COON VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

**“We are a family of God, striving to enrich**

**the lives of all through the love of Christ.”**

PRELUDE We Three Kings Bella Grethel

BELLS

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Pray for the Search for Our Next Pastor

*(The following Scripture and prayer have been provided by our transition team as we prepare for our next pastor).*

LITANY

(based on Micah 6:8; guiding scripture for the Task Force)

God has told us what is good,
    **and what does the Lord require of us?**
but to do justice and to love kindness
    **and to walk humbly with our God?**

Let us pray... Dear Lord, as our congregation prepares for a new pastor, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide each of our steps.   Bless the work of our Church Council, the Transition Task Force and the future call committee.   Bless each member as through prayer we remain firm in our mission of being a family of God, striving to enrich the lives of all through the love of Christ.  (Composed by Brian Rude, chairperson of the Transition Task Force.)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Our world longs for peace. Every heart longs for peace. Jesus speaks of the special peace he brings when he said in the Gospel of John “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.” May the light of Jesus Christ bring peace to all God’s children.

Prayer: Gracious God, bring the light of peace into our hearts and into our world. Grant that we may share your peace with one another as we prepare for the coming of your Son. **Amen**.

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG ELW #715, v.2 Christ, Be Our Light

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS Page 94

GATHERING HYMN ELW#257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs. 1-4

PRAYER of the DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, **to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lors, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

**~ WORD ~** (Scripture insert)

**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40: 1-11

 Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85: 1-2, 8-13 read responsively

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW page 151

 ***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter

 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:1-8

*The Gospel of the Lord.* ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

HYMN of the DAY #249 On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Petitions end: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING SONG #248 People, Look East

OFFERING and OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.** **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

 Holy, Holy, Holy Page 153

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE COMMUNION

Congregational Carols during Distribution: #300 The First Noel

#277 Away in a Manger

POST COMMUNION BLESSING and PRAYER

BENEDICTION

BELLS

SENDING HYMN ELW#264 Prepare the Royal Highway

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Mary Schultz



**Coon Valley Lutheran Church**

**The Second Sunday in the Season of Advent**

**December 10, 2023**

**8:00 & 10:00 a.m.**

**~**Bulletins are in memory of Judy Denison from the Ruth Circle

**Coffee Servers:** Pam Pauloski, Stephanie Proksch

**Ushers: 8:00/**Heather Wichman; **10:00/**Jason Thomas

**Readers: 8:00/**Frank Mathison; **10:00/**Jane Simmons

**Altar Guild: 8:00/**Karen McGarvey**; 10:00/**Jane Simmons

**Communion Servers: 8:00/**Jan Bender; **10:00/**Steve Pauloski

**Attendance & Offering Last Sunday: 8:00/**50; **10:00/**52=102

**Offering:** $5,993.02

**Sunday School Attendance:** 19

**SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY: Carillon Deadline**

**THURSDAY: 10:00a/**WELCA Christmas Brunch; **6:00p/**Church Council

**SUNDAY: 10:00a/**Sunday School Christmas Program; **9:00a/**Sunday School, **No Confirmation**

**Coon Valley Lutheran Church**

[**www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org**](http://www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

**Interim Pastor:** Jim Scaife

**Office Administrator:** Jamie Thomas, jamiel@mwt.net

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00a-4:00p**

Office452-3772/Cell 317-0007

**Treasurer:** Becky Lusk, treasurer1005@mwt.net

**Organist:** Mary Schultz

**Indoor Custodian:** Tracy Stellner

**FIRST READING: ISAIAH 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

 *Word of God. Word of Life.* ***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13** *(read responsively)*

LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up form the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.**You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

**Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

**Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.**

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter*

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

**GOSPEL READING: MARK 1:1-8**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locust and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

 *The Gospel of the Lord.* ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*\*We are always so happy to include you and our CVLC family in our prayers. If you feel your name, or the name of a family member can be removed from this list please contact Jamie.* *Thank you!*

**We remember in prayer:**

**†** *Those hospitalized this past week:*

**†** *Our members whose names we lift up in prayer today:* Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Brian Berg, Richard Brose, Herby Cornell, Jeanne Ebli, Kira Foster, Phyllis Galstad, Jeri Harbaugh, Bonnie Holey, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Todd King, Mike Kellogg, Jim Knutson, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Larry Lichtie, Aaron Marx, Frank Mathison, Bud Miyamoto, Marianne Myhre, LuEtta Nelson,Romaine Nelson, Sandy Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Lisa Olson, Sandra Onshus, Eunice Quast, Lori Roach, Melanie Role, Ellen Runice, Jojo Satona, Bob Schulze, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Susan Strangstalien, Joyce Temp, Teri Tomten.

**†** *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living:*

Tip Bagstad, Inez Beck, Rachel Berg, Carl Daffinrud, Evelyn Dahlen, Joanne Fletcher,

Betty Gilbertson, Erma Graupe, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Betty Sanders.

**†** *Those who grieve**:* Family and friends of Judy Denison, Mark Hutson in the death of his mother Frances

**†** *Our members who are currently home bound*

**†** *All those in need of God’s healing and help*

**†** *Family and friends of our members*