

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

3676 Centerville Road
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

*"We grow, live and serve so that
the world will know the story of Christ!"*

First Sunday in Advent

DECEMBER 2, 2018



Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper.

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Monday, December 3

3:30 PM - Piecemakers

Tuesday, December 4

9:00 AM to 6:PM- Free Bread Distribution

7:30 PM - AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 5

10:00 AM - Advent Bible Study

5:00 PM - High School Youth — Bell Ringing (Cub Foods)

6:00 PM - Advent Vespers Service

6:30 PM - Confirmation Class

6:30 PM - Bible Study

Thursday, December 6

3:45 PM - Yoga Devotion—Chair Yoga

6:30 PM - Executive Committee

Friday, December 7

Saturday, December 8

9:00 AM - Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Event)

11:00 AM - Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal

Sunday, December 9 - Second Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM - Worship—Sunday School Christmas Program

10:15 AM - Fellowship Time (No Sunday School)

ADVENT READING

A devotional practice to begin today, December 1st. The Gospel of Luke has 24 chapters. Read one chapter a day until Christmas, December 24. A reflection of why Jesus was born.



ALL CONGREGATIONAL ADVENT FESTIVAL, TODAY, FROM 2 TO 4 PM

Join us this afternoon to celebrate the beginning of Advent. Enjoy an afternoon of music, crafts, snacks and worship. There are many ways to participate in this festival. Simply come and enjoy. Bring a friend! Provide a snack to share. All levels of participation are welcomed!

Two outreach projects planned—collecting **new socks and underwear** to donate to the White Bear School District Closet—a place where students and families can come and pick out needed clothing. Secondly, making Christmas cards for those people living in Care Centers.

The afternoon will end with an Advent Candle Lighting service and prayer.



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS ADVENT VESPERS DECEMBER 5, 12, & 19 6:00 TO 6:30PM

Join us for an evening of prayer and song following the order of service of Holden Evening Prayer. We will take a moment to pause and reflect on the anticipated coming of our Lord and Savior during this season of Advent.

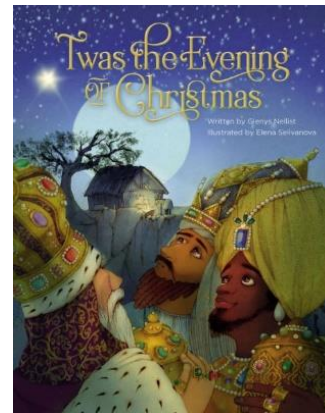


PROGRAM REHEARSALS

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL AND FAMILY POTLUCK Saturday, December 8 from 11 AM to 7 PM

Parents, drop your kiddo off at 11 AM.
Come for dinner at 5 PM.
Please bring an item for the potluck.

After dinner they will have the kiddos exchange gifts. Please bring a wrapped gender-neutral gift not to exceed \$5. Any questions contact Wendy or Jodie.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, DURING THE 9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

"Twas the Evening of Christmas" when all through the town—every inn was so crowded" delivers the message of Christ's birth incorporating the animals of the stable, the nearby shepherds, and the visiting Magi into the retelling. We will journey with them as they find their way to a very special manger in Bethlehem.

WHITE BEAR EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF

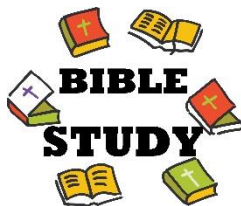
We again have been asked if we would collect items and assemble **Holiday Baking Bags** for the White Bear Food Shelf. Items to include in the bag: flour, sugar, oil, baking powder, powdered or brown sugar, and a spice (cinnamon or nutmeg). The cost is estimated to be about \$10 per bag. You are welcome to bring whatever you can.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree is up for 2018. So far this year we have received names for 6 families and 39 individuals.

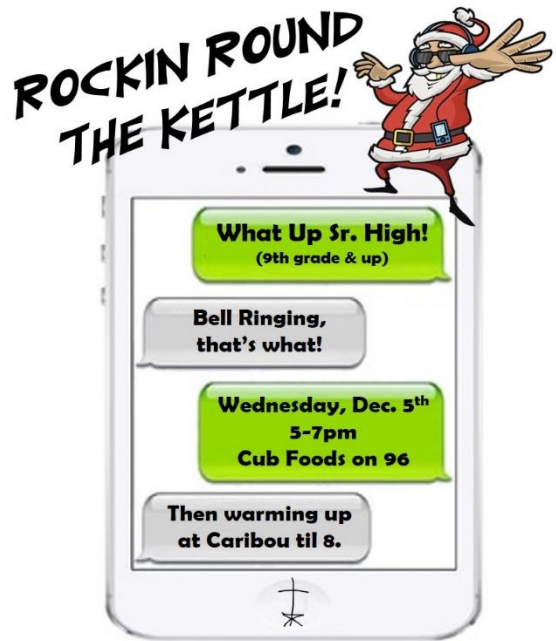
You are welcome to select a tag from the tree, purchase and wrap the gift, and return the gift to the church on or before Sunday, December 16, for delivery on the 17th. If you would like to give a donation to help with a gift, envelopes are also available.



ADVENT WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDIES
DECEMBER 5, 12, & 19
10:00 AM & 6:30 PM

SENIOR HIGH ROCKIN' ROUND THE KETTLE!

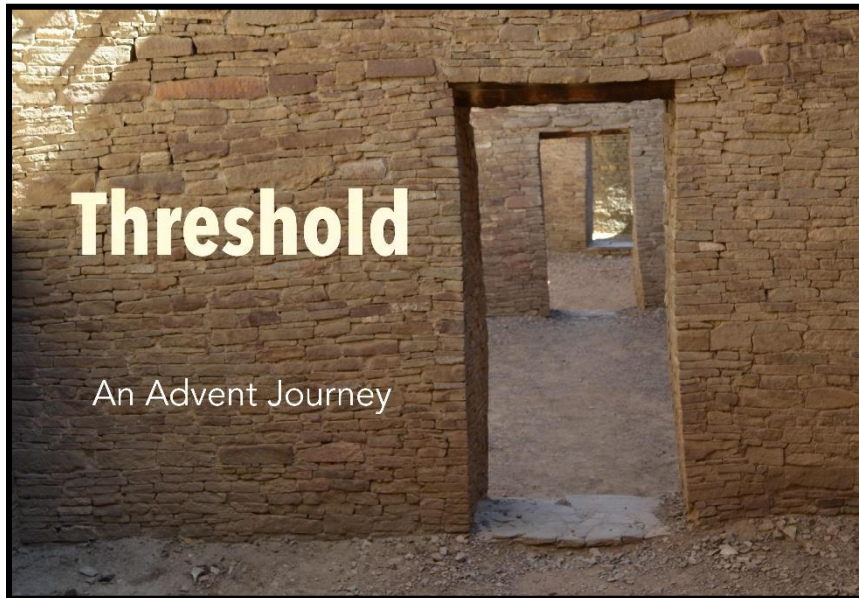
Wednesday, December 5
5 to 7 PM
Cub Foods on 96
If you need a ride, please call Lori or
Janelle! See you there!



SUNDAY SCHOOL
INTER-GENERATIONAL CLASSES
DECEMBER 16 AND 23

Instead of the regular Sunday School classes on December 16 and 23, our Sunday School leaders invite you to join the students in making special craft projects. Supplies needed: Gallon "Clean" Milk Jugs, Cardboard TP rolls and paper towel rolls. Deposit in bag by Sunday School bulletin board!

Advent Week One



This week's focus: Approaching the Threshold

Approaching threshold moments, there are a bunch of unresolved and disturbing feelings. Life is transient and fragile. Suddenly changes can happen, and we can find ourselves unsettled, restless, and facing an uncertain and unknown future. Fear and petulant resistance are real forces with which we must contend. What lies ahead is unknown and uncharted territory. We wonder with every ounce of spiritual strength what lies ahead.

This week's guiding Word: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Christmas Poinsettia Garden



In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Cost is \$10.00 each. Indicate number to order below.

____ Red

____ White

____ Pink

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Form may be placed in offering plate or turned into the office on or before December 9th. Thank you!

You may take your plant after the 10:30 PM service on Dec. 24th.