

✧ Called to be Christ's Community of Truth and Mercy ✧  
 ✧ Saved by Grace - Solid in the Word - Here to Serve ✧

## Welcome!

*"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42*



### Holy Communion

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of our Lord Jesus Christ's true body and true blood. Reception of the Lord's Supper expresses not only fellowship with the Lord, but also fellowship and agreement with the teaching of the pastor and congregation. We want to express our sincere welcome to our guests and assure them that out of care for each person and a desire to be faithful to God's Word we follow the biblical practice of closed communion. **All guests are kindly asked to please speak with Pastor Gaunt before communing at our altar.** Normally, people from churches in fellowship with the LCMS, are welcome to partake. Those not communing, who so desire, may come to the altar to receive a blessing. So that the pastor knows you desire a blessing please cross your arms over your chest. Please pray with us that we might all be truly united in the teaching of our Lord's precious word. (For further study: 1 Cor. 11:17-34; Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 6:26-29.)

## Prayers of the Church

**Circuit Congregation** St. Paul, Lowell Health Issues + Marydae Eigenberg + Bill Fintel + Linda Parsons + Don Nissen + Kara Nissen + Rose Witt + John Parsons + Kay Krueger + Dee Janssen **Military** + Tyler Mars + Ross Peters + Gary Thompson

## In His Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah R. Gaunt  
 Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt  
 Altar Guild: December: Tonda Wolfe  
 Elders: Dale Grotelueschen, Dustin Russell  
 Acolyte: Merrick Russell

## The Lord's Week

Sunday	Dec.	11	8:30am 9:00am 10:30am	Pre-Service Prayer ( <i>West wing</i> ) Divine Service Sunday School, Bible Study
Monday	Dec.	12	6:00pm	Choir Practice
Tuesday	Dec.	13	9:30am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Bible Study Board of Finance All Boards
Wednesday	Dec.	14	5:30pm 7:00pm	Midweek Meal-L.W.M.L. Midweek Advent Service III
Saturday	Dec.	17	10:00am	Children's Program Practice
Sunday	Dec.	18	8:30am 9:00am 10:30am	Pre-Service Prayer ( <i>West wing</i> ) Divine Service Sunday School, Bible Study

### John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord . . ." (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah's coming through repentance, for "all flesh is grass" (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, "Are you the one who is to come . . .?" (Matt. 11:2). Jesus' works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord's hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The "stewards of the mysteries of God" (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ's overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God's people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.



## DIVINE SERVICE

*Setting Three*

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Prelude & Ringing of Bells	
Hymn	#344
Confession & Absolution	p. 184
<b>Service of the Word</b>	
Introit	<i>insert</i>
Gloria Patri	p.186
Kyrie	
Salutation and Collect	
First Reading	
Gradual	
Epistle Reading	
Verse	<i>insert</i>
Holy Gospel	
Nicene Creed	
Hymn of the Day	#345
Sermon	Matthew 11:2-10
Offertory—Choir Anthem	
"Herald of Good New"	
Offering	
Prayer of the Church	
<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	
Preface & Proper Preface	p.194
Sanctus & Lord's Prayer	
The Words of Our Lord	
Pax Domini & Agnus Dei	
Distribution & Hymns	#637 #338 #354
Dismissal & Nunc Dimittis	
Thanksgiving & Collect	
Salutation & Benedicamus	
Benediction	
Hymn	#346
Postlude	
Announcements	
P: <i>Go In Peace</i>	
C: <b>Thanks Be To God!</b>	

## News and Notes of Interest

**Divine Service:** Sunday, Divine Service 9:00 A.M.  
10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study

**Birthdays 12/12** Jessica Hammond **12/13** Sharac Henderson, Michael Johnson **12/14** Carolyn McClure **12/16** Brooklyn Boutin, Susan Fullerton **12/17** Mary Wolzen **Baptismal 12/12** Collin Fowler **12/13** June Rose **12/14** Kay Krueger **12/15** Elijah Russell **12/17** Adalynn Swier **Wedding Anniversaries 12/12** Jon & Dianne Botsch

**Choir practice 6:00 PM** in the choir loft on Monday, Dec. 19. to prepare for Advent and Christmas Eve!

**Lifequote** "Christmas is also a time to contemplate the gift of mortal LIFE through the miracle of birth. Christmas is the gift of LOVE that moms and dads shower on their children by saying yes to life—sometimes under very difficult circumstances. Regardless of the challenges, God has a perfect plan for each life that He brings into the world, and His will for them is to out-sparkle and out-shine any ornament." • *lutheransforlife.org*

### Wednesday - Midweek Advent Service

**Advent 3** Dec. 14 5:30pm Meal- L.W.M>L.  
7pm Advent Worship

**Advent 4** Dec. 21 7:00pm Childrens' Christmas Program

**Wellspring Christmas Project.** This Advent and Christmas season we are partnering with the other congregations in our circuit and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to support the work of Wellspring Pregnancy Center here in Hastings. Every dollar we collect will be matched by the Million Dollar Life Grant provided by the LCMS Life Ministry. **You may place your donations in the box provided in the narthex.** At Christmas we celebrate the fact that God sanctified human life by giving His Son, born of the virgin Mary. How appropriate to support the work of Wellspring this holiday season!

## The Congregation at Prayer

"We must know this: all our shelter and protection rest in prayer alone. For we are far too weak to deal with the devil and all his power and followers who set themselves against us. They might easily crush us under their feet. Therefore, we must consider and take up those weapons with which Christians must be armed in order to stand against the devil (**2Co 10:4; Eph 6:11**). But what do you imagine has done such great things up till now? What has stopped or quelled the counsels, purposes, murder, and riot of our enemies, by which the devil thought he would crush us, together with the gospel? It was the prayer of a few godly people standing in the middle like an iron wall for our side. Otherwise, they would have witnessed a far different tragedy. They would have seen how the devil would have destroyed all Germany in its own blood. But now our enemies confidently ridicule prayer and make a mockery of it. However, we shall still be a match both for them and the devil by prayer alone, if we only persevere diligently and do not become slack. For whenever a godly Christian prays, 'Dear Father, let Your will be done' (see **Mt 6:10**), God speaks from on high and says, 'Yes, dear child, it shall be so, in spite of the devil and all the world.'"

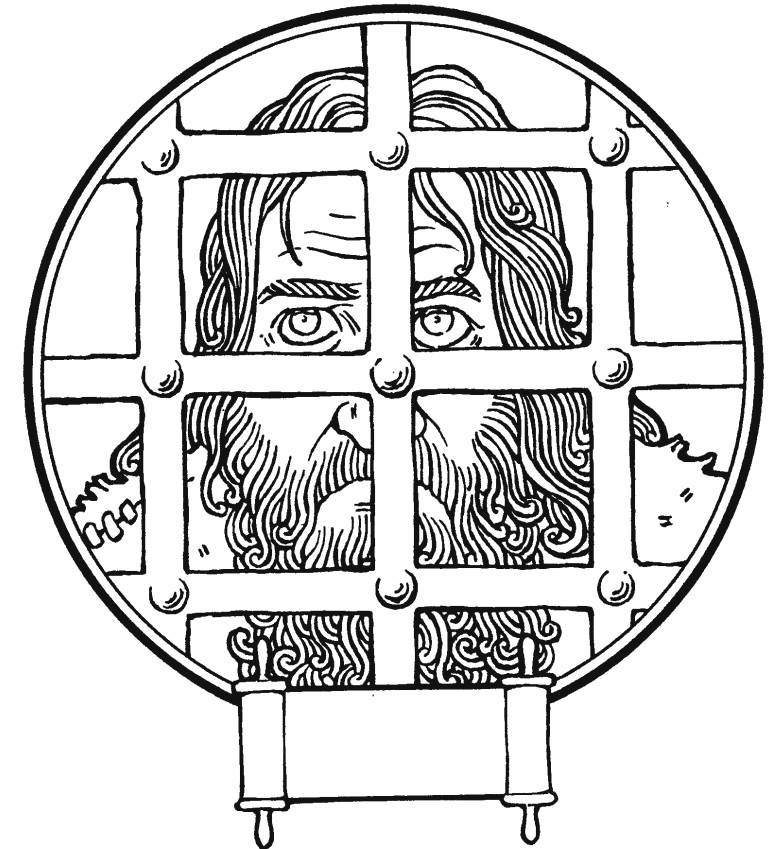
Martin Luther, *Large Catechism*,  
3.30-32

Catechism: Review Commandments 1-8 with Explanation

**Next Week's Readings:** Deuteronomy 18:15-19,  
Philippians 4:4-7, John 1:19-28

Third Sunday in Advent  
Divine Service Setting 3

December 11th  
9:00am



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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