



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Ministers: All The People of The Congregation**  
**Called by God to: Grow; Serve; Love; Care and Worship**

Second Sunday of Advent . . . . . December 7, 2014  
**9:00 a.m. Worship.** . . . . . \* Please stand

**Welcome**  
**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

L: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**C: Amen.**  
**\*Advent Song** . . . . . "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" v 1 & 2. . . . . ELW 240

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**  
P: We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**  
P: Christ shines the light on things hidden in darkness and reveals the purposes of our heart. In the light of Christ, let us confess our sins.

**C: Almighty God, you know us and our lives. Clean up our hearts and minds by your example. May your love shine through in what we say and do.**

P: May the Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness of sins to all who turn to him in faith, pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you to do his will, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**  
**\*Gathering Song** . . . . . "All Are Welcome". . . . . ELW 641

**\*Prayer of the Day**  
**C: God of justice, you sent your servant Esther into a life of privilege so that those without would be taken care of. In our privilege, show us how to advocate for those who have less, so that your world might be peaceful and just. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Choir Anthem** . . . . . "The Gift of Love". . . . . Adult Choir  
**Psalm 62** (read responsively)

- For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.
- <sup>2</sup>**He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken.**
- <sup>3</sup>How long will you assail a person, will you batter your victim, all of you, as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
- <sup>4</sup>**Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence. They take pleasure in falsehood; they bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.**
- <sup>5</sup>For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.
- <sup>6</sup>**He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**
- <sup>7</sup>On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
- <sup>8</sup>**Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**
- <sup>9</sup>Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

- <sup>10</sup>**Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.**
- <sup>11</sup>Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,
- <sup>12</sup>**and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.**

**Children's Message**

**\*Bible Story** . . . . Esther 4:1-17

When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; <sup>2</sup>he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. <sup>3</sup>In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>4</sup>When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them. <sup>5</sup>Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. <sup>6</sup>Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, <sup>7</sup>and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. <sup>8</sup>Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people. <sup>9</sup>Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. <sup>10</sup>Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, <sup>11</sup>All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law--all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days. <sup>12</sup>When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, <sup>13</sup>Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup>For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." <sup>15</sup>Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup>Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish. <sup>17</sup>Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Sermon**  
**\*The Song of the Day** . . . "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers". . . . . ELW 244

**\*The Apostles' Creed**  
**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Installation of Pastor Mary Iverson**

**Presentation.** . . . . . Sandi Hartman (Call Committee Chair)

**Address and Questions**

L: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

**All: Amen.**

(All Stand)

L: People of God, will you receive Pastor Mary Iverson as a messenger of Jesus Christ sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

**C: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

L: Will you pray for Pastor Mary, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

**C: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Blessing** (family and Call Committee will gather around the pastor)

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

**The Offering**

**The Prayers of the Church** (kneel or sit)

**\*Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer**

**Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song** . . . . "Build Us Up, Lord". . . . . ELW 670

**\*Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Preaching & Presiding:** Pastor Mary Iverson

**Assisting Worship Leader:** Dynette Niebuhr

**Scripture Reader:** Russ Elmer

**Acolytes:** Hailey Archer, Kylie Loegering

**Communion Servers:** Dave & Brenda Sauer

**Birthdays - Dec 7-13** (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

|                |              |                      |                   |
|----------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 7-Trevor Foley | 8-Deb Colvin | Amber Roessler       | 11-Cayden Stern   |
| Jean Kruger    | Jason Huper  | 9-Gerald Groskreutz  | 12-Dennis Lutteke |
| Muriel Peters  | Mary Ovrebo  | 10-Ardene Breitreutz |                   |

**The Plant on the alter** is in memory of Kermit & Ruth Larson, it is given by Joanne Korman and Family.

**Thank you** to Good Shepherd for your welcoming Spirit. Your hearts are very giving and mine is very grateful. Pastor Roger Haug.

**You are invited to "And Glory Shone Around"** presented by the Good Shepherd Adult Choir, Sun., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

**The Harmony Junction Barbershop Chorus** will be performing its annual Christmas benefit concert on Sun., Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church and at 7:00 p.m. at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Albert Lea.. They will be joined by the Albert Lea Community Band. The free-will offering will be directed towards the Ecumenical Food Shelf and Salvation Army Food Shelf in Albert Lea.

**Senior Saints** - Let's celebrate the Christmas season on Wed., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Broadway Apartments. Join us for some holiday entertainment as Nancy Mueller and Lynne Hansen share their talents of music with piano and violin duets. Following the program there will be a time of fellowship with food being provided by the December service group.

**Thrivent Chapter # 31187** is holding their election for the 2015 chapter leaders of Faribault County Chapter. Ballots are available from board members today please vote if you are a member of Thrivent.

**Time and Talent and Pledge Cards** - There is still time to turn in your Time and Talent sheet and your pledge card for 2015. Please drop them off at the church office or put them in the offering basket. Thank you. Time, Talent and Treasures Ministry Team

**The new "Listen System"**, hearing assistance system, has been installed and is ready for use. If you would like a listening device during the service please speak to an usher.

**Daily Scripture Readings**

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Dec 8</b> - Psalm 27  | Isaiah 26:7-15      |
|                          | Acts 2:37-42        |
| <b>Dec 9</b> - Psalm 27  | Isaiah 4:2-6        |
|                          | Acts 11:1-18        |
| <b>Dec 10</b> -Psalm 27  | Malachi 2:10--3:1   |
|                          | Luke 1:5-17         |
| <b>Dec 11</b> -Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 2:1-5      |
|                          | Philippians 3:7-11  |
| <b>Dec 12</b> -Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 3:2-6      |
|                          | Philippians 3:12-16 |
| <b>Dec 13</b> -Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 3:13-19    |
|                          | Matthew 21:28-32    |