of the Creed (Part II)

What is the Third Article of the Creed?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

The Hymns of the Week

“ONCE HE CAME IN BLESSING”

LSB #333

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles' Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

In the Name ☩ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father Who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever & ever. Amen.

[*The Collect of the Week, Intercessions for each day of the week, and Special Petitions*]:

Collect for the Third Week in the Season of Advent:

Lord, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.*
- Wednesday:** *For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.*
- Friday:** *For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.*

In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

Rebekah Stuckwisch, Sarah Osbun, DoRena Wirgau, and all expectant mothers with their unborn children, that the Lord would keep them in safety and peace;

Rev. Eric Ahlemeyer and our brothers & sisters in Christ at Calvary, Plymouth, as they prepare for their new relationship as pastor and people in 2015; and

Jennifer Balaska (a member of Zion, Detroit, and a friend of several members), recently diagnosed with several forms of cancer, for which she is being treated..

[*The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction*]:

(Morning): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

(Evening): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with us all.

Amen.

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Commemoration of the Prophet Daniel & the Three Young Men Wed'sday, 17 Dec

Daniel the prophet and the Three Young Men—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—were among the leaders of the people of Judah who were taken into captivity in Babylon. Even in that foreign land they remained faithful to the one true God in their piety, prayer, and life. On account of such steadfast faithfulness in the face of pagan idolatry, the Three Young Men were thrown into a fiery furnace, from which they were saved by the Lord and emerged unharmed (Daniel 3). Similarly, Daniel was thrown into a pit of lions, from which he also was saved (Daniel 6). Blessed in all their endeavors by the Lord—and in spite of the hostility of some—Daniel and the Three Young Men were promoted to positions of leadership among the Babylonians (Dan. 2:48–49; 3:30; 6:28). To Daniel in particular the Lord revealed the interpretation of dreams and signs that were given to King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar (Daniel 2, 4, 5). And to Daniel himself the Lord gave visions of the end times.

Commemoration of Adam & Eve**Friday, 19 December**

Adam was the first man, made in the image of God and given dominion over all the earth (Gen. 1:26). Eve was the first woman, formed from one of Adam's ribs to be his companion and helper (Gen. 2:18–24). God placed them in the Garden of Eden to take care of the creation as His representatives. But they forsook God's Word and plunged the world into sin (Gen. 3:1–7). For this disobedience God drove them from the Garden. Eve had to suffer the pain of childbirth and be subject to Adam; Adam had to toil amid thorns and thistles and return to the dust of the ground. Yet God promised that the Woman's Seed would crush the serpent's head (Gen. 3:8–19). Sin had entered God's perfect creation and changed it until God would restore it again through Christ. Eve is the Mother of all living (Gen. 3:20), while Adam embodies all of fallen humanity, as St. Paul writes, "For in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22).

Commemoration of Katharina von Bora Luther**Saturday, 20 December**

Katharina von Bora (1499–1552) was placed in a convent when still a child and became a nun in 1515. In April 1523 she and eight other nuns were rescued from the convent and brought to Wittenberg. There Martin Luther helped return some to their former homes and placed the rest in good families. Katharina and Martin were married on 13 June 1525. Their marriage was a happy one and blessed with six children. Katharina skillfully managed the Luther household, which always seemed to grow because of his generous hospitality. After Luther's death in 1546, Katharina remained in Wittenberg but lived much of the time in poverty. She died in an accident while traveling with her children to Torgau in order to escape the plague.

Looking forward to the Fourth Sunday in Advent**21 November 2014**

Hymns: LSB #336; LSB #337; LSB #356; LSB #357; LSB #359; LSB #398

2 Samuel 7:1–16: *King David piously supposes that he will build a Temple for the Lord, and the Prophet Nathan quickly affirms this plan, only to be told by the Lord that David will not build a house for Him; rather, the Lord will establish a house for David, and an everlasting throne. He will raise up a Son for David, who will bear the iniquities and stripes of men, but who will also live and reign forever in the steadfast love and mercy of God. That Son, of course, is Jesus!*

Romans 16:25–27: *St. Paul's closing benediction to his magnificent Epistle to the Romans glorifies God for revealing Himself through the preaching of the Gospel. This Mystery of the faith is now made manifest unto all the nations.*

St. Luke 1:26–38: *In the beautiful Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel unto the Blessed Virgin Mary of Nazareth, the Word and Spirit of God conceive the almighty and eternal Son within her womb. Thus does the Word become flesh and tabernacle among us, taking for Himself a mortal body that He might give Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. No less amazing or miraculous is the faith that God obtains in St. Mary by the same Word and Spirit, so that she is able to respond and confess: "Let it be unto me according to Your Word!"*