

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.'

-Revelation 11:15

Though Christmas is almost a month away, you would think it was already here based on all of the Christmas trees and other decorations all over our malls, airports, and even our own homes. Though the twelve days of the season of Christmas don't begin until December 25, Christmas decorations start to make an appearance before Thanksgiving, and it's not unheard of for Christmas goodies to pop up in stores right after Halloween. In some ways this almost fanatical anticipation of Christmas fits well into the season of Advent, the season in which we wait and prepare for the birth of the Christ-child. We eagerly await the day we can finally celebrate Christmas and prepare for that day by decorating our homes, planning for meals, and buying gifts for others.

Yet in the midst of our excitement, it is helpful to remember that Advent is an important season in its own right. It gives us an opportunity to be contemplative, to think upon a time where the light of the world had yet to come to earth in human form—to think upon our lives and how different our lives would be had we not been transformed by the salvation Christ has achieved for us. But Advent is not only a time to anticipate Christmas and the celebration of Christ's birth, but to remember that Christ will one day come again and establish God's kingdom here on earth.

This Advent, as we await the celebration of the birth of Christ and anticipate the coming of Christ's kingdom, let us think upon the ways we can work to make this world even a bit more like the kingdom that we anticipate—where there will be no suffering or sadness or injustice. Let us think upon the ways that we can spread the love of Christ within our church, within our community, and throughout the world. And let us not only contemplate these things, but put them into action!

Peace,

Megan

Coming Up:

Sunday, Dec. 2—Make your own Advent Wreath! - 9:00am

Thurs., Dec. 6—Dinner Out at Mangia—6:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 16—we will be doing some decorating after the service.

*Also, on 16th—we will be doing a Forum on the Fourth!!

Tues., Dec. 18—Food Bank Distribution

Sunday, Dec. 23—we will finish decorating the church.

Monday, Dec. 24—Christmas Eve Service—4:00pm

Sunday School News

There will be Sunday School on Dec. 2 and 16.

The children will be doing an Advent Presentation during the service on the 23rd.

December 2

Sunday School

Reader.....Evans Goodling
Chalice.....Pat Mast/Jackie Laverty
Ushers.....Terry McEwen/D.D. Krawlzik
Refreshments.....Cook/McEwen
Healing.....Barbara Goodling
Counters.....D.D. Krawlzik/Terry McEwen
Altar.....Jackie Laverty/Janet McColgan

December 9

Reader.....Amy Smith
Intercessor.....Terry McEwen
Chalice.....Stan & Sally Stalnaker
Ushers.....Evans & Barbara Goodling
Refreshments.....Price/Cunningham
Healing.....Barbara Goodling
Counters.....Goodling
Altar.....Jill Weise/Barbara Goodling

December 16

Sunday School

Reader.....Barbara Goodling
Intercessor.....Arlene Hathaway
Chalice.....Evans & Barbara Goodling
Ushers.....Jim & Arlene Hathaway
Refreshments.....Stalnaker
Counters.....Jen Cunningham/Sally Stalnaker
Healing.....Barbara Goodling
Altar.....D.D. Krawlzik/Pat Mast

December 23

Reader.....Pat Mast
Intercessor.....Jackie Laverty
Chalice.....D.D. Krawlzik/Pat Mast
Ushers.....Sally & Stan Stalnaker
Refreshments.....Stillman/Moore
Counters.....Bob & Peg Cook
Healing.....Barbara Goodling
Altar.....Jackie Laverty/Janet McColgan

DECEMBER 2018

*Just a reminder for anyone who
took a resident's name from Zerbe.
Bring your gift to church by Dec. 16.*

December Birthdays

- 1 Jessica Beebe
- 16 Dennis Reid
- 19 Doris Gring
- 30 D.D. Krawlzik