

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today (no Sunday school)

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion

5:00 p.m. Family Christmas program

11:00 p.m. Candlelight service

Pastor Steve on vacation Dec. 26th through 29th

Office and childcare center closed Monday, Dec. 25th

Wednesday Night Alive will resume January 10th

Next Sunday, Dec. 31 (no Sunday school)

9:00 Adult Sunday school

10:00 Worship with communion

Coffee & Fellowship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. During this season of the four Sundays before Christmas, we have four banners. We began with the banners “Watch,” “Prepare” and “Rejoice.” Today we add the banner “**Behold.**” The cross/star flame is symbolic of Christ, who was prophesied as the star that would come out of Jacob (Num. 24:17).

We thank Lu Carter for sharing her talent on the violin during our prelude and offering this morning!

Please join us tonight for one of our candlelight services. Each service includes communion and individually lit candles.

Please sign up on the back table if you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the holidays (cost is \$8.00).

WELCOME TO CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

1100 East Benjamin Ave., Norfolk

402-379-1775

Dec. 24, 2017 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude — Lu Carter (violin)

Opening Medley

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

“What Child Is This”

Confession & Forgiveness

All: Lord, we confess that we have heard the call but have chosen not to follow. We have picked roads that lead to anxiety and despair. We have walked paths of darkness and sorrow. We have run from your beckoning love. Lord, we come in worship today asking for a new beginning. We want to be cleansed and made right. We desire direction and purpose for our living. We need our sins forgiven. Amen.

Worship Leader: God's eternal love for us calls us to a new life today. God has provided the complete plan for our life. Jesus' death on the cross has paid the price for our sinful condition, breaking us free to be true believers. Jesus calls us to take up His cross and follow Him. Through the Holy Spirit we are given the power to respond to that call; the power to change direction; the power to make new and different choices; and the power to live life as it was meant to be. Today we can truly celebrate following Jesus.

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Candle
Fourth Candle — LIFE

R: We light the fourth candle for God's gift of life. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Through faith in his name we have eternal life. *(Four candles are lit.)*

(all sing; melody "Savior of the Nations, Come")
***Gifts poured out on us in love,
Gifts brought down from heav'n above;
Priceless gifts for us are free—
Placed beneath a cross-shaped tree.***

R: The holy Child of Bethlehem brings life and light to a world lost in darkness.

C: Forgive us, Lord, when we do not reflect your life and light in our lives. Help us to walk with you in newness of life.

R: Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

C: All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

R: I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

C: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

R: I am the good shepherd.

C: The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

R: Jesus our Shepherd laid down his life on the cross and was raised from death to raise us to new life.

C: Advent Lord, we praise you for the gift of eternal life received through faith in your name.

(all sing)
***For his sheep the Shepherd dies;
As he rose, we too will rise.
In each lamb the Shepherd knows
Life abundant overflows.***

Sharing of the Peace

Children's Message

Scriptures

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (Old Testament, pg. 281)

Romans 16:25-27 (New Testament, pg. 165)

Gospel Luke 1:26-38 (New Testament, pg. 56)

Message "Are you a servant of the Lord?" Pastor Steve

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the People

Offering

Special Music — Lu Carter (violin)

The Lord's Supper

Post-Communion Blessing

Closing Song

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Blessing and Dismissal

"Alleluia"