

PRAYER REQUESTS

Leroy Swalve , Tyler Rienhardt, Lanny Hanson, Lon Twait, Duane Schipull, Carolyn Ritchie, Bridget Johnson, Don Crocoll, Roger Will, Robert Mortenson, Jr., Phyllis Schroeder, Janis Campbell, Connie Yonker, Garwin Anderson, Lucille Anderson, and those we name in our hearts.

*Our missionary: Courtney Davis, who lives in Papua New Guinea.

*Our companion synods: The Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Yakobi Parish companion with Lost Island and the Evangelical Lutheran Church Laz-Paz Parish in Chile, companion with Bethany.

VOLUNTEER DUTIES

ALTAR GUILD FOR NOVEMBER

PAT HENNINGSSEN, ALAIRE NIELSEN

ALTAR GUILD FOR DECEMBER

PUNKY KROPF, ALAIRE NIELSEN

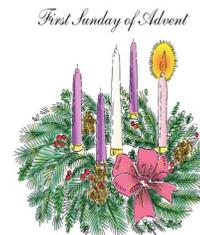
LECTOR: HANGING OF THE GREENS (TODAY)

TIM NIELSEN (DEC 5)

ACOLYTE: HANGING OF THE GREENS (TODAY)

COLLEEN COOK (DEC 5)

Bethany Lutheran Church
703 Broadway- Emmetsburg, IA
Worship 10:30 AM
Sunday School 9:30 AM



Lost Island Lutheran Church
3797-310th St. - Ruthven, IA
Worship 8:45 AM
Sunday School 10:15 AM

November 28, 2021

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Adaptation by Jeanyne Slettom

Pastor: *The Hanging of the Greens is a service for the first Sunday in Advent. It is based on the English tradition of decorating the home with wreaths, garlands, a Christmas tree, and evergreens for Advent and Christmas. In a church setting, it readies the sanctuary (and church members) for the season.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

* Those who are able, please stand

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

ALL: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers.....#25 LBW (green)**

Pastor: CALL TO WORSHIP – (Responsive)

How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, evergreen.

How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

For in the story of Jesus we see revealed the transforming power of God.

We are reminded anew of God’s vision of wholeness, justice, and peace for all of creation.

Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”.....#30 LBW (green)

Pastor: Let us pray; Our Father, we long for the simple beauty of Christmas – for all the old melodies, words, and symbols that remind us of when your Son, Jesus, came one night as a babe in a manger. We bring you our thanks for every sign, small and large, of your love; for all the ways that you have blessed us. May all that we do and say bring honor to your name, and may the joy and spirit of Christmas remain with us now and always. In the name of Jesus, who came to save His people from their sins, we pray. Amen

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS—Reader 1:

HYMN: O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel..... #34 LBW (green) vs 1 & 2

EVERGREENS

SCRIPTURE READER 1: ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

Hymn: “O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel”#34 LBW (Green) vs 3 & 4

THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA—Reader 3:

Hymn: “O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel”#34 LBW (green) vs 5 & 6

THE ADVENT WREATH: Reader 4 & 5 SCRIPTURE ISAIAH 60:2-3

One purple candle is lit as “We light the Advent Candles” verse 1 is sung

THE CHRISTMAS TREE—Reader 6 SCRIPTURE: JOHN 1:1-5, 9-14

Hymn: “I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”#69 LBW (green)

Pastor: BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE—in Unison

Loving God, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, whose path of justice and inclusivity lights a path for all who follow him. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

THE NATIVITY—Reader 7 SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 7:14

Hymn: “Away In The Manger”#67 LBW (green)

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, bless the coming Christmas. Keep each heart from fear and distress, loneliness and pain season with peace and joy. Grant that each visitor to this place may be grateful for your goodness, leaving only serenity of knowing that you truly love each of us and all of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Go in His grace and in His peace, and tell everyone the good news of Jesus!

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING HYMN: “Hark, The Glad Sound!”#35 LBW (green)**

***DISMISSAL:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE