

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 1 & 2, 2018

Known by **LOVE**
Live by **FAITH**
A Voice of **HOPE**

Sermon Notes

Greetings Friends,

This is the first Sunday in Advent. If you look at today's Gospel reading it appears to be more ominous than hopeful—words like anguish, terror, perplexity. In this, Advent is a reminder to us that chaos and Christmas go together. And it has been that way since the first Christmas when a very pregnant, unmarried woman and her fiancé travelled many miles to pay taxes only to find no available lodging.

Today we look at how faith and hope work together in times of chaos. Faith keep's banging on hope's door.

And please join us this Wednesday at 4:30 or 7:00 (with a meal at 5:30) as the God of Hope comes to be with us as Shepherd. Our theme verses this week come from Isaiah 40:11: *"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."*

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Bill Hugo

TODAY!

10:45 a.m.= Children's Choir will present a favorite for the season of Advent, "Ring in Joy", while accompanying themselves on hand bells. Many thanks to our musicians and to all worship assistants for their leadership throughout the weekend. To God be the glory!

Prayers for the Week of December 2

Josh Nehring is having a procedure on his leg to correct his tendons and muscles. **Amy Rogers** will be having surgery this week.

GIVING TO THE LORD

Weekly Worship Attendance: 110
November Tithes & Offerings to date: \$27,798
November Budgeted Offerings: \$30,000

Bill Hugo, Pastor † Carol Blase, Coordinator of Music
Brenda Hugo, Coordinator of Children's Ministries † Faustina Allen, Director of Teen Ministries
Kathy Rosenberg and Rose Davis, Parish Nurses † Ruth Petersen, Office Manager
Julie Sventek, Director - DCLC - 763-789-4030

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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 4

6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meeting at Community Grounds, 560 40th Ave. NE

Wednesday, December 5

4:30 PM ADVENT WORSHIP

5:30 PM SUPPER

6:00 PM CHILDREN'S CHOIR

7:00 PM ADVENT WORSHIP

7:45 PM CANDLELIGHT CHOIR

Thursday, December 6

9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meeting at Community Grounds, 560 40th Ave. NE

6:30 PM CANTATA CHOIR

6:30 PM YOGADEVOTION

Saturday, December 8

5:30 PM WORSHIP, WITH DCLC CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Sunday, December 9

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

CANTATA SUNDAY

8:00 AM WORSHIP

9:15 AM BEFRIENDERS

9:30 AM EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

10:45 AM WORSHIP

Advent Worship Services and Meals:

Wednesdays, Dec. 5, 12, 19.

Worship at 4:30 pm and 7:00pm.

Soup supper will be held between services at 5:30pm.

"HOPE!" Christmas cantata will be presented next Sunday, Dec. 9 at both 8:00 & 10:45 a.m. services. This is a great time to invite family, friends, and neighbors to experience with you the message of hope God sends to us through His Son, Jesus. A two-keyboard duet, flute solo and lots of seasonal songs will fill these services.

GriefShare begins again in January with new daytime sessions! Please note that there was an info error in the Dec. *Newscene* regarding start up times and dates in January. The correct info is as follows: The 12-week session at St. Matthew begins on Thurs., Jan. 24, 12:30 to 2:30 through April 4. This will replace the Wednesday night groups that we have hosted in the past. Questions or interest? Contact Kathy Rosenberg at 612-296-1812.

TAKE HOME DETAILS AVAILABLE IN NARTHEX

Pick one up today!

Missions – Sunday School & St. Matthew Congregation:

SACA – Peanut butter, Tuna, Mac & Cheese (Their website has other opportunities for volunteering and donations.)

FMSC – quarters in mini M&M tubes – one filled tube feeds 63 kids! (You may register on the Feed My Starving Children website to participate in packing meals, or visit their on-line gift shop and purchase items to support the ministry.)

Blessings Bags - Many have been prepared and are ready for distribution (thanks Teens and SPLASH!). Stop by the office and pick one up. But be aware if there are liquids/lotions/gel products in any bags you take with you, and do not allow them to freeze in your car.

Pennies for Patients – Children bring in found/earned change for the 'penny wars'. Adults may donate via the Pennies for Patients Leukemia and Lymphoma website, student series: <https://events.ils.org/pages/mn/St-Matthew-Lutheran-Church-2019>

YOGADEVOTION! Held weekly on Thursday evenings in the Willer Room., 6:30 to 7:30pm. The current session runs through December 20; 7 weeks, \$56 total per person. Sign up on the Health & Wellness bulletin board or call the church office. All levels are welcome! Join any-

St. Matthew Lutheran Church Youth Group is taking a mission trip with YouthWorks to Rapid City, SD, *June 9th-14th, 2019.*

This mission trip is available for a mixed age group so all are welcome.

Please learn about the mission trip at:

<https://youthworks.com/trips/rapid-city/>

All interested participants should register now thru Dec. 10th. A deposit for the trip is \$100. Please let Faustina Allen know if you have any questions.

ONGOING PRAYER NEEDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME DESK AND IN THE CHURCH OFFICE - UPDATED MONTHLY.