

STOCKHOLM LUTHERAN CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

GATHERING

Page and hymn numbers refer to the red hymnal ("Worship")

GATHERING MUSIC Carol Barnaal

WELCOME

SONG "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1) # 257

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH (Three candles):

P: At every beginning there is a yearning for the One who is coming. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We gather together to let God's Good News re-focus our lives. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us and give us clear vision.

P: We wait for the day when all the world will see the signs that God is with us. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We are shocked by how God comes close to us in our daily lives. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your nearness to us.

P: Lord Jesus, we welcome your presence here and now, with the lighting of these candles, whose flames brings warmth to winter, and fill this place with the glow of the Hope you give us in Jesus.

All: Amen.

PRAYER

WORD OF GOD

BIBLE READING Isaiah 61:1-8

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS John 1:6-8, 19-28

SERMON Rev. Mark Little

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

SONG "The First Noel" (v.1, 3) # 300

OFFERING-- TO SHARE THE NEWS OF THE CHRIST CHILD!

OFFERING SONG "What Child Is This?" (v. 3) # 296

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(P: Lord, in your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**)

LORD'S PRAYER Inside hymnal back cover / Page 112

BLESSING

SONG "Joy to the World" (v. 1-2) # 267

SENDING

P: In the life of Jesus, God is with us!

C: Thanks be to God!

TRANSITION MUSIC Carol Barnaal

TRANSITION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Welcome to all who gather here for Worship this morning! We give a special welcome to you if you are a guest with us today! Please worship with us again soon! If you are in search of a new church home, please contact Pastor Mark.

PRAYER CONCERNS – Bruce Carlson, Landon Halonen, Family / Friends of Lars Holm (brother of Hazel Dahlman), Dan Howell, Mike Huro, Roger Jensen, Peggy Mahlstedt, Helen Mattson, Kerry Schmiesing, and those serving in the armed forces as we pray for peace.

THANK YOU TO the Leo / Jenny Engels Family for lighting the Advent Wreath today!

CHRISTMAS EVE Please join us for a festive worship service on Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 pm. There will be singing of wonderful Christmas music, Choir anthems, special music and Holy Communion!

2017 STOCKHOLM SUMMARY OF FINANCES: We give thanks for every gift that is given toward God's mission we all participate in here at Stockholm! We give thanks for the wonderful gifts at our Harvest Festival as well. However, we want everyone to be **aware of the need that remains** for the mission we share for 2017.

The December Church Council Finance report indicated that, as of the end of November, **we had transferred over \$41,000** to the General Fund from other Stockholm funds, to pay for ministry expenses. Our Harvest Festival offering was about \$25,000. So, we are behind approximately \$12,000-15,000 in our 2017 giving for the ministry we share at Stockholm.

Some people have indicated that they don't think everyone is aware of our ministry needs, which is the reason this summary is being given. **As you consider your year-end gifts to your Lord** and his work in the world, please keep in mind Stockholm's ministry needs as stated above. Thank you!

Stockholm Lutheran Church

16133 County Road 30 SW + Cokato, MN 55321
(320) 286-2991 + stocklc@xtratyme.com

Pastor: Mark Little H: (320) 286-2807
Email: stockpr@xtratyme.com C: (763) 412-2915

Financial Secretary: Deb Danielson (320) 275-5560
Parish Secretary: Sarah Polzin (320) 224-9568
Head Custodian: Dean Danielson (320) 275-5560

Ushers

Garland Bottenhoff

Arden Severson

Danny Mages

Daryl Dahlman

Greeter

Melissa Berglund

Reader

Dennis Mahlstedt

Altar Guild

Denise Harkman

Amy Paulson

Acolyte

Ushers

CUSTODIAL ASSISTANCE / VOLUNTEERS NEEDED As of January 1, we will need new volunteers for cleaning the church. After several years, Dean Danielson will no longer be the main person in charge of the cleaning of the church. We are grateful for all of his care and service! The Council is working to find the best way to get this important part of our ministry taken care of.

If you have interest in helping, or have ideas for us, please sign up on the calendar on the podium in back of the church. We have thought of welcoming teams of people, families, and some only want to vacuum, or "Don't do Bathrooms" We are interested in all of the ways you may be available. We'd love to hear from you!

