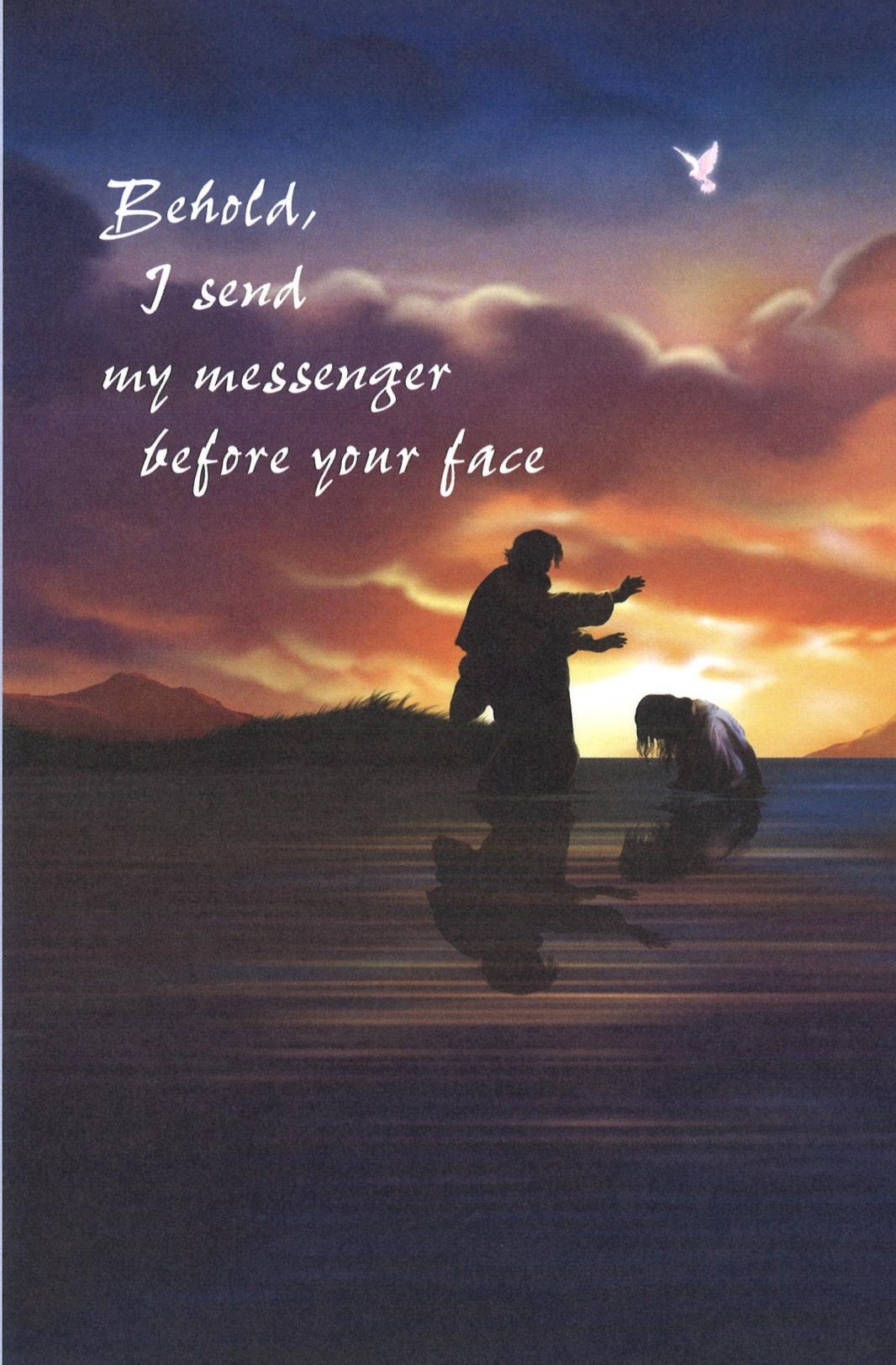


Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

W240 N3103 Pewaukee Road, Pewaukee, WI 53072

Phone: 262-691-0720 Email: office@christpewaukee.org

*Behold,
I send
my messenger
before your face*





SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 10, 2017

Worship Leader: Pastor Richard Warnecke
Preacher: Pastor Richard Krause

Prayer: Gracious God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the hearts of your people for the coming of Christ. Guide our pastors to also prepare our hearts for Christ's coming through their proclamation of the law and the gospel. Move us to repent of our sins and to believe in Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God, who came to take away our sins. Open our hearts that we receive our Redeemer as he now comes to us in Word and Sacrament. Amen.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

HYMN 14 "Arise, O Christian People"

(Please stand to sing the final stanza.)

INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

To avoid disruptions, please silence your cell phones before worship.

Be seated

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

(all sing)

**“Oh, Christians, HEAR!” God’s urgent Word
Proclaims the coming of the Lord.
Let us with faith our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.**

P: Even in the darkness of life’s chaos and confusion, the light of God’s promise shines brightly forth. The PROPHECY CANDLE assures us that, in the coming of Jesus Christ, our God does keep his word.

C: When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads because your redemption is drawing near. *(Luke 21:28)*

P: The BETHLEHEM CANDLE bids us hear the Word of God with penitent and faithful hearts, and so to make ready for the coming of the Lord.

C: It is written in Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one crying in the desert: Prepare the way for the Lord.” *(Mark 1:2, 3)*

P: May the glow of these candles symbolize the light of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ, shining in us by the power of the Holy Spirit. May our paths be lighted with his peace, not only now, but all the days of our lives.

(all sing)

**Stir up your pow’r, O Lord, and come
And lead us to our heav’nly home.
From sin’s dread dangers, by your might
Protect us, Lord, both day and night.**

**All praise to you, eternal Son,
Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Isaiah 40: 1-11*

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her

that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the LORD;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out."
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.
The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the LORD blows on them.
Surely the people are grass.
The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever."

You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.
He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

EPISTLE LESSON *2 Peter 3: 8-14*

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

HYMN 27 “O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are”

SERMON TEXT *Mark 1: 1-8*

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—
“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

SERMON THEME JOHN THE BAPTIST: THE MESSENGER OF CHRIST

- I. Christ is stronger.**
- II. Christ is greater.**
- III. Christ is holier.**

GATHERING OF THE THANKOFFERING

Stand

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

“Comfort My People”

The soloist will sing the verses. Please sing the refrain responses.

Comfort, my people, and calm all your fear;
The day of salvation is quickly drawing near.
The One you long to see will soon set you free.
O come, Lord Jesus, come. (refrain)



Silence the thunder, silence sounds of war.
End all destruction and comfort those who mourn.
Your dream draws near; your vision is here.
O come, Lord Jesus, come. (refrain)



Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church!

If you are visiting, please sign the guest book in the gathering area and come back and worship with us again soon! After signing the guest book, you are invited to join us for a cup of coffee or juice and refreshments after the Sunday morning service. Please pick up a copy of our newsletter, *The Crownical*. You'll find copies on the kiosk in the gathering area.

Available Services: There are restrooms in the coatroom area, the parents' room and downstairs across from the fellowship hall. Hearing Assistive Devices are available from an usher. We have both ear buds and loop FM receivers for those with hearing aids. Our ushers are glad to provide large print bulletins or worship folders for those needing them.

Attention Parents: If you need a place to take a crying or noisy child during the service, you may use the parents' room adjacent to the sanctuary. You can hear and view the service there. You will find a diaper changing station in the parents' room and in both restrooms located in the coatroom area.



Christ Kids is a children's church opportunity for young children (ages 1-4 years old) during the 10:30 am Sunday worship services. The children are invited to the nursery room for the duration of the service for Christ-centered learning and activities designed just for them! Take the grand stairwell (next to the library) downstairs and follow the signs to the Christ Kids classroom.

This Week at Christ Lutheran

- Sunday:** Worship Services 8:00 & 10:30 am
Reformation Adult Bible Class 9:10 am
Adult Sunday School 9:10 am
Bible Information Class 9:10 am
Sunday School 9:10 am
Teen Bible Class 9:10 am
Christmas for Kids in Erin 2:45 pm
Worship Service at Erin School 5:00 pm
- Monday:** Mission Creek Worship Service 10:30 am
Bible Information Class 5:30 pm
Worship Service 7:00 pm
- Tuesday:** Early Risers Bible Class 8:00 am
Youth Confirmation 5:45 pm
- Wednesday:** Midweek Advent Worship Services with Lord's Supper 12:00 & 6:30 pm
Advent Meals 12:45 & 5:30 pm
Junior Choir 5:00 pm
Bible Information Class 5:30 pm
- Thursday:** Enduring Word Bible Study 9:00 am
Handbell Choir 6:00 pm
Adult Choir 7:15 pm
- Friday:** Lambs of Christ Christmas Service 4:30 pm
Lambs of Christ Christmas Fellowship 5:15 pm
- Saturday:** We Need(le) You 9:00 am
Sunday School Christmas Practice 9:30 am
Bible Information Class 3:30 pm
Worship Service 5:00 pm
- Next Sunday:** Worship Services with the Lord's Supper 8:00 & 10:30 am
Reformation Adult Bible Class 9:10 am
Adult Sunday School 9:10 am
Bible Information Class 9:10 am
Sunday School 9:10 am
Teen Bible Class 9:10 am
Worship Service at Erin School 5:00 pm

News & Events

Our last midweek Advent worship services will be held on Wednesday, December 13, at 12:00 & 6:30 pm. Advent meals are held at 12:45 & 5:30 pm.

German-English Advent worship services will be held on Wednesday, December 20, at 12:00 & 6:30 pm. German meals will be held at 12:45 & 5:30 pm. See details on page 11.

Christmas at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary - Join the Seminary Chorus **TODAY** (December 10) at 3:00 and 7:00 pm for **Christmas at the Seminary**. The men's choir will share the story of Jesus' birth in songs, carols and hymns. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is located in Mequon at 11831 N. Seminary Drive. The concert is held in the campus auditorium, and seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. The 3:00 pm concert will be streamed live at <http://livestream.com/WLSLive>.



The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra will present a service of Celtic Advent music for the 5:00 pm worship service on Saturday, December 23, at our Pewaukee location. The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra was formed at St. Marcus, Milwaukee. They traditionally assembled annually for an all-Irish service there every March, which encouraged awareness of the history of the Christian faith in ancient Ireland, as well as introduce the rich Celtic tradition of fantastic hymns and riveting music. Their core members started touring around to other churches and a few years later they've been all over the country. In 2009 they wrote *The Celtic Service*, a liturgical worship service based on the traditions, writings, and music of the earliest Christians in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. They later wrote two more Celtic Services including the *Celtic Advent Service*.

The Christmas Poinsettias which will beautify our altar area for the Christmas season may be purchased for \$10-\$28 depending on size. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the gathering area with an attached envelope for your payment. The poinsettia(s) may be taken home after our Christmas Day worship service.

Tomorrow's Choice - If anyone would like to donate toys, gifts, gift cards or clothing to a family at Tomorrow's Choice Family Resource Center, please contact Carol Delie, 262-893-3223 or caroldelie3@gmail.com. Thank you!

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH - For the month of December, Pastor Paul and Aneela have extended an invitation to our Asian friends to join our congregation to celebrate Advent and Christmas and share the joy of this season with us. Your help in welcoming these guests as friends is essential.

Pakistan Mission - Pastor Paul and his wife Aneela will be hosting a sale of baskets, rugs and brass vases from Pakistan to aid our WELS ministries in Pakistan. More information will be available at the sale table on **Saturday, December 16**, after our evening worship and **Sunday, December 17**, after the 8:00 and 10:30 am morning services. The items are beautiful and the monies received help spread the gospel in this mission frontier.

Child Care Help During Activities Needed: Christ Lutheran's International Friendship Center invites young mothers of the immediate neighborhood to join in the activities of our congregation. If you are able to offer time on a Saturday morning to read a Bible story or show a movie to the small children while their mothers participate, please contact the church office at 262-691-0720 to volunteer.

Christ Kids Help: Christ Kids is a children's church opportunity for the very young children of our congregation (ages 1-4 years old). We offer Christ Kids every Sunday during the 10:30am worship service. The children enjoy an age appropriate lesson, singing, crafts and coloring, snacks, and play time. If you have a love for the young children and families of our congregation and are willing to partner with us in serving them, please contact Pastor Tom Engelbrecht.

Creation Museum Tour - Friends of Wisco are invited to attend a special bus tour to visit the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter in Petersburg, KY, June 7-10, 2018, hosted by WLHS president Pastor Ken Fisher and WLHS Foundation executive director Kristine Metzger. We expect the trip to fill up fast, so consider making this an early Christmas present to your spouse, yourself or a family member! Deadline to register is Wednesday, January 31, 2018. Cost and registration details can be found at www.wlhs.org/creationtour.



German-English Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 20

12:00 & 6:30 pm

Plan to join us for our German-English Advent services on Wednesday, December 20. All are welcome. You do not need to be a fluent German speaker to hear the gospel message that day. At 12:45 and 5:30 pm beautiful German meals of Sauerbraten, Rotkohl, Stollen, Kaffee and Kuchen will be served as in past years. Please feel free to invite friends, family and neighbors to this unique event.

Christmas Worship at Christ Lutheran Church

Lambs of Christ Children's Christmas Service

Friday, December 15, 4:30 pm

Christmas Eve Morning Services

Sunday, December 24, 8:00 & 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Children's Service

Sunday, December 24, 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Sunday, December 24, 11:00 pm

Christmas Day Service of Carols

Monday, December 25, 9:30 am



Bible Studies

Sunday School is held on Sundays at 9:10 am in the lower level classrooms. Children from 3 years old through 8th grade are welcome to attend. Registration is simple—just bring your child downstairs to class and the teachers will sign you up! Parents, give your children the greatest gift of all, the love of Jesus.

Teen Bible Study is held on Sundays at 9:10 am in the teen room. All high school students are invited! We will spend the next few weeks learning how the Lutheran Reformation 500 years ago still gives hope and optimism to us today.

Adult Sunday School is held on Sundays at 9:10 am in the library and will follow the same lessons as the Sunday School children—a great class for Sunday School parents, but everyone is welcome to attend!

An Adult Bible Study on Luther and the Reformation is held on Sundays at 9:10 am in the fellowship hall. This partial video series will consider the history, theology, and lasting influence of Luther. Pastor Krause leads this class. On Sunday, December 24, we will study the Christmas story.

Bible Information Class: Review the fundamental teachings of the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible. This is an excellent class for anyone interested in becoming a member of our church and a good refresher course for members. Class meets weekly on Saturdays at 3:30 pm, Sundays at 9:10 am, Mondays at 5:30 pm, and Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. Please contact Pastor Warnecke if you have any questions at 262-691-0720, ext. 250 or pastor-warnecke@christpewaukee.org.

Early Risers Bible Class meets on Tuesdays at 8:00 am in the library. As Lutherans throughout the world celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation this year, what better way than to study the book of Galatians—Martin Luther's favorite epistle. Here the Bible teaches so clearly that salvation is not the result of Christ's merit and human effort working together. Rather, salvation is purely the gift of God, by grace alone, through faith alone in Jesus Christ. Human works play no part. Make time to attend this class and find great encouragement in the saving love of our God.

Enduring Word Bible Class meets on Thursday at 9:00 am. Join us as we study the book of Daniel to learn how God rules history—a fitting series which addresses the growing turmoil in our troubled world. Find here a comforting message of optimism for all who put their trust in the Lord, with a sobering warning for those who refuse to acknowledge God's gracious rule.

Three-year Daily Bible Reading Program

Here are the daily readings for the next two weeks:

Dec. 10 1 Corinthians 15:35-58	Dec. 15 Psalm 33	Dec 20 Psalm 37:21-40
11 1 Corinthians 16	16 Psalm 34	21 Psalm 38
12 Psalm 30	17 Psalm 35	22 Psalm 39
13 Psalm 31	18 Psalm 36	23 Psalm 40:1-10
14 Psalm 32	19 Psalm 37: 1-20	24 Psalm 40:11-17

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP

<u>General Fund 2017</u>	<u>2016-2018 Growing in Faith</u>	Current Membership:	1452
Last Week: \$29,780	Last Week: \$6,013	Church Attendance:	834
Year to Date: \$946,654	Appeal to Date: \$1,910,430	Christian Education:	297

SCREEN TEAM SCHEDULE

<p>Sat. Dec. 9 5:00 pm Kelly Marks</p> <p>Sun. Dec. 10 8:00 am Albert Eddinger 10:30 am Nicole Nelson</p> <p>Wed. Dec 13 12:00 pm Barb Brandt 6:30 pm Cory Lopnow</p>	<p>Sat. Dec. 16 5:00 pm Aaron Warnecke</p> <p>Sun. Dec. 17 8:00 am Lily Hanson 10:30 am Steve Bothe</p> <p>Wed. Dec. 20 12:00 pm Mark Gall 6:30 pm Jessica Macpherson</p>
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SCHEDULES

Ushers for Sat., Dec 9, 5:00 pm: Dennis Szymanski, Kelly Harrington, Pete Salamone		
Sun. Dec. 10	8:00 am	10:30 am
Greeters	John & Mary Gilbert	Chris, Cheryl & Hailey King
Ushers	John Gilbert, Sr., Alex Crucius, Mike Laabs, Jack Willert	Steve Mulvey (O), Jerry Houtler, Pete Salamone, Glenn Neumann
Nursery	Leslie Houtz	Tricia LaPlante
Coffee Hour	Rick & Cindy Eastman, Gary & Dawn Loke, Joe & Mimi Muehlbach	Deb Heuer, Ruth Chamberlain, <i>Jalane Otto & Amanda Magnus (bake)</i>
Ushers for Monday, Dec. 11, 7:00 pm: Mike Whitney, Jim Olson		

Ushers for	12:00 pm	6:30 pm
Wed. Dec 13	Tom Lindner, John Gilbert	Dale Lindenberg, Wayne Lindenberg, Tim Rausch, Tom Eddinger
Dec. 20	Mark Ramthun, John Gilbert, Sr.	Dale Lindenberg, Wayne Lindenberg, Tim Rausch, Tom Eddinger

Ushers for LCLC Christmas Service, Dec. 15, 4:30 pm
Steve Mulvey (O), Pete Salamone, Jerry Houtler, Glenn Neumann

Ushers for Sat., Dec 16, 5:00 pm: David Baehler, John Gilbert, Sr.		
Sun. Dec. 17	8:00 am	10:30 am
Greeters	Eric & Alicia Ulm	Barb Brandt, Marilyn Driscoll
Ushers	Gary Hanke (O), Brad Tessmann, John Johnson, Dennis Szymanski, Cory Lopnow	Richard Zirbel (O), Kenneth Nowak, Doug Bartsch, Mike Panno, Dan Zirbel
Nursery	Mandy Pearce	Kerry Andrews
Coffee Hour	Jim & Karen Schroeder, Freddy & Kasey Netzlaw, Katie Crees	Lisa Klement, Jacki McMullen, Burke Joyce, <i>Jo Stahl (bake)</i>
Ushers for Monday, Dec. 18, 7:00 pm: David Reid, Ken Gehl		

Pew Cleaning for Dec. 12: Marc & Brenda Nuckolls, Reid Family
Pew Cleaning for Dec. 19: Marc & Brenda Nuckolls, Reid Family
Altar Guild for December: Judy Tetting, Sharon Manka



ABOUT THE COVER: God the Father speaks clearly to His people. Through the words of the prophet Isaiah, He tells His people what He is doing and why He is doing it. Therefore, He sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, and He sends people of faith to prepare the way for people to come to faith through the Holy Spirit. As a Christian, you have also been made a messenger of God.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
is a member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

W240 N3103 Pewaukee Road, Pewaukee, WI 53072

If we can be of service to you, please feel free to contact one of the people listed below:

Rev. Dr. Richard A. Krause, Senior Pastor:	pastorkrause@christpewaukee.org
Rev. Timothy R. Gerbing, Discipleship Pastor:	pastorgerbing@christpewaukee.org
Rev. Richard H. Warnecke, Outreach Pastor:	pastorwarnecke@christpewaukee.org
Rev. Thomas M. Engelbrecht, Assimilation Pastor:	pastorengelbrecht@christpewaukee.org
Pastor Paul & Aneela, International Friendship Center:	pastorpaul@christpewaukee.org
Rev. Dale R. Baumler, Visitation Pastor:	dbaumler@wi.rr.com
Mrs. Andrea Valerio, Music Director:	avalerio@christpewaukee.org
Mrs. Molly Brooks, Preschool Director:	mbrooks@christpewaukee.org
Mr. Gary Kamin, Business Manager:	gkamin@christpewaukee.org
Mrs. Alicia Ulm, Administrative Secretary:	office@christpewaukee.org

Church Office Hours: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Phone: 262-691-0720 Fax: 262-691-4861 Email address: office@christpewaukee.org

Church website: www.christpewaukee.org Find us on Facebook, too!

WELS website: www.wels.net