



December 12-13, 2020
The Third Weekend
In Advent



Give the king Your judgments, O God, And Your
righteousness to the king's Son. He will judge Your
people with righteousness, And Your poor with
justice. (Psalm 72:1-2)

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.

Today's Worship

For a printed liturgy, see the green liturgy folder, page 25.

Pre-Service Devotion: God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them ... For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
(2 Corinthians 5:19a,21)

Hymns: 55 63 66 50

Epistle Reading1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

Gospel Reading.....John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ... ¹⁹ Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the LORD," ' as the prophet Isaiah said." ²⁴ Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. ²⁵ And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. ²⁷ It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." ²⁸ These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Sermon Text Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

¹“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.” ...

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Sermon Theme: Jesus goes from **A**dvent to **A**scension

- I. Because His **a**ssigned mission was to help the helpless
- II. Now with His mission **a**ccomplished I have been rescued and (did you know?) so have you.

Preaching Today: Pastor Paul Tiefel



A Blessed Christmas and safe travel to the Immanuel students going home this week for the holidays. We at Messiah appreciate the privilege we have to serve as your “church home” away from home. May God’s Spirit fill your hearts with joy that the Savior was born for you. We look forward to seeing you again in the new year.



Communion Announcement: Since the Lord’s Supper implies a unity of faith and confession, we ask that those who have not previously participated with us in the Lord’s Supper meet first with the pastor to discuss our Scriptural doctrine before partaking of the Lord’s Supper in our services. In this practice of closed communion, we seek to follow and obey the Word of God.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version® of the Holy Bible, ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

This Week at Messiah

Masks required indoors as required by the public health department.
Sunday services are live-streamed and archived on eauclairemessiah.com.

- Sun, 12/13** 9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #10, Counters D)
10:15 am Bible class/Sunday School/Young Adults
11:15 am Sunday School Teachers’ Meeting
3:00 pm Piano and organ recital at ILC
- Mon, 12/14** 5:00 pm Building Committee
- Tue, 12/15** 6:00 pm Outreach
6:30 pm Board of Education
- Wed, 12/16** 4:30 pm Afternoon Catechism
6:30 pm Advent Service (Ushers #12)
7:30 pm Council
8:00 pm Ruth’s Retreat
- Fri, 12/18** 7:00 pm **Christmas Concert Hillside by ILC Gym**
- Sat, 12/19** 10:00 am Christmas Eve Practice for 3:30 pm Service
2:00 pm Christmas Eve Practice for 6:30 pm Service
6:30 pm Worship Service (Ushers #9)
7:45 pm Bible class/Sunday School
- Sun, 12/20** 9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #14, Counters E)
10:15 am Bible class/Sunday School/Young Adults



Coming Up: • Dec. 24, 3:30 & 6:30 Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve Service RSVP: In years past Christmas Eve service attendance was over 600. This year our seating will be limited due to social distancing. The kids have been working on two services (3:30 and 6:30). Our theme is "Lights of Longing." We will examine Old Testament lights that lead us to the Light of the World. We really don't want to turn people away on the day of, so we have decided to fill the sanctuary as follows. We'll figure out how much seating will be filled by immediate family members of the children participating. Then we'll fill in the rest of the available seating by RSVP open to anyone. We will announce the RSVP method and opening date soon. These services will also be live-streamed and archived like our regular services. We don't like having limitations like this. We appreciate your understanding and patience. -Pastor Caleb

The piano and organ students at Immanuel Lutheran High School will be having their annual Christmas Recital on Sunday, December 13, at 3 pm in the ILC Fieldhouse. We have a number of students from our congregation playing this semester. Come and enjoy the Gifts of Christmas Music!

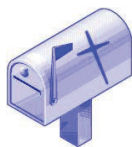


Announcements

Weekend Bible Class: Pastor Naumann begins a Bible class series on a book entitled "Rainbow Savior." The subject is about how to give a Scriptural and balanced response to those who are struggling with same-sex attraction. Our aim in such a discussion should be to seek and to save on the Savior's behalf. **Messiah's young adults group** will meet with this Bible class during this 4-part series. Please join us, in person or via live stream, in order to be better prepared to reach precious souls with God's saving Word!

Advent Wednesdays: This year we have a single midweek Advent service each Wednesday at 6:30 pm since the school is using the Sanctuary as a classroom because of COVID restrictions. Our theme is *"The Holy Spirit works sight unseen to make Christmas possible."* This Wednesday we consider *"The Spirit's Work of Conversion, Bringing Sinners to Faith in the Bethlehem Baby."* The service will be live-streamed. Join us in preparation to celebrate the Savior's birth!

It is the time of the year that our members use the mailboxes at church to connect with one another. To make this as easy as possible, the Deacons approved the plan that the doors to the narthex will stay open until 1:00 pm on Sundays through January 3rd. This will offer members who choose not to attend the worship services the opportunity to come and go at less busy times. Pastors can be contacted for other times as needed and requested by members.



Outreach Idea – The Outreach Committee had a special meeting last Tuesday just to consider new ideas for 2021, especially since COVID has altered many of our normal efforts (VBS, parades, God's Kids Bible Camp, Here We Grow Again, Northern WI State Fair, and others. In fact, this Sunday Dec. 13 was to be an one day December VBS which we had to cancel). Our meeting this week will give us a chance to examine in greater detail the many new ideas (over 24) that were brought up. However, one idea we are suggesting for implementation right now. We have prepared a sample letter which members may copy or edit for their personal use. The letter is intended to be sent by our member to a non-member (relative, co-worker, fellow student, neighbor, friend). The letter mentions an "enclosed pamphlet." There are a variety of pamphlets for members to share to enclose, as they think best. The sample letter and pamphlets are available for review and pick-up on the Communion Registration table in the narthex. You can also download the text and customize the letter for your own use, at tinyurl.com/2020-sampleletter. May the Lord bless our efforts, as He did the shepherds, as we seek to make widely known the saying which God has told us about the Baby Jesus.

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Service Preview for the Upcoming Weekend
GOD'S WORD SERVING US:

Sermon – 2 Samuel 7:8-16
Bible Class – Rainbow Savior (part 2)

CHRISTIANS SERVING US:

Wednesday 12/16 6:30 pm: Usher Team 12
 Dave Johannes Joel Gullerud
 Josh Gurgel Paul Gurgel
 Mark Hammond Jacob Hammond
 Kevin Hulke Paul Meyer

Saturday 12/19 6:30 pm: Usher Team 9
 Ben Thurow Vic Wentz
 Paul Tiefel III Scott Wuerch
 Jason Zimmerman Steve Lentz
 Randy Wirth Joe Schierenbeck
 Eric Kelly

Sunday 12/20 9:00 am: Usher Team 14
 Dave Rodebaugh Dan Kelly
 Jon Kelly Seth Schaller
 Tim Schaller Christian Schaller
 Dave Schrader

Counters for the week following 12/20 – E
 Stacy Behlmer, Mark Hammond, Jon Oster

Thank you!

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Address updates:

Abigail Aichele, 3210 Oak Knoll Dr.
 Eau Claire, WI 54701 ~ (715) 579-9902

Cameron and Collin Aichele
 3417 Miller St., Eau Claire, WI 54701

Bryan Sydow
 313 Westover Rd, Eau Claire, WI 54701
 651-434-1663

Rachel Schrader (Greta)
 5716 Christopher Dr., Eau Claire WI 54703

John Johannes, Jr.
 1426 Terrill Street #27
 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Nick Naumann
 1104 1st Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Shirley Johnson c/o River Pines
 206 N. Wilson Drive
 Altoona, WI 54720 ~ (715) 598-7984

Nominations for ILC Professor: The following nominations have been received to fill the professorship vacated by the impending retirement of Professor John Reim at the end of the 2020-21 academic year: Pastors Paul Krause, Neal Radichel, Rob Sauers, and David Schaller. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight December 29, 2020 (letters postmarked December 24, 2020) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

Ushers: In your mailbox you will find a copy of the usher schedule for 2021. On the back of the schedule is the team roster. Also included is a document titled "Usher Duties During Public Health Emergencies." These procedures **supersede** our standard usher duties during the current pandemic / health orders. The standard "Guidelines for Ushers" will be updated and distributed once we are out of the current health emergency. The usher schedule and team roster, etc. can also be found here: www.tinyurl.com/usher-packet. Captains; please review your team members on the roster sheet. **Teams have changed significantly.** If you have any questions, please contact Tom Joos. My email is tjoos@charter.net; you can also contact him at 715-529-3432. Thank you for your service!

Contact Information for Messiah Lutheran Church & School

Pastor Paul Tiefel 715-834-2865 (Office) 715-829-2000 (Cell)
 Pastor Bruce Naumann 715-834-2865 (Office) 715-864-3465 (Cell)
 Pastor Caleb Schaller..... 715-577-6199 (Cell)
 Seth Schaller – Principal – Gr. 7-8... 715-834-2865 (Office) 715-577-6276 (Cell)
 Blane Knutson - Sunday School Superintendent 715-581-4724 (Cell)

Christian Grade School Teachers

Mrs. Rachel RosendahlPre-K	Mrs. Valerie Hammett (am)....Grade 4
Mrs. Eileen Tiefel Kindergarten	Mrs. June Schmid (pm)Grade 4
Mrs. Carrie Reim Grade 1	Mrs. Lori Wirth (Gr. 5-8) Language Arts
Mrs. Amy Mielke..... Grade 2	Mr. Paul Tiefel III..... Grades 5-6
Mr. Andrew Roehl..... Grade 3	Mrs. Samantha KellyMusic

Highlights from the Dec. 6 Special Voters' Meeting <> **The meeting opened** with a devotion and prayer. There were 34 voters present, with 7 present via live stream. <> **Election** - Tim Schaller was elected to fill the vacancy on the Board of Property. <> **Treasurer Steve Lentz** reported that we expect to increase our General Fund balance by about \$20,000 by the close of the calendar year. <> **After a report from the Compensation Committee**, these proposals were adopted:

- The base salary for called workers be the teachers' base salary
- The teachers' base salary for 2021 was set at \$2,800 per month.
- The pastors' base salary was set at the base salary +25%.
- (Note: The Principal is already set at the base salary +15%)
- The school technology manager (currently Mr. Paul Tiefel) was set at the base salary +10%.
- The pay rate for hourly workers was increased to \$12.00 per hour.

<> **Budget** - A motion carried to approve the 2021 budget at \$778,000 (the current year budget is \$736,000). <> **A motion carried** to thank Jim Sydow for his 6 years of service as congregational president. <> **The meeting was adjourned** at 7:15 pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Benediction.

CLC News

The annual Christmas Party at Immanuel is being held Thursday, December 17. If you are able to provide any snacks or drink for the students, please mark them as ILC Christmas Party and leave them in the kitchen or office at Messiah or in the office at Immanuel. Thanks. Unfortunately, we are unable to invite visitors to this event due to pandemic restrictions.



The ILC Christmas Concert will be held Friday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. Because of the mild forecast for Friday, the concert will be held outside on the hillside next to the gym. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs. The concert will be open to the public. Please fill out <https://tinyurl.com/ChristmasILCconcert> if you plan to attend the Christmas choir concert next Friday. Thank you!

On the Rise! As endeavors to spread the Gospel overseas continue to increase, so do our opportunities to support these endeavors. Of the current overseas seminary students, there are currently five students that do not have stateside sponsors. Please consider becoming a sponsor through the CLC KINSHIP program. The cost for this particular sponsorship is \$35/month (\$420/year). There will also be sponsorship opportunities for the overseas orphan population in the near future, and KINSHIP would welcome folks who are willing to be put on the "wait list" for those sponsorships. These sponsorships require a similar financial commitment. Contact is Dan Roehl (danroehl@hotmail.com or 507-381-2042).

2021 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal - With an application deadline quickly approaching and still so much uncertainty concerning international travel, vaccination requirements and availability, and government restrictions on gatherings in Nepal due to the pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel the 2021 trip that was tentatively scheduled for July with the prayer that things will be back to normal enough by this time next year to make plans for 2022.

CLC News: Teacher Matt Thurow, Berea, Inver Grove Heights, MN. has returned the call to teach grades 4-8 and serve as principal for Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC. <> Recently colloquized Terry Stringer, a member of St. Stephen, Heyward, CA has been called and has accepted the call by Trinity, Spokane, WA to serve as Assistant Vacancy Pastor in a one-year call. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt is the vacancy pastor. <> Pastor Michael Gurath, Holy Cross, Phoenix, AZ has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran, Cheyenne, WY.

CLC Financial Report - November

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2020	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 5 Months	Balance 11/30/2020
General Fund	0	395,817	445,018	457,250	- 49,201
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	580,797	517,079	574,225	63,718
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	201,448	2,137	127,936		75,649
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	14,542	2,001,115	1,060,436		955,221
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	84,054	87,229	84,056		87,277
Kinship	86,093	79,121	60,822		104,392
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,914,371	1,411,915	131,682		3,194,604
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	84,280	44,716	51,258		77,738
Reserve Fund	294,092	0	0		294,092
Total	\$2,678,880	\$3,626,233	\$1,516,190		\$4,788,923

General Fund – November offerings of \$119,293 (incl a special member gift of \$50,000) vs disbursements of \$96,054, resulted in a net gain reducing our operating deficit by \$23,233. Compared to last November CBP offerings are \$20,000 higher, disbursements are \$2,000 less, and the current deficit is \$23,000 less. While much improved, there remains a sizeable CBP General Fund deficit. Looking again down the last Balance column above, we continue to be blessed with very positive balances in all our other funds! Our CBP General Fund continues to need our major support since it funds the general operating expenses of our church body and provides the major subsidy for **the work of our Boards of Trustees, Regents, Missions, and Ed & Publications**. Lord, increase our faith through the faithful use of Your Means of Grace, and according to Your promise, provide us Your needful blessings to respond with bountiful fruits of faith for Your work.

ILC Operations – ILC November revenue of \$85,805 vs disbursements of \$108,650, which are more than revenues received this month, but still much less than budgeted, and still a positive balance!

ILC Building Projects – November receipts were \$1,056 vs disbursements of \$1,960 for the Planning Committee expenses. With the long-term indebtedness on the Academic Center & North Hall paid in full from a member Charitable Remainder Trust, the appointed ILC Planning Committee is moving forward with a recommendation for consideration by our next CLC Convention in June 2021 for a new gym, and repurposing the 50-year-old gym for ILC chapels, band/choir practices, plays, musicals, & CLC larger gatherings. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

CEF – November revenue was \$44,629 from 21 CEF loan re-payments vs disbursements of \$3,949 in monthly administration expenses. The \$3 million balance may be needed in the near term for several large loans which are anticipated.

MDF – November offerings of \$10,537 vs disbursements of \$19,789, which includes the 6th of 12 \$10,000 construction loan installments for the Nepal Bible Institute classroom. (View building progress at: <http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com/2020/12/progress-in-nepal.html>)

IIF – November offerings of \$371 vs disbursements of \$3,435 for Covid-19 related expenses.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8 ^{NIV})

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

Messiah Shut-ins: Ida Drews (2455 Sawgrass Place #213, Altoona), Marge Eckel (1431 Peterson Ave.), Shirley Johnson (2512 New Pine Dr. Altoona), Mae Noeldner (3706 Damon St. #17), Ellen Knuth (Care Partners, 887 Brian Lane, Altoona), Connie Larson (1500 S. Edgewater Dr.), Tom and Linda Larson (3134 Eldorado Blvd.), Betty Nolting (HeatherWood Assisted Living #213), Mavis Thelen (418 N. Barstow), Ted Thurow (Altoona), Paul Tiefel, Sr. (2455 Sawgrass Rd #419, Altoona), Johanna Williams (2118 Augusta St.) and Shelly Williamson (Bellevue, IA).

*Oh, rejoice, ye Christians, loudly,
For our joy hath now begun;
Wondrous things our God hath done.
Tell abroad His goodness proudly
Who our race hath honored thus
That He deigns to dwell with us.
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,
Christ hath done away with sadness!
Hence, all sorrow and repining,
For the Sun of Grace is shining! Amen.*

TLH 96:1

Fruits of Faith Last Week – Dec. 5 & 6, 2020

Weekend Worship: (Sat. 95 - Sun. 123) 218

Communion: 212

Bible Class: (Sat. 19 - Sun. 32) 44 Sunday School: (Sat. 2 - Sun. na) na

Online: (Worship: 361, Bible Class: 94)

Young Adults: 24

Advent Dec. 9 (In-person: 90, ILC Streaming: 40, Online: 163)

*Let all things now living
A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us,
Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us;
His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light. Amen.
W.S. 792*

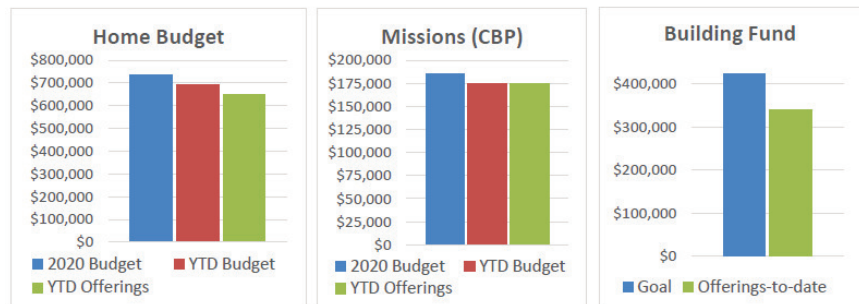
Weekly Offering Information

Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)
2020 Budget	\$736,000.00	\$185,000.00
YTD Budget	\$693,538.00	\$174,327.00
YTD Offerings	\$648,818.19	\$174,943.42
Weekly Need	\$29,061.00	\$3,352.00
Last Weekend (12/6)	\$12,938.52	\$3,051.83
Amount Still Needed	\$87,181.81	\$10,056.58

Building Fund	
\$425,000.00	Goal
\$340,442.60	Offerings-to-date
\$84,557.40	Still Needed
\$2,115.00	Last Week (12/6)

Given in memory of...

Joe Eder	50.00 Project Kinship
Harold Gilbertson	10.00 Messiah Building Fund
Phyllis Green	75.00 Messiah School Building Fund
Gerhardt Mueller	100.00 Messiah Building Fund
Jan Rothbauer	25.00 Messiah Building Fund
Dorothy Sibbers	10.00 Messiah Building Fund



December contributions for 2021. If you are make any contributions yet this year for income tax or other purposes, with the intention that they are meant as your contributions for 2021, we ask that you note your contribution as being for 2021. If you use offering envelopes, you may just write "2021" on the envelope. If you make your contributions electronically through egive, please let Dennis Oster know which contributions are for 2021. Providing this information will allow the Church Council and voters to make more informed decisions when budgeting and planning for the future.



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Dec. 14-19, '20.

Mon Isaiah 61:1-3,10-14 Who needs *good tidings*? Those who are poor in spirit, who need healing for a broken heart, and are hoping for reprieve from prison. In ancient Israel, everyone looked forward to the Jubilee year, when God turned society back to square one. These are spiritual matters dressed in earthly garb (1-3), of course, and spiritually minded people understood the picture language—that Jehovah had *clothed them with the garment of salvation, the robe of His own righteousness*. Praise the LORD!

Tues John 1:6-8,19-27 God gave John a great privilege—to hold high the torch for Jesus (6-8) and explain that his own role in God's great enterprise (19-26) was subsidiary to the person and work of Jesus. So, pay attention to Jesus and don't confuse anyone else as a possible contender for God's glory!

Wed 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Are these mandates? Recommendations? They are exhortations, urging us to be spiritually minded. For our own good (and for the good of others) God is reminding us that we can rejoice always, we can pray habitually, we can give thanks in every situation. How come? Because God is our ally, devoted to our welfare and dedicated to hold us tight all the way to Doomsday (23). We can depend on God (24)! Hallelujah!

Thurs Psalm 71 Since God, the LORD/Jehovah, is the basis for our prayer (1-3), we plead for all sorts of deliverance—just as He has done in the past (5-6), is still doing in the present (7-8) and will do in the future (9-11). Adversaries should cringe (12-13) before Him who supports us (14-16) as we advance through life (17-18). Summary: Since You, O LORD, are for me (19-21), I am speaking up for You (22-24). Please, advance Your Advent into this world!

Fri Luke 4:18-21 Six centuries earlier, Jesus had prompted Isaiah to introduce Him to His people, and now (at the right time and in the right place) Jesus stepped forward. Why? To reveal that Isaiah had Jesus in mind when he outlined the Mission of the Messiah. Were the Hebrews ready for His arrival? Some were; most were not. Same story today. Lord, have mercy on us!

Sat Acts 19:21-32 Who wouldn't be upset if your life were so intertwined with your religion that your status in society, your friendships, and your job security depended on it? We understand. We've been there, too, but on the other side of the fence, for we are integrated with God and God's religion. Back to the future: In old Ephesus Paul was targeted for his Jesus/Advent preaching, for idolaters were outraged that he had the audacity to diss their favorite female goddess and patron. Satan knew how to deceive them with a sex symbol, and he is still pulling that dirty trick on our money-and-sex-idolatrous society today. Come quickly, Lord Jesus!