

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020**

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Ed Clifford; Ashlyn; Bob Wagner; Sally Stilwell & family; Tim & Becky Geary & family; Mike & Bev Geary & family

**THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is today. Many thanks to Amy Wagner and the Sunday School teachers for all their hard work!

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given today by Mike & Cathy Spencer.

**ADVENT SUPPERS & SERVICES** continue this Wednesday, December 16. Supper is at 6:00pm and the service is at 7:00pm.

**ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES** follow the theme of “Now and Not Yet.” Join us as we examine the Old Testament lessons from our Sunday services to see the fulfillment of God’s promises for His people—now, and not yet!

**MASK-REQUIRED SERVICES** will be held **every** Wednesday at 11:00am. There will be **no services** Wednesday, December 30.

**THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** is having a short series on Christmas texts, themes, and topics. Join us 12/17 for Luke 2, Matthew 1 & 2, the Star of Bethlehem, and more!

**THANK YOU** to Marilou Linnemeier and Barb Sheets for their work on the Giving Tree and Socks for Vets, and thank you to all who donated. All our giving projects were very successful this year!

**CALENDAR**

Sun. Dec. 13 (Advent 3)	8:00 & 10:00am Worship 9:00am Children’s Christmas Program 11:30am Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group
Wed. Dec. 16	11:00am Holy Communion (mask req’d.) 6:00pm Potluck Supper 7:00pm Holy Communion
Thu. Dec. 17	7:30pm Bible Study
Sun. Dec. 20 (Advent 4)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study / Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation

## INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY DEVOTIONS

These suggestions can help you and your family stay connected to the church year and focus on what we hear, sing, and pray together on Sunday. Each week looks forward to the next Sunday. Pick three days this week to do a short devotion. Each day you might do this:

1. Read one reading and the “Thinking About.” How do the readings fit together? What themes do you see?
2. Sing or read the hymn. Ask Pr. Mullet to borrow a hymnal. You should be able to find it on YouTube if it’s unfamiliar!
3. Pray the Collect of the Day and the Lord’s Prayer.

### THIS COMING SUNDAY IS: December 20 / Advent 4

**OT:** Deuteronomy 18:15-19

**GOSPEL:** John 1:19-28

**EPISTLE:** Philippians 4:4-7

**HYMN:** LSB 357

**COLLECT OF THE DAY:** Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

The coming of God in all His unveiled power at Mount Sinai was terrifying to the people of Israel. The thundering voice of the Lord puts sinners in fear of death (Deut. 18:15–19). God, therefore, raised up a prophet like Moses—the Messiah, the Christ. God came to His people veiled in human flesh. The skies poured down the Righteous One from heaven; the earth opened her womb and brought forth Salvation (Introit) through the blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of the Lord (Luke 1:39–56). The fruit of her womb is the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, the One whose sandal strap John was not worthy to loose (John 1:19–28). In Jesus we are delivered from fear and anxiety. In Him alone we have the peace of God which surpasses all understanding (Phil. 4:4–7).