### First Sunday in Advent November 30, 2025

**As We Gather** - During Advent, we wait *for* Jesus, *with* Jesus. The darkest part of the year is brightened by the assurance that the Savior who came for the world once is coming again. And we do not wait alone. Together, the whole Christian Church is accompanied in this waiting by the Christ who promises to be with His people always. Jesus' mother, the virgin Mary, knows a lot about waiting. With pregnant anticipation, Mary waited *for* Jesus, the promised Messiah who would reign from David's throne forever. But Mary was always waiting *with* Jesus, the Son of the Most High nestled within her womb. Throughout this Advent, we will listen with Mary, sing with Mary, and wait with Mary. Because, on darkest days, the Christ comes as near to you as He did to Mary to wait *with* you for the glorious sunrise that's coming.

Today we shall remember Mary as God reveals who she is through His Word, not how the world and many churches describe her. And in considering Mary, we look to the One who is the reason the Bible teaches us about Mary—Jesus Christ, her Son and our Lord.

**Offering and Registry of Worship Cards:** Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

**Saturday Worship:** Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

**About Protecting the Healthy:** To protect yourself and others from infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

### **GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.**

**Prelude and Meditation:** Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

### **Prelude:**

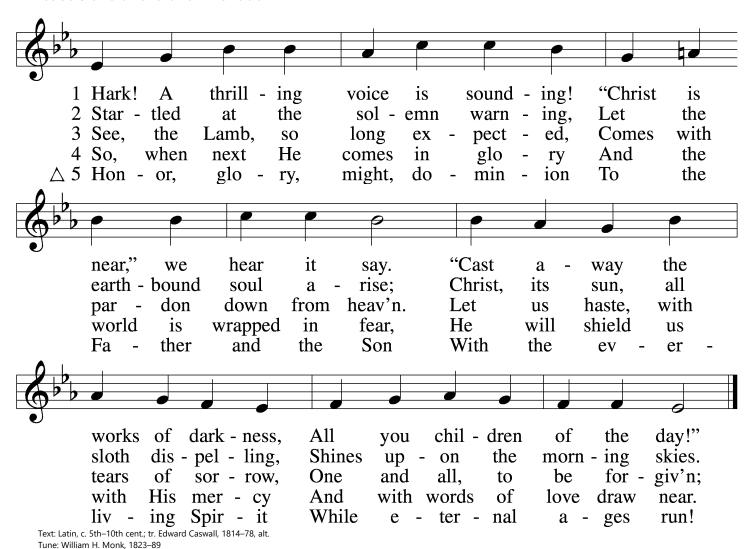
# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

### **PREPARATION**

### Hymn of Invocation: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

Δ Please stand after a brief interlude.



The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the ightharpoonup Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Text and tune: Public domain

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

- Each week in Advent, we light a candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
- The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- The first Advent candle is known as the prophecy candle or the candle of hope. We hear again the first promise and prophesy made in the Garden of Eden after the fall into sin: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." The Lord has kept His Word through the mouths of prophets who, for generations, pointed people to the promised Savior to come.
- The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
- P Guided by the light of hope, we respond with the psalmist: "Our soul waits for the Lord;
- **G** He is our help and our shield.
- **P** For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.
- Let Your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in You."
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 
  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### Service of the Word



- P Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\* righteous and having sal- | vation.
- Save us, we pray, O LORD!\*
  O LORD, we pray, give us success!
- P Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!\*
  We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- on us.\*

  Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!
- P You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you;\* you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\* righteous and having sal- | vation.

Kyrie LSB 152

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



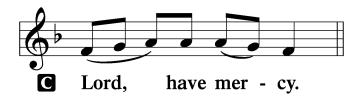
**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.



### **P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it. <sup>3</sup>and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Epistle** Romans 13:8–14

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand



**Holy Gospel** Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.



<sup>36</sup>[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. <sup>37</sup>As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. <sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  $\mathbf{P}$ 



Sit

### **Children's Sermon**



Hymn of the Day: Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying LSB 516 "Wake, a - wake, for night ing," is fly The watch-men the watch-men sing - on hears ing, And all her heart with the heav'ns a - dore 3 Now let all Thee,

Let saints

and

an - gels



### Sermon

# "Stop Hitting the Snooze Button" Romans 13: 8-14

### **Apostles' Creed**

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.

### **Prayer of the Church**

Sit

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "Veni, Veni, Redemtor" by Joseph Martin

**Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)** 

**Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only)** – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle

### **Service of the Sacrament**

Preface LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.



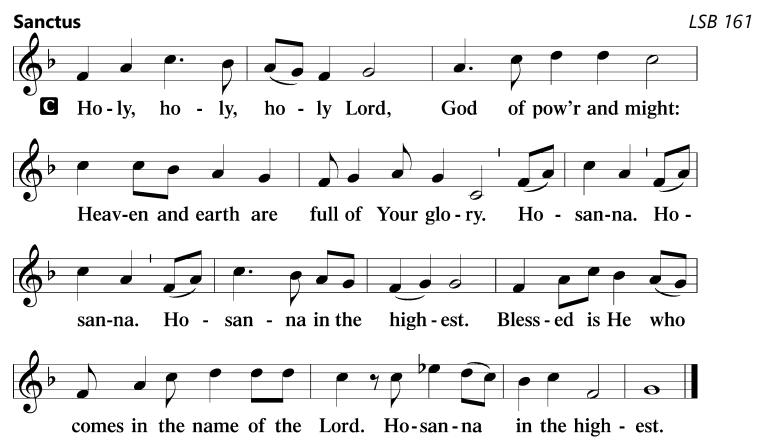
P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

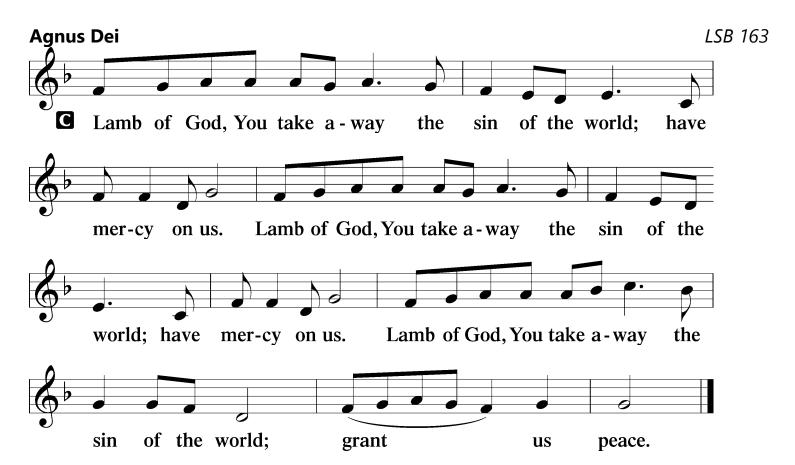
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





**Distribution** 

Sit

**Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)** 

LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come sts. 1–7 LSB 331 The Advent of Our King sts. 1–5 Thank the Lord LSB 164



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



### **Post-Communion Collect**

### (Saturday)

- P Let us pray.
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### (Sunday)

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.





- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris ing morn When Christ, vic to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo rious morn Shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings.



gilds the east-ern hills And life When beau - ty to iov glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky. But crowned with lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes. And left the when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face. day The Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings! Hail, Christ the

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

Text and tune: Public domain

### **Postlude:**

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## 

# Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard Organist Elena Miraztchiyska Elder Dave Wacker Lector Levi Hazzard Greeter Dave and Lora Wacker Audio Video Video/Streaming: GFX: Altar Guild Dawn Peters and Sandy Spanier

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM <u>LAST WEEK</u>	
Saturday Worship Attendance	24
Sunday Worship Attendance	87
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	
Simply Giving/Vanco	\$0
Paypal Offerings	\$0
Website (ShareFaith)	\$0
Total of Offerings Received	
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts	

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH** – **Advent 1** – Being a Gospel-motivated voice for life means loving all our neighbors, regardless of their size, condition, or past. As servants in the Master's house (Matthew 24:43), we not only need to be prepared for Christ's coming (Matthew 24:44; Romans 13:11), we should be eager to make all others ready, preaching the Gospel to them, inviting them "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:3) that they, too, might be brought into the safety of the ark of the holy Church.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>FLOWER SPONSOR</u> – Today's altar flowers were given by Saundi Hoffman in memory of her mom, Mary Hoffman; and by Larry and Rita in thanksgiving to God for bringing them together.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR** - There is no Bulletin Sponsor this week.

**SANCTUARY DECORATING** – Please join us on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am, as we decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. All are invited to help!

**MARY MARTHA QUILTERS** - Mary Martha Quilters meet each Wednesday at 10 am. All Ladies from the congregation are invited to come. You don't have to be a quilter or know how to sew as we need people who can cut, arrange, and tie.

*MARY MARTHA DECORATING* - Mary Martha will be decorating Fellowship Hall for the holidays on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Your Family is invited and encouraged to place an ornament on the tree. Please put your family name on the ornament! There will be a box set up in the Fellowship Hall for ornaments. Everyone is invited to help us decorate. We will also be holding a "Sunday Undies" for children in need. Collection will begin this week and the until December 21<sup>st</sup>. A box will be placed in the Narthex. This is for new, packaged socks and underwear for children! If you are able, please contribute.

**MARY MARTHA CHRISTMAS PARTY** -Mary Martha will hold its annual Christmas Party/luncheon on Wednesday, December 10. After our monthly meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30, we will go to: II Forno Italian Restaurant (Northside), 6617 N Socrum Loop, Lakeland, Florida. Our reservation is for 11:00 am. All Ladies of our congregation are invited to attend! Everyone pays for their meals which range from \$12-\$15. We shall be playing reindeer games and have some giveaways! We would love for you to join us!

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY)** – Coffee and cookies are being served today; Team 3 will be serving next week. Everyone is invited! There is no charge, and a freewill offering is voluntary. Our Fellowship offerings will be: <u>November</u> - Gideons <u>December</u> - Top Button.

<u>THRIVENT CHOICE</u> - Did you know? If you have a Thrivent Life Insurance policy, you can donate "Choice Dollars" to our church. This gift doesn't affect your policy in any way, but is a wonderful way to support the church financially! Follow this link for more information: <u>Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing - Thrivent Charitable</u>.

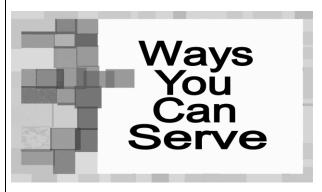
<u>OUTREACH MEETING</u> – Outreach meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

<u>CIVITAN MEETINGS</u> – The Lakeland Polk Civitan Group meets the second Tuesday of each month at noon and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm at II Forno (North). Join us at a meeting and see what we're all about!

**COUNCIL MEETING** - There is a Council meeting on Monday, December 8th at 6:30 pm.

<u>ANNUAL BAZAAR</u> – The annual Christ Lutheran Craft Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Profits will benefit local charities. See you there!

<u>ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP</u> – Sign-up sheets through August 2026 are now posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Each sheet will now be posted quarterly, by season, so that as a season passes, a new sheet will be put up, rather than one sheet used for the entire year. There are still some spaces open for the remainder of 2025. It would be a blessing to see those filled! Additional information is available on the poster, immediately next to the signup sheets. Specially designated envelopes are available below the poster. Altar flower offerings go toward our Christmas and Easter live flowers, as well as toward the proper upkeep and refreshing of our silk arrangements used throughout the year.



**HELP WANTED** - The Church is in need of workers in several positions around the Church. These include Ushers, Offering Counters, Altar Guild, Lectors, Sound Board, Video Assistance, Elders (requires one year membership), and many other opportunities to serve. Please consider using your time and talents in some way here at Christ Lutheran.

<u>ADOPT-A-BLOCK</u> – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** – To reserve your spot on the team or if you have questions, please contact either Lora Wacker or Pastor Chris.

**TRUSTEE WORKDAY** - The Trustee Workday is each Wednesday from 9am – 1pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

**DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS** – Volunteers are needed to help check-in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX** - Please check your mailbox in the Narthex.

<u>CHURCH DIRECTORY</u> – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the Narthex for more information or email <u>stewardship@clclakeland.org</u>.

<u>NAMETAGS</u> – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

### **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

*Matthew 21:3* – "If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: the blessing it is to us to be of service in the Lord's Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN		
<u>Monday - 12/1</u> Decorating of the Sanctuary @ 10 am	<u>Tuesday - 12/2</u> Adopt-A-Block @ 11 am	
Wednesday - 12/3 Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran Trustee Workday @ 9 am Quilters @ 10 am Individual Communion 1:30 - 2:30 pm Choir Practice @ 5:00 pm Advent Service @ 6:30 pm	<u>Thursday – 12/4</u> Bible Study @ 10 am	
Friday - 12/5 Craft Bazaar set-up Church Office closed Pastor's day off	Saturday - 12/6 Craft Bazaar - 9 am - 2 pm Worship @ 5:30 pm	

Sunday - 12/7
Bible Study @ 8:30 am
Worship @ 10 am
Elder's Meeting after Service