

# LUTHERAN CHAPEL



**MATTHEW 1:18-25**

***“JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF OUR LORD”***

**Joseph the Carpenter, protector and provider for young  
Mary and the coming Christ Child, believed the Word.  
Give us such faith, O LORD!**

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 22, 2019**

**[www.lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://www.lutheranchapelchurch.org)**

**(704)864-6491**

LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
DECEMBER 22, 2019  
4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER FROM WITH ONE VOICE

*\*Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.  
**BOLD** indicates congregational responses.*

**GATHER**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH NEWS**

**GREETING**

*Psalm 24:1, 7, 10*

P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**C: Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, O everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.**

P: Who is this King of glory?

**C: The Lord of hosts is the King of glory! The Lord of hosts is the King of glory!**

P: Who is this King of glory?

**C: The Lord of hosts is the King of glory!**

**\*HYMN**

*"Prepare the Royal Highway"*

ELW #264

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2019**

- Sun-22** 8:30 am Early Service w/ Communion (Chapel)  
9:00 am Coffee Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)  
9:15 am Opening for Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Announcements and Late Service (Sanctuary)  
4:00 pm Wind Ensemble  
**NO ROOTS TONIGHT**  
6:00 pm Chancel Choir  
8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
- Mon-23** 9:00 am Dirty Collar Workers
- Tue-24** 7:00 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)**
- Wed-25** **MERRY CHRISTMAS! ~ Church Office Closed**
- Thur-26** **Church Office Closed**
- Fri-27** 4:00 pm **Private Event**

**BOLD** indicates not a weekly event or a change of some importance.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



## DAILY PRAYER

**EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2)** A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The “*Our Daily Bread*” devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit [odb.org/subscribe](http://odb.org/subscribe). Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

**PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP:** Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Sharon Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Braxton Finch, Kathy Finch, Jerry Fogle, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Barbara Robinson, and Bill Robinson.

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** Charles Albright, Ruth Benoy, Jeff Coffey, Amelia Edwards, Heath Hasket, Michael Hobbs, Travis Hogue, Ernie Kincaid, Harry Nicholson, Sam & Lara Raisanen, Martin Salois, Emmalyn Reeder, Pastor Peter Setzer, Mary Ann Sheridan, Sharon Slessman, Charlene Sorenson, Betty Webb, Dana Williams, Hannah Wilson, and Lulu Zizak.

### WEEK 52: DECEMBER 22, 2019 to DECEMBER 29, 2019

- 12/22** Morning Reading: Revelation 13—Evening Reading: Micah 6, 7  
**12/23** Morning Reading: Revelation 14—Evening Reading: Nahum  
**12/24** Morning Reading: Revelation 15—Evening Reading: Habakkuk  
**12/25** Morning Reading: Revelation 16—Evening Reading: Zephaniah  
**12/26** Morning Reading: Revelation 17—Evening Reading: Haggai  
**12/27** Morning Reading: Revelation 18—Evening Reading: Zechariah 1, 2, 3, 4  
**12/28** Morning Reading: Revelation 19—Evening Reading: Zechariah 5, 6, 7, 8  
**12/29** Morning Reading: Revelation 20—Evening Reading: Zechariah 9, 10, 11, 12

**Song Of Praise** “*Silent Night*” ELW #281

### **Next Sunday, DECEMBER 29, 2019:**

8:30 Service with Holy Communion: Revelation 22:6-21 ~

“*Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!*”

Children’s Message: “*The Good Shepherd*” (Psalm 23, St. David)

10:30 Service: Matthew 2:13-23 ~ “*The Twelve Days of Christmas and Martyrdom*”

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

“*He Came Down*”

ELW #253

(Cantor sings v. 4, Congregation sings vs. 1-4)

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional  
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**  
The Jesus Storybook Bible

*The Young Hero and the Horrible Giant*  
(pass prayer cards to the ushers)

**ANTHEM**  
"Morning Star"

**CHAPEL VOICES**  
Lloyd Larson

**FIRST READING**

**ISAIAH 7:10-16**

*An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!*

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup>Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 80**

"Lord, Make Us Turn To You"

Marty Haugen

**Congregational refrain:**

Lord, make us turn to You, show us Your face, and  
we shall be saved.

1. Shepherd of Israel, hearken from Your throne and shine forth,  
O rouse Your power, and come to save us.

**Refrain:**

2. We are Your chosen vine, only by Your care do we live,  
Reach out Your hand, O Lord, unto Your people.

**Refrain:**

3. If You will dwell with us, we shall live anew in Your love,  
O shine upon us great Lord of Life.

**Refrain:**



help them, especially if there is a drug or alcohol addiction present. A care bag may be an option depending on your discernment at the time. This gift offers food, hygiene items, and a flier with ministry contacts that can help in more permanent ways. Never tire in doing what is right (2 Thessalonians 3:13). **Items Needed: Lance crackers, granola bars, dried fruit/raisins, bottled water, wipes, mouthwash, toothbrush, deodorant, socks.** Please put all items in the box located in the educational building. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Carpenter.

**LCC CONTRIBUTIONS:** It's time to get your 2019 Church Contributions up-to-date. All donations to the church must be turned in by December 29 to be properly credited to your account for the year.

**2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering envelopes for 2020 are available for pickup in the hallway outside the nursery in the Education Building.

**2020 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR:** There are several weeks available on the altar flower calendar: March 1, March 15, April 19, October 25, November 1, November 8 and November 22. If you'd like to sign up for one of these dates, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-864-5242.

**CHURCH OFFICE:** The church office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, Thursday, December 26 and Wednesday, January 1.

**OWLS:** Any older and wiser members, please join us for food and fellowship at *The Captain's Cap* at 5 pm on **Friday, January 17th**. Please let Amy know by Tuesday, January 14th if you can attend.

**LADIES NIGHT REFLECTIONS:** At our Ladies Night Celebration we had the opportunity to listen to the Cantamos Choir. They are a dedicated group of musicians who have sung before over 10,000 people in four states and have appeared at the Biltmore House several times at Christmas. While I listened to them perform for us, I couldn't help but let human nature kick in and I found myself comparing them to our choir. It reinforced what I already knew, that *we are blessed with an excellent music program at Lutheran Chapel*. This has been brought about by the strongest dedication for beautiful music by our music directors, Roger and Jeanette. I'm also very thankful for the musical talent of Lisa who plays our organ and piano. I think about the many dedicated musicians in our church and all the time they put in to bring us beautiful music weekly at our church. Whether you are in the Chancel Choir, Chapel Voices, youth choirs, handbells, or brass, please know we appreciate all you do to bring beauty to our worship service. ~Fred Ward

## THE SECOND LESSON

## ROMANS 1:1-7

*Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup>the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*John 1:1, Luke 24:32*

WOV pg. 48



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip- tures.



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

**\*GOSPEL**

**MATTHEW 1:18-25**

Response after the announcement:

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Matthew’s story of Jesus’ birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means “God saves.”*

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”<sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

*“Joseph, Guardian of our Lord”*

Protector of Mary

Protector of Jesus

Trusting the LORD Choice by Choice

**The Law** is an aspect of God’s Word that shows sin and brokenness: Do I trust the revelation of the vulnerable God-Man?

**The Gospel** is an aspect of God’s Word that comforts and saves in Christ: GOD became human – vulnerable

**On Discipleship - Learning of and from Jesus:** Remember the holy example of Joseph, guardian of our Lord. What is your take away for following Christ?

**THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY**

Ministers .....	People of Lutheran Chapel Church
Pastor (P) .....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Kim Rundzieher
Interim Director of Youth & Family Ministry .....	Amy Carpenter
Nursery Attendant.....	Charlie Jones
Organist.....	Lisa Burch
Music Director.....	Roger Myers
Music Director.....	Jeanette Myers
Acolyte.....	Elliot Anthony
Crucifer.....	Ryan Thornburg
Assistant Minister (AM).....	Baker Sanders
Lector .....	Gwen Lewis
Ushers.....	Ervin Hoffman Jr., James Hovis, Ken Lentz & Norman Overcash
Council Members.....	Ed Robinson & Jim Sloop
Altar Guild.....	David & Susan Lewis
Helping Hands.....	Rachel Anthony

**PARISH NEWS**

**WHAT IS THE ADVENT WREATH?** In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter’s season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in the Holy Spirit for Christ’s coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer. Bible studies for each Advent word are provided in the narthex (source: BibleProject.org; Presbyterianmission.org).

**SERVING AT LCC:** The Worship and Music committee is in the process of setting up the Communion Assistants and Presenters for 2020. If you would like to be added to the list, please let us know by indicating on the **yellow insert** as to how you would like to serve or you can call Patsy Lindler at (704) 460-3229. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

**CARE BAGS FOR THOSE IN NEED:** When you see someone asking for money at a busy intersection it is a tough spot. As followers of Jesus, we are called to help and give (Luke 6:30-31). However just giving money can actually hurt someone rather than

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*THE BLESSING**

WOV pg. 53

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*"Savior of the Nations, Come"*

ELW #263

**\*THE DISMISSAL—LUTHERAN CHAPEL CHILDREN AND POSTLUDE**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

+ + + + + + + + + + +

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"*

ELW #265

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

WOV pg. 49

AM: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

AM: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**\*THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate this on the prayer card and talk to an usher or the pastor.*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

AM: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith:

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.**

AM: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

AM: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3*

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

#### PRAYER

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Malachi 3:10, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

#### ANTHEM

*"To Us Is Born Immanuel"*

#### CHANCEL CHOIR

Michael Praetorius

#### \*LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,  
pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.  
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav' - n - ly food.

AM: Let us pray. Merciful God,

**C: Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. Amen.**

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

AM: Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

AM: Hear your church, O God, as we pray for all who belong to Jesus Christ. Where the church is scorned, preserve it; where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Prayers conclude:*

P: You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**