



Midweek Advent
December 1, 2021
1:00 & 6:30 pm



Messiah Lutheran Church & School

2015 N Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI 54703 ~ 715-834-2865
Affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran Confession ~ CLC

www.eauclairemessiah.com

Large-print copies are by the guest book.

Pastor: Opening Prayer

Hymn 68 – *The Advent of Our King*

Responsive Reading

Pastor: The Bible connects the Word of God with Jesus (John 1:1&14):

Congregation: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: The Bible reveals how precious the Word of God is (Psalm 119:103,72):

C: How sweet are Your words to my taste
Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
The law of Your mouth is better to me
Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.

P: Jesus connects blessings with the Word of God (Luke 11:28 and John 8:31-32):

C: "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"
"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

P: With Peter we confess (John 6:68-69):

C: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Psalm 24 in Song – *Worship Supplement* page 25

Confession of Faith

(taken from Martin Luther's Large Catechism, Second Article of the Apostolic Creed)

I believe that Jesus Christ, God's true Son, has become my Lord.

Let this, then, be the sum of this article: the little word *Lord* means simply the same as *redeemer*. It means the One who has brought us from Satan to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and Who preserves us in the same. But all the points that follow in this article serve no other purpose than to explain this redemption. They explain how and by whom it was accomplished. They explain how much it cost Him and what He spent and risked so that He might win us and bring us under His dominion. They explain that He became man, was conceived and born without sin, from the Holy Spirit and from the virgin Mary, so that He might overcome sin. Further, they explain that He suffered, died, and was buried so that He might make

John 1:14

Heb. 4:15

Luke 1:35

1 Cor. 15:3-4

1 Pet. 1:18-19

satisfaction for me and pay what I owe, not with silver or gold, but with His own precious blood. And He did all this in order to become my Lord. He did none of these things for Himself, nor did He have any need for redemption. After that, He rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death, and finally ascended into heaven and assumed the government at the Father's right hand. He did these things so that the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and lie at His feet until finally, at the Last Day, He will completely divide and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, and sin.

1 Cor. 15:54

1 Pet. 3:22

Heb. 10:12-13

Matt. 25:31-46,
13:24-30, 47-50

Hymn 296 – *Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth*

Sermon Text: John 5:39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

Our Advent Series Theme:

“He is Coming! What Have We Done with His Word”

1. What have we done with His Word *in our hearts?*

A. Our failure to do what Jesus expects us to do.

Confession of Sins

O LORD God, we come before You and confess our sins against Your Holy Word. We have sinned against Your Word by not obeying Your Commandments, by being careless in using the Bible, by being forgetful of its precious promises, by not reading or studying it as we should, by not sharing its blessed teachings with others, by not cheerfully and whole-heartily supporting the preaching and teaching of Your Word.

For such sins and all other sins against Your Word, we are sorry and find forgiveness in Jesus.

B. What Jesus does to rescue us

Absolution of Sins

Following the confession of your sins, I announce to you the grace of God in Christ Jesus and by the authorization of Jesus and in His place I forgive you all your sins through the shed blood of Jesus, God's own Son.

Preaching Today: Pastor Tiefel

Hymn 75:1,4 Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken

(the offering will be received during this hymn)

Quartet: It's About the Cross (6:30 pm service only)

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy.

Congregation: hear our prayer.

P: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Your will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Benediction - Congregation: *Amen* (sung)

Hymn 558 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

Liturgical settings from the “*Lutheran Service Book*,” ©2006 Concordia Publishing House. “*Concordia The Lutheran Confessions*,” ©2005 Used by permission. License #000013556. Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version® of the Holy Bible, ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.