

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 1, 2024

*A Real Christmas Requires Remembering
Why Christ Came*

Opening Hymn 309, “The Advent of Our King”

Order of Service..... Setting One, Page 154

Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (*On Insert*)..... Psalm 24H

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a * / donkey.*

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 301, “Savior of the Nations, Come”

SERMON..... “A Prayer for a New Year of Grace” 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Offering Hymn 717 v. 2, “What Is the World to Me”

Nicene Creed Pages 162-163

Communion Liturgy Page 165

Communion Hymn..... 668, “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

Closing Liturgy Page 170

Closing Hymn 922 vv. 1-3, “This Is the Day the Lord Has Made”

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The LORD promised that a descendant of King David would be our righteous Savior.

Listen, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

In those days and at that time, I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David’s line. He will establish justice and righteousness on earth. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. This is what she will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Christ came the first time so that by his saving work we might be found blameless and holy when he comes again.

Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing he would soon be put to death. This is why Christ came.

After Jesus had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he came near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ahead, saying, “Go to the village ahead of you. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. And if anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you will say this: ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Those who were sent ahead went and found things just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.”

Then they brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their robes on the colt and set Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their robes on the road. As he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God joyfully, with a loud voice, for all the miracles they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” He replied, “I tell you, if these people would be silent, the stones would cry out.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: Because of the confessional nature of the Lord's Supper which is offered today, we invite forward those who are members of a WELS or ELS congregation. If you have questions about the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor.

HEAD USHERS THIS WEEK: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern; next week: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart.

ADVENT WREATH: Today we begin lighting the candles on our Advent wreath. The first candle, which is purple, represents hope. Christmas is the season of Christ's arrival and fulfillment of the waiting for the Messiah. The hope of Christians is in the Second Coming of Christ.

CALL MEETING: Pastor Jesse Knox has returned our pastoral call. Because of this, we have scheduled a new call meeting for **Sunday (TODAY), December 1**. This meeting will begin at approximately **10:30 AM**. All voting members are encouraged to participate!

AREA ADVENT SERVICE & CHILI SUPPER: Bethany Lutheran Church in Hustisford will be hosting an Advent service of lessons and carols on **Wednesday, December 4**, for our area WELS congregations. There will be a chili supper from **5:30-6:15 PM**, and the service will start at **7:00 PM**. If anyone would like to bring something for the meal, a dessert to share would be welcome. Bethany is located at 269 N. Lake Street in Hustisford. They hope to see you there!

CHURCH RE-DEDICATION SERVICE: A special re-dedication service for our church is scheduled for next **Sunday, December 8**, at **9:00 AM**. Many of our school children will be singing at this service and a fellowship hour will follow the service. We hope many of you will take the time to attend this service giving thanks to all those who helped make our church refurbishment project such a beautiful success and especially to praise God for the many blessings he has provided our church and congregation throughout the years!

A FREE-WILL OFFERING will be taken on **Thursday, December 5**, -and- **Sunday, December 8**, to defray the costs of this year's Christmas gifts for the children. The children will be receiving Christmas ornaments.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Boxes of Christmas cards are available for purchase from the "Greeting Card Corner" display in the church basement. Just pick out the boxes that you wish to purchase, complete a payment envelope, and give it to **Diane Koch** or place it in her church mail slot.

CHURCH DECORATING: Please join us on **Saturday, December 7**, beginning at **11:00 AM** to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Those in attendance and helping with the decorating will be welcome to take part in a pizza party that day as well. If you plan on attending, we ask that you sign up on the sheet located on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please include your name and the number of people in your family who will be participating. This will help us in deciding how many pizzas need to be ordered. Thank you!

SEMINARY CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The Seminary Chorus, a 70-voice choir composed of men studying for the pastoral ministry at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI, will present its Christmas concert on **December 8**, at **3:00 PM** and **7:00 PM** in the campus auditorium. The program includes anthems by the choir and hymns for the congregation. The **3:00 PM** concert will also be live-streamed at livestream.com/WLSLive.

WELS WIND ENSEMBLE CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The WELS Wind Ensemble will present their Christmas concert entitled, "How Great Our Joy," on **Sunday, December 8**, at **2:00 PM** in the **Fall River High School Auditorium**. There is ample parking and NO stairs. All are welcome!

SCRIP: If you are still looking for some Christmas gift ideas, check out our scrip (gift card) program. There are various ways to place your order and to obtain your cards. Please direct any questions you may have to **Holly Daley**, our scrip coordinator. There is just **ONE** ordering deadline left before Christmas—**Thursday, December 12**. No orders will be taken after that date until January.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday (11/21): 20; Sunday (11/24): 91

Offerings: \$4,594.00

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,355.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$120.00; Church Refurbishment: \$1,020.00;
St. Matthew's Adult Choir: \$200.00

Memorials: In Memory of Ruth Schultz: \$20.00 *(Church Refurbishment)*



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plate located on the table at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday:	Communion Worship Service.....	9:00 AM
	Sunday School.....	10:15 AM
	CALL MEETING	10:30 AM
	NO Adult & Teen Bible Class	
Wednesday:	AREA Advent Service & Chili Supper (@ Bethany, Hustisford)	
	Chili Supper	5:30 PM – 6:15 PM
	Worship Service.....	7:00 PM
Thursday:	Worship Service.....	7:00 PM
	Adult Choir	8:00 PM
Saturday:	Church Decorating.....	11:00 AM
Sunday:	Church Re-Dedication Worship Service	9:00 AM
	<i>Fellowship Hour to follow</i>	

24H Let the LORD Enter; He Is the King of GloryPsalm 24H

Refrain



Tone



The earth is the Lord's, and every- / thing in it,
the world, and all who / live in it;
for he founded it / on the seas
and established it on the / waters.
Who may ascend the mountain / of the Lord?
Who may stand in his / holy place?
The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart,
they will receive blessing from God their / Savior. *Refrain*

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient doors,
that the King of glory / may come in.
Who is this King of / glory?
The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in / battle.
Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors,
that the King of glory / may come in.
Who is he, this King of / glory?
The Lord Almighty—he is the King of / glory.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***