

Christ Lutheran Church

127 N. Spring St., Klamath Falls, OR 97601
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December 2020

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined... For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given."
(Isaiah 9:2, 6)*



The prophet Isaiah wrote these words some 700 years before Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born. He describes not only the fallen condition of sinners, but the delivering power of our Savior.

Who are the people who walked in darkness? It is every child of Adam and Eve, the world of sinners. When Satan tempted our first parents in the Garden of Eden, he convinced them that if they ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they would become wise; they would become like God, knowing good and evil. God had warned that the day they ate of this fruit, they would die. Nonetheless, they desired this new enlightenment, apart from trusting the Word of God alone, and they ate. (Genesis 3)

Now because of their sin, their eyes were opened to evil; and they surely did die, as God had warned. Their life became as Isaiah describes: *"The people who walked in darkness... those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death."*

The fall into sin also affected all their children; for sinful flesh gives birth to sinful flesh (John 3:5). Scripture describes the spiritual darkness of fallen sinners as: *"having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that*

is in them, because of the blindness of their heart" (Ephesians 4:18). It describes this darkness in terms of being led by the prince of darkness, Satan and his lies (Ephesians 2:2). The consequence of walking in spiritual darkness apart from the life of God is death – not only physical death, but eternal death.

But now, by the grace of God, in the midst of this sin darkened world, we have seen a great light. In the midst of this world's shadow of death, the light of life has shined, in the birth of our Savior.

Jesus Christ is not just another child of Adam, flesh born of flesh. He is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He is perfect God in our flesh. He was born to fulfill all righteousness for fallen mankind; and His sinless life replaces our sinful life in the sight of God. He was also born to suffer the consequences of our fallen and sinful condition; and His innocent death on the cross takes away all our sins from the sight of God.

And having taken the darkness of our sin and death on Himself, Jesus also rose to give us the light of His salvation and eternal life. He says: *"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life"* (John 8:12).

By the grace of God, He has given us saving faith to walk in the light of His salvation in Christ. By the light of His Gospel, God has sent His Spirit into our heart, uniting us to His Son as children of light. *"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins"* (Colossians 1:13-14).

This Christmas, once again, we thank God that *"unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given."* By the saving work of His Son, born as our Savior, God has saved us from walking in darkness under the shadow of death. He has brought us into the light of His salvation and

eternal life. We look forward to dwelling with Him in the eternal light of His heavenly glory, as we sing in the Christmas hymn:

Now through His Son doth shine
The Father's grace divine.
Death over us hath reigned
Through sin and vanity;
The Son for us obtained
Eternal joy on high.
May we praise Him there!
May we praise Him there!
(*"Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"*)

In His saving love,
Pastor Smith



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Midweek Advent Services

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16 at Noon. We will have a preaching rotation including Pastor Edward Bryant from Medford/Grants Pass, and Vicar Roger Emmons from Redmond.

Christmas Eve Service



Thursday, December 24th at 6:30 PM. We will include the children of the congregation in helping to proclaim the joy of our Savior's birth!

Christmas Morning Service

Friday, December 25th at 9:30 AM

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined...” (Isaiah 9:2)</i></p>		1	2 Midweek Advent 1 Service at Noon (Preaching Rotation: Pastor Glenn Smith)	3 Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	4	5
6 <i>Advent 2</i> Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM	7	8	9 Midweek Advent 2 Service at Noon (Preaching Rotation: Pastor Ed Bryant from Medford/Grants Pass)	10 Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	11	12
13 <i>Advent 3</i> Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM	14 <i>Happy Anniversary Charles & Eva Brumble</i>	15	16 Midweek Advent 3 Service at Noon (Preaching Rotation: Vicar Roger Emmons from Redmond) <i>Happy Birthday Wally Klein</i>	17 Youth Catechism 4:00 PM	18	19
20 <i>Advent 4</i> Worship 9:30 AM	21 <i>Winter begins</i> <i>Happy Birthday Aspen Smith</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Children’s Program 6:30 PM	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Christmas Morning Service 9:30 AM <i>Happy Birthday Adeena Klein</i>	26
27 <i>Christmas 1</i> Worship 9:30 AM	28	29	30 <i>Happy Anniversary Michael & Bethany Harrington</i>	31	 <p><i>“...For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given” (Isaiah 9:6)</i></p>	

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