



THE CROSS

December 24, 2023

CHRISTMAS EVE EMMANUEL - GOD WITH US

DECEMBER 24, 2023

3PM & 7PM WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS DAY THE MAGI

DECEMBER 25, 2023

9:30AM WORSHIP

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

9:30AM WORSHIP

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday December 24

3pm - Worship

7pm - Worship

Monday December 25

9:30am - Worship

Sunday December 31

9:30am - Worship



**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 22 - MONDAY,
JANUARY 1**

**JOIN US FOR ALL OF OUR
CHRISTMAS SERVICES**
Christmas Eve - 3pm & 7pm
Christmas Day - 9:30am
December 31 - 9:30am

**THERE WILL NOT BE ANY
CROSS ANNOUNCEMENTS
NEXT WEEK**

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Darwin Behlke for continued healing following triple bypass surgery.

Jill Schwartz who continues to face health concerns.

Heather as she faces ongoing health concerns.

Bethany Sheilds for healing and answers going into heart surgery in January.

Our members facing long term health concerns: Bob Modrow, Mary Sporer, Myrna & Jim DeCamp, Shirley Alton, and Mark Wanggaard.

UPCOMING WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

December 24 - 3pm

Worship Asst: Stacey Robe

Ushers: Val Nance,
Grace & Harold Holm

Communion Asst: Lisa Sell,
Sandy & Jim Georgeson

Power Point Tech:

Jakob Mohalley

Sound Tech:

Andy Anderson

Livestream Tech:

Heather Keszler

December 24 - 7pm

Worship Asst: Leah Krueger

Ushers: Pam Tague,
Colin McKenna

Communion Asst: Mary Hauch,
Danielle Smith, Pam Tague

Power Point Tech:

Veronica Petrach

Sound Tech:

Chuck Petrach

Livestream Tech:

Zeke Petrach

December 25 - 9:30am

Worship Asst: Stacey Robe

Ushers: Steve Dues,
Jeff Wunderle

Communion Asst:

December 31 - 9:30am

Worship Asst: Stacey Robe

Ushers: Steve Dues,
Colin McKenna

Communion Asst:
Sandy & Jim Georgeson

Power Point Tech:

Valerie Nance

Sound Tech:

Andy Anderson

Livestream Tech:

Gayle Wint

2023 CONTRIBUTIONS

In order for contributions to be counted for 2023, they either need to be postmarked by December 30 or brought to the church by December 31. If you bring them to church when the office is closed you can put them in the slot at the bottom of the door closest to the doorbell.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2024 offering envelopes are now available in the Gathering Area for those who still receive them.

YOUTH NIGHT

Enjoy these pictures from Monday night's Youth Night in Kenosha! Our youth gathered with the youth from St. Mary's and Mount Pleasant.



HOPE. PEACE. JOY. LOVE.



The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church in Thessalonica. In it he said:

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

(1 Thessalonians 3:9-13)

Friends, we live in the pull between the past and the future. We live in the now and the not yet. The ending of Advent and the beginning of a new church calendar year provides us an opportunity to reflect on how we live with purpose. Like the Thessalonians, we wait for the promise of Jesus' return, and yet we grow weary of waiting. Paul understands this tension and reminds this fledgling church, and us today, that we don't wait alone and that while we wait there is God's work to be done! Paul prays that love will increase among the people, **for God is most fully revealed to the world by love.** This love that looks forward, moves us forward, transforms our present reality. Building each other up in love, praying night and day, looking for God's work in the world while we wait, pulls us into the hope of God's promises for newness, forgiveness, and mercy through Jesus.

December is a time of waiting and preparing...for more than the presents and the parties. We wait for the proclamation of the Good News that God became human — a stunning thing to contemplate to be sure! And God sent messengers ahead to prepare the people there for his coming. This Advent we looked at those messengers and their messages to prepare our hearts, homes, and lives for a renewed relationship with our Lord. And this weekend we will celebrate the Birth of our Savior and be reminded of God's promises of **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love offered to us, not just this season-But every day of our lives!** God Bless you ALL and Merry Christmas!

Love and Peace,
Pastor John

Happy Birthday!

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|------|-----------------|
| 12/23 | Pat Klein | 1/2 | Trevor Smith |
| 12/23 | Morgan Rosemann | 1/3 | Jim DeCamp |
| 12/24 | Marc Henkel | 1/3 | Darlene Wayo |
| 12/24 | Aaron Kozlik | 1/4 | Scott Peters |
| 12/27 | Madelyn Baumgardt | 1/4 | Dori Rossmann |
| 12/27 | Heather Keszler | 1/6 | Sue Wertman |
| 12/28 | Joan Ashton | 1/8 | Mike Nelson |
| 12/29 | Amanda Cikel | 1/9 | Del Alton |
| 12/30 | Anna Nielsen | 1/9 | Keri Carlson |
| 12/30 | Bob Sharpe | 1/10 | Rick Sterberl |
| 12/31 | Marv Campbell | 1/11 | Anton Baumgardt |
| 12/31 | Ryan Israel | 1/12 | John Hewitt |
| 12/31 | Glenn Napier | 1/12 | Jayson Smith |
| 1/1 | Mary Ann Kangas | 1/13 | Jared Smith |
| 1/2 | Kathy Anderson | | |

Happy Anniversary!

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|-------|---------------------------|----|
| 12/28 | Debbie & Mike VanderLeest | 49 |
| 12/29 | Jackie & Tom Nelson | 39 |
| 12/30 | Christy & John Cline | 5 |
| 12/31 | Kari & Mark Blagec | 13 |

SCRIP CARDS ARE AVAILABLE

Christmas will be here before you know it! Gift cards are always a great stocking stuffer or also the best gift. Scrip cards are available for purchase on Sunday mornings. We ask at this time you pay only by check and make it out to LCR Scrip. If you have any questions contact Danielle at 262-989-1999.



LCR STAFF

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