



St. Mark

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reach, Teach, Rejoice!

ADVENT 1

GET READY FOR CHRIST TO COME

DECEMBER 1, 2013

Prayer before worship:

Heavenly Father, I have come to worship you. Draw near to me in your gracious Word, assure me of your loving kindness. Curb my wandering thoughts, that with undivided attention I may hear your voice and sing your praise. Amen.

HYMN 472 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

STAND

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
 For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
 For sins of habit and sins of choice,
 For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
 You should cast me away from your presence forever.
 O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

St. Mark Lutheran Church and School
 3930 S. 19th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502 www.stmarkwels.org
 School website—www.stmarkles.org (phone) 402-423-1497

<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Stephen Raddatz	Jeremiah Drews (4-8, Principal)
Cell (402) 304-2350	Cell (402) 480-1940
	Eva Van Egmond (K-3)
	Cell (920) 210-9813

This Week at St. Mark

- Monday - Worship w/Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
- Tuesday - Ladies Aid 6:30 pm
- Preschool Exploratory Committee 6:30 pm
- Wednesday - Children's Devotion 8:30 am
- Bible Class Lexington Assisted Living Center 3:30 pm
- Catechism 6:00 pm
- Advent Service 7:00 pm
- Saturday - Children's Christmas Practice 9-10:30 am
- Church Christmas Decorating 10:30 am
- Church Cleaning: Sec. 1 M. Nelson
 Sec. 2 Jamison/ Parde Sec. 3 Raddatz

Special Services

- December 4 – Advent Service 7:00 pm
- December 11 – Advent Service 7:00 pm
- December 15 – Children's Christmas Service 10:30 am
- December 18 – Advent Service 7:00 pm
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm
- December 25 – Christmas Day Service 9:30 am
- December 31 – New Year's Eve Service 7:00 pm

A Measure of Our Love for Our Lord			
<u>Worship Attendance Last Week 174</u>			
<u>Last Week's Thank Offering to our Lord</u>			
Home	\$ 2172.70	Missions	\$731.00
Building Fund	\$7.00	NELHS Gen.	\$50.00
Sunday School	\$10.50	Tuition	\$4,070.00
Forward in Christ	\$11.00		
Total Offering— \$7052.20			

Blanket Drive Ben Riegsecker, Martha Wilkinson, Joe Krushenisky and Ariel Tustin are collecting blankets for the St. Mark Lutheran school catechism class. We are collecting blankets for the Child Advocacy Center. We will take new blankets, gently used blankets, large blankets, little blankets or any kinds of blankets. We will accept all colors of blankets. Our goal is to have 200 blankets by December 16th. We ask that you wash all used blankets before bringing them in. There will be totes in the coatroom to put the blankets in. Please bring blankets for our blanket drive.

Ladies Aid There is a change of date for next month's Ladies Aid meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30 pm. We are putting together "survival bags" for finals week to give to our collegians. If anyone would like to donate any items, (trail mix, energy bars, water flavoring packets ect., or Bible versed related items, or give a monetary donation), please make checks to Ladies Aid. We would love to have more women join us for fun, fellowship, and helping our members serve Christ and each other. *Karen Dinges—President, Carol Hans—Vice President, Jeannie Dahlke—Secretary, Linda Hoefler—Treasurer*

SCRIP - Please consider purchasing your Christmas gift cards this year through GO NELHS. It's an easy way to raise money for Nebr. Lutheran High School and St. Mark's School. A list of available gift cards is located on the office bulletin board or on the high school's website (www.my.nelhs.org). Amazon and Shutterfly gift cards are also available this year. And if you plan on helping with our school's Dec. 12th fundraiser, Barnes & Noble scrip is available. Call or email me and I would be happy to help you with your order! Carol Hans 489-3787, hanselec@windstream.net

Preschool Exploratory Committee Bi Monthly Meeting is Tuesday December 3rd at 6:30pm.

Approaching Old Social Club (20–30 something) Ugly Christmas Sweater Party Saturday December 14th at 6:00pm. Hosted at the Schroeder's. Their address is 1300 Thunderbird Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68512. Email benschroeder05@gmail.com for questions.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD

Luke 2:14

Gloria in Excelsis

- 1 **All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**
- 2 **Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**
- 3 **O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.**
- 4 **You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.**

THE WORD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

C: **Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON — Genesis 6:9-22; 7:11-23

PSALM 18

CW page 69

EPISTLE LESSON — Romans 13:11-14

VERSE OF THE DAY



GOSPEL — Matthew 24:36-44

M: This is the Gospel according to Matthew 24:36-44

C: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

After the Gospel:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Everyone is invited . . . to go Christmas caroling! You don't have to be in choir to go! Youth, collegians, families, singles, grandparents, etc - everyone is welcome to come along! We will sing familiar Christmas hymns at a nursing home and a few of our shut-in members' homes. We will meet at church on Sunday, December 8th at 1:30 p.m. and finish by 3:30 p.m. Please sign up on the entryway table so we know how many carolers to plan for. See you for singing!

Poinsettias The Ladies' Aid will be purchasing Christmas poinsettias for the church altar. If you wish to give a donation toward the purchase of the poinsettias to help cover the cost, please make your check out to Elfi Lee and put your donation in her mailbox by Dec. 8th.

Join Us in Studying God's Word at 9:20 am

December 8 -You Are My Witnesses : Acts 12:14

December 15 -You Are My Witnesses : Acts 15

December 22 -You Are My Witnesses

Sunday School Children ages 3-14: 9:20 am

Birthdays- Valerie Ellsworth 12/2, Kurtis Kramer 12/2

Snow Removal If you would be willing to help shovel the sidewalks before church services there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the entryway. **Thank you!**

Advent Services—St. Mark will once again be having Wednesday Advent Services at 7:00 pm. These 30-minute devotions will take us away from the busyness of the season and help us prepare for our Savior coming again. Our theme for this year's service is "God's Faithful People Await Christmas".

Christmas Church Decorating We are planning to decorate the church on December 7th at 10:30 am. Anyone who would like to come help decorate the church and glorify our God for the gift of his Son is welcome to help out.

Calling all collegians!! Come join us for food, fellowship and a finals week pick-me-up on Sunday December 8th at 7 PM at St. Mark Lutheran Church. Feel free to bring a friend!! Please feel free to call or text Bryan or Brittany Hodges at 402-802-6471 if you need a ride. We can't wait to see everyone! (We will not have Campus Ministry on December 1st due to the Thanksgiving holiday, so enjoy your long weekend!)

St. Mark News and Notes

Nursery At St. Mark, we love children and encourage their worship, too! In the foyer, we have some children's busy bags hanging from hooks that you are most welcome to make use of in church. If your child becomes restless during the service and you feel you both could just use a little break, you're welcome to make use of our nursery. Ask an usher to lead you to the nursery. The service can be watched on a television there. If you need a private place to feed your baby, there is a chair downstairs in the women's restroom along with a changing table. Most of us have or have had young children, so you're with caring people who understand what it's like to have little ones.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Elders: Jarod Wilkinson, Jeff Schmidt

Ushers: Eric Richer, Nate Flood (E), Mark Nelson (L)

Greeters: Katie Flood (E) Lori Meyer (L)

AV Team: Vicki & Randy Rankin, Mark Schwede, Larry Hans, Paul Dinges

Organist: Eva Van Egmond

Children's Christmas Service practices will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7th and 14th at 9-10:30 am. Please make sure your children attend all of the practices. If your child is not able to attend please let their teacher know.

Africa Calling: Nurse-in-Charge for the Lutheran Mobile Clinic
The Central Africa Medical Mission is accepting applications for the Nurse-in-Charge position of the Lutheran Mobile Clinic in Malawi. The nurse-in-charge must be an RN with clinic or hospital experience. The nurse-in-charge supervises clinic staff and maintains all clinic functions. The desire to learn within another culture is essential. 3 year term of service All applicants must be in good standing within WELS or ELS membership. An application may be obtained by emailing camcontact@charter.net or evans.bc57@yahoo.com

- Mary Bush
- Darvin Raddatz, Pastor Raddatz's father
- Wendy Hall, Jeremiah Drews's mother
- Alida Freese, Julie Nelson's mother



Hymn 2 Savior of the Nations, Come

Sermon: Matthew 24:36-44

No One Knows, So, Be Ready

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who comes with his Father to make his home in human hearts, working repentance and faith by his Spirit until he comes again. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

1 O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.

2 Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:10 b

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



Hymn 312 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

Nunc Dimittis

1 O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn 15 Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding