

# Christ Lutheran Church

127 N. Spring St., Klamath Falls, OR 97601

(541) 884-1635    www.lutherankf.org

December 2019

As we draw near to the celebration of our Savior's birth, we remember that He came as the ultimate answer to our prayer: *"But deliver us from evil."*

The author of all evil is "the evil one," the devil. Through temptation, the father of lies had succeeded in bringing the evil of death upon us: physical, spiritual, and eternal death. But we were not innocent of the evil that had befallen us. Like the rest of fallen mankind, we had embraced the evil of the evil one and become by nature children of wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3).

As in Noah's day, *"The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"* (Genesis 6:5).

What did God do about the problem of evil? Long before we ever could pray, *"Deliver us from evil,"* God took it upon Himself to do so. 1 John 3:8 tells us: *"For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil"* (1 John 3:8). Hebrews 2:14-15 says: *"Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."*

Our deliverance from evil came at a great price for Him who was born to set us free. On the cross, Jesus *"gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father"* (Galatians 1:4).

In Christ, God has graciously answered our prayer, *"Deliver us from evil."* By baptizing us into Christ and pouring out His Holy Spirit into our hearts, God has given us His gift of faith and spiritual rebirth. God has cleansed away our sins and united us with Christ in His victory over sin, Satan, and death.

As God's children in Christ, we can pray confidently "that our Father in heaven would deliver us from

every evil of body and soul." Do we not pray this regularly for ourselves and our loved ones?

The old evil foe still walks about like a roaring lion, seeking to turn us away from Christ and devour us (1 Peter 5:8). He uses the evil world to tempt and mistreat Jesus' faithful followers, just as they did Him.

*"But deliver us from evil,"* we pray. And God does. In answer to our prayer, He turns away many evils. Psalm 91:9-11 says: *"Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways."*

In answer to our prayer, God also turns evils we experience into blessing. For a time, God allowed Job to be afflicted by the devil. Job's property and loved ones were taken away, his honor was stolen by false accusations, his body was racked with pain and sickness, his soul was tempted to the verge of despair. Yet God delivered His dear child from every evil by vindicating him, strengthening his faith, bringing him forth pure as gold, and restoring

him with even greater blessings than before (Job 1, 2, 42).

In every trial we face in the present evil age, God is present to comfort and strengthen our faith through His Gospel in Word and Sacrament. He promises to work all things for our good so nothing separates us from His love in Christ (Romans 8:28-39).

And finally, as the sum answer to our prayer, our Father in heaven will deliver us from every evil and grant us a most blessed end when He graciously takes us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Therefore we thank God for sending His dear Son that first Christmas, born to deliver us from evil and give us eternal blessings as God's children.

Pastor Smith

## **The Lord's Prayer: Seventh Petition**

*"But deliver us from evil."*

### **Catechism Explanation:**

*What does this mean?*

We pray in this petition, as the sum of all, that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil of body and soul, property and honor; and at last, when the hour of death shall come, grant us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

# *Join us for a Livestream Christmas Concert At Christ Lutheran Church*



**Bethany Lutheran College is a school of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Christmas at Bethany is the college's annual concert celebrating the birth of Christ. It features music for choirs, band, strings, and handbells.**

**We will livestream the concert at Christ Lutheran Church (127 N. Spring St.) Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 PM. Snacks will be provided.**



# December 2019

# Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <i>Advent 1</i> Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Midweek Advent 1 Service at noon, lunch afterwards Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Jesus Cares Ministry for Special Needs 2:00 PM	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Advent 2</i> Worship 9:30 AM Congregational Meeting and Meal After Church Livestreaming of Bethany Lutheran College Christmas Concert 12:45 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Midweek Advent 2 Service at noon, lunch afterwards Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	<b>12</b> Rogue River Place Outreach Event 2:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Happy Anniversary Charles & Eva Brumble
<b>15</b> <i>Advent 3</i> Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM	<b>16</b> Happy Birthday Wally Klein	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Midweek Advent 3 Service at noon, lunch afterwards Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Winter begins</i> Happy Birthday Aspen Smith
<b>22</b> <i>Advent 4</i> Children's Christmas Program 9:30 AM ( <i>Refreshments after</i> ) Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:30 PM	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i> Christmas Morning Service 9:30 AM Happy Birthday Adeena Klein	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Happy Anniversary Steve & Elizabeth Karp
<b>29</b> <i>Christmas 1</i> Worship 9:30 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM	<b>30</b> Happy Anniversary Michael & Bethany Harrington	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i>	 <p>                     “And she will bring forth a Son,                      and you shall call His name JESUS,                      for He will save His people from their sins.”                      Matthew 1:21                 </p>			

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