



*We invite, encourage, educate and empower  
all people to follow God and serve others.”*

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4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

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*Welcome to worship where we celebrate together as the family of God the coming of his Son for our salvation. Each week as part of our Together in Advent series we will focus on a different activity for our “to-do list”. The theme for this service is Wrap in Love. In this season of hustle and bustle, we move from wrapping presents to wrapping people in love, as Mary wrapped the Christ Child so lovingly in swaddling clothes.*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

**HYMN**                    *“Hark, the Glad Sound!”*                    #239 vs 1-4

## **INVOCATION**

*We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*The celebration of Christmas is drawing closer. We are preparing to welcome the coming king with hearts that cry out:*

**“Come Lord Jesus!”**

*For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given,*

**And the government will be on his shoulders.**

*And he will be called:*

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,*

**That whoever believes in him shall not perish but have  
everlasting life.**

*Today we are reminded that our time of waiting to celebrate the birth of  
our Savior has come to an end as we light a candle to remind us to Be  
Present, Send Peace, Share Joy and Wrap in Love. Because of the  
Father’s amazing heart, we wrap ourselves in his love and sing:*

**God loves me dearly, grants me salvation,**

**God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

**Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,**

**God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

**I was in slav’ry, sin, death, and darkness;**

**God’s love was working to make me free.**

**Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,**

**God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

## **GREETING**

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Lord Jesus Christ, you were wrapped in swaddling clothes at your  
birth, and now you wrap us in your love.*

**Help us to be a source of comfort to those around us as you  
have been a comfort to us. May we embrace those who are  
hurting and reach out to the suffering with your hand of  
healing. As we wrap our presents this season, help us to see  
each gift as a kind of personal hug for each person and help  
us to receive each gift as a kind of hug from the giver. In all**

things, may love and compassion abound as we celebrate your divine presence wrapped in flesh among us. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**WELCOME THE CHILDREN** “*He Came Down*” Tune #253

**He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
Hallelujah forevermore.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE SONG** “*God Loves Me Dearly*”

**He sent forth Jesus, my dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus and set me free.  
Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

**Jesus, my Savior, himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, paid all I owed.  
Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

**Now I will praise you, O Love Eternal;  
Now I will praise you all my life long.  
Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,**

## **God loves me dearly, loves even me.**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let

it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON** *“From Wrapping Gifts to Wrapping Someone in Love”*

**HYMN** *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who ord’rest all things  
mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her way  
to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid thou our sad divisions cease and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**He will come again 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**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**    *“We Give Thee but Thine Own”*    #686 vs 1

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*O Love incarnate, fill our hearts with your grace.*

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING HYMN**    *“Love Has Come”*    #292 vs 1-3

**DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace wrapped in Christ’s love. Be present. Share Joy. Serve the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

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***WELCOME to our worship service***

*If you would like to be added to our church mailing list or have other information you would like us to know, please fill out an information card located with the hymnals.*

**Today, December 24**

**9:30am** – Worship/Fellowship follows

**4:00pm** – Christmas Eve Service

**7:00pm** – Christmas Eve Service

**Monday, December 25**

**12:00pm** – Free Community Christmas Dinner at OSL

Office closed

**Tuesday, December 26**

**7:00am** – Men's Breakfast

**Wednesday, December 27th**

No D.O.G. Night

**Sunday, December 31st**

**9:30** Worship/Potluck



**SERVING TODAY (9:30 morning worship):**

**Greeters/ Ushers** – Stan and Joy Neugebauer

**Reader** – Karen Lescarboursa

**Music** – Carla Oerter

**Fellowship Servers** – Joy Neugebauer

**SERVING THIS EVENING (4:00pm Christmas Eve Service):**

**Greeters/ Ushers** – Bill and Tammy Dennert

**Reader** – Chic Schneekloth

**Music** – Peg Tesch and Conni Virtue

**Communion Preparation/Assistant** – Bill and Tammy Dennert

**SERVING THIS EVENING (7:00pm Christmas Eve Service):**

**Greeters/ Ushers** – Kevin and Luanne Vining

**Reader** – Nancy Schultes

**Music** – Marie Kennedy

**Communion Preparation**– Kevin and Luanne Vining

**Communion Assistant**– Nancy Schultes

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY:**

**Greeter/Usher** – Chic Schneekloth

**Reader** – Nancy Schultes

**Music** – Karen Lescarboursa

**Potluck setup/cleanup** – Bill and Tammy Dennert



*Praying for one another is vital to our community of faith and part of being a member of the priesthood of all believers. If you or a family member wishes to be included in this printed prayer list, please contact Josie in the church office.*



We pray for the comfort and strength for those who have recently lost loved ones, especially the friends and family of **Leo Hundtoft, Mary Harkin, Dell Mulford, and Diane “Mouse” Scully.**



We pray for the health and healing of those ill or hospitalized and their caregivers, including **Baby Darius** (son of Dakota and Blake Hunsaker), **Gus Erickson** (friend of Pastor Deb.)



We pray for those with ongoing concerns: **Bernie Quaschnick, Rodney Shay, Jon and Maryanna Hall, Talon Gibson** (Tenaya Gibson’s son), **Kelly Edwards, Glenyce** (Carla’s cousin) **Dennis Hempler** (Dixie Clark’s brother), **Heidi** (Hunsaker’s niece), and **Beverly Conrad** (Peg’s sister).

Pastor Deb will be out of the office December 25<sup>th</sup> thru January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have a pastoral emergency in that time, please call the church office or Josie (605-389-1871) if it’s after hours.

The worship committee will be leading the service next Sunday.



## Mission of the Month

# Talon Gibson

Talon Gibson, a 12 year old from Hermosa, has recently been diagnosed with Neurological Lyme Disease. Talon's symptoms have become so debilitating that he can no longer attend school or participate in sports. There is currently no cure for Lyme. Treatment to keep infection at bay is extremely expensive, and insurance will not cover most of the treatments. Our Mission of the Month for December will help with the expenses, estimated to be well over \$200,000, to allow Talon to continue receiving treatments.

(Please write checks to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the memo line.)

To read more about the disease, and see updates on Talon's journey, go to:  
[gofundme.com/talongibson](http://gofundme.com/talongibson).



## Community Christmas Dinner

WHERE: Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
WHEN: Christmas Day, Dec. 25th, 12:00pm  
**All Are Welcome!**

Christmas Day dinner is a time to gather together with friends and family to share a meal, fellowship and afternoon fun. Are you looking for a place to gather? The OSL Outreach Committee invites you, whether you are a family of one or a family of many, to gather with them.