

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

Welcome!

“Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.” Acts 3: 19-20



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 Zion, Red Cloud **Health Issues** + Sara Stutzman + Marydae Eigenberg + Bill Fintel + Linda Parsons + Don Nissen + Kara Nissen + Rose Witt + John Parsons + 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: Dustin Russell, Derek Zeisler, Kevin Hoins
 Acolyte: Isaac Russell, Merrick Russell, Victor Gaunt

The Lord's Week

Sunday	Dec.	25	8:30am 9:00am	Pre-Service Prayer (<i>West wing</i>) Christmas Day Divine Service
Monday	Dec.	26	9am-4pm 10am-2pm	Church office closed for Christmas Fellowship Hall Reserved
Mon.-Fri.	Dec.	26-30		Christmas Break - No Classes
Wednesday	Dec.	28	7:00pm	Childrens' Christmas Program
Sunday	Jan.	1	8:30am 9:00am 10:30am	Pre-Service Prayer (<i>West wing</i>) Divine Service Sunday School, Bible Study

The Living and Life-Giving Word of God Dwells among Us in the Flesh

In the beginning God created all things through His Word, His Son. But man fell into sin, and with man all creation was cursed. Therefore, God spoke His Word again, this time into the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary. The glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle of our human nature (Ex. 40:17-21, 34-38). "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:1-14). The Son of God took on our flesh and blood and died on the cross in order that we might receive the right to become the children of God through faith. Baptized into Christ's body, we are made partakers of a new Genesis, "the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:4-7). In Christ, the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man has truly appeared.



Prelude & Ringing of Bells	
Hymn	#379
Confession & Absolution	p.184
Service of the Word	
Introit	<i>insert</i>
Gloria Patri	p.186
Kyrie	
Hymn of Praise "Gloria in Excelsis"	
Salutation and Collect	
First Reading	
Gradual	
Epistle Reading	
Gospel Procession	
Holy Gospel	
Nicene Creed	
Hymn of the Day	#384
Sermon	John 1:1-14
Offertory	
Offering	
Prayer of the Church	
Service of the Sacrament	
Preface & Proper Preface	p.194
Sanctus & Lord's Prayer	
The Words of Our Lord	
Pax Domini & Agnus Dei	
Distribution & Hymns	#374 #387
Dismissal & Nunc Dimittis	
Thanksgiving & Collect	
Salutation & Benedicamus	
Benediction	
Hymn	#367
Postlude	
Announcements	
P: <i>Go In Peace</i>	
C: Thanks Be To God!	

News and Notes of Interest

Divine Service: Sunday, Divine Service 9:00 A.M.

Members: Wednesday, December 28th at 7:00 p.m. please plan to attend the Childrens' Christmas Program with special music, reception to follow!

Birthdays 12/27 Christy Robinson 12/28 Archie Augustin, Allen Glathar, Lee Melvin 12/30 Jamie Russ
12/31 Ezlynn O'Shea **Baptismal** 12/26 Carolyn McClure, Liza Grotelueschen 12/29 Justin Thurin
Wedding Anniversaries 12/28 Bill & Joan Primrose 12/30 Larry & Jessica Hammond 12/31 Brian & Jennie Theesen

Lifeflavor "There is no more clear-pointed, rest-giving demonstration of the love of God for you than the gift of His Son." • lutheransforlife.org

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! **Our Childrens' Program and Christmas Eve** offerings will go to support this Project.

Marriage Retreat. We are hosting an event aimed to strengthen and foster all marriages. Here's the plan: The Rev. Dr. Justin Hammemann will lead a seminar **Saturday, January 14th from 1-5** at Peace. Follow-up Saturday, participants are invited back to debrief and discuss what they learned. The cost of the seminar is \$25 a couple. Mark your calendars and join us for what promises to be a wonderful opportunity for growth and fellowship! Register by emailing revgaunt@gmail.com or calling the church office at (402) 462-9023.

2023 **Calendar** update reminder (All Boards) to church office by Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023 or sooner. Thanks!

Epiphany Service 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 4th, a joint Epiphany Service at Zion Lutheran Church, Hastings

"Blessed For Life" is Lutherans For Life's theme for **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, January 22, 2023.** Start saving your change for the Baby Bottle Fundraiser for Wellspring Pregnancy + Health Center here in Hastings. More information to follow!

*Immensity, cloister'd in thy dear womb,
Now leaves His well-beloved imprisonment.
There he hath made himself to his intent
Weak enough, now into our world to come.
But O! for thee, for Him, hath th' inn no room ?
Yet lay Him in this stall, and from th' orient,
Stars, and wise men will travel to prevent
The effects of Herod's jealous general doom.
See'st thou, my soul, with thy faith's eye, how He
Which fills all place, yet none holds Him, doth lie ?
Was not His pity towards thee wondrous high,
That would have need to be pitied by thee ?
Kiss Him, and with Him into Egypt go,
*With His kind mother, who partakes thy woe**

- From *La Corona*, John Donne

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

You may wish to jot down notes to guide your prayers while at worship and throughout the week. Consider using the texts from this Divine Service in your prayers

Revelation

What has surfaced for you in the context of God's word?

Thanksgiving

What have you noticed God doing in your life?

Confession

Confess your sins to God Who loves you. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what has kept you from true fear, love, and trust in God. Ask God to remove the love of sinning and to lead you in His perfect love.

And Forgive Us our Trespasses

Pray...

For the gift of forgiveness.

For the certainty of forgiveness and a clean conscience.

To forgive those who have sinned against you from your heart.

That God would bless your enemies and for reconciliation.

People to Pray For

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 11:1-5, Galatians 4:1-7, Luke 2: 22-32.

Christmas Day
Divine Service Setting 3

December 25th
9:00am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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