

**Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

Holy Scripture says: *One should examine himself before he eats the bread and drinks the cup; one who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.* 1 Cor 11:28, 29

Since those who take Christ's body and blood without understanding His true presence do so to their harm, and since the sacrament of Holy Communion is a faith statement confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or hold a confession differing from that of this church and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with the pastor or elder.

*Wine without alcohol is in the center of each tray;  
you may also request a gluten-free wafer.*

**The Disciple: Crying in the Wilderness**

The phrase *Crying in the Wilderness* has always given me a shiver of excitement. Here is this man who is bold and tells his message to anyone who will listen. Saint Mark doesn't even have to think up an introduction to John. In the second verse of his Gospel he simply quotes the words of Isaiah written hundreds of years before Mark's time. (Mmm, the Bible sure is consistent in what it says!)

John's message was quite simple: "...a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Mk 1:4)." And that is still the message today. Although John was very bold in declaring this message he was very humble in his relationship to Jesus, whose sandals he was not worthy to untie. John is an excellent example for us to follow. He was bold in his message but humble in his relationship to God.

At the very end of the of the Gospel Reading appointed for today, Mark quotes John's interesting prophecy when he says, "...He (Jesus) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (1:8)." We have the promise of the help of the Holy Spirit and the promise that God's Word will not return without success. We all face a "wilderness" of sin and unbelief in our world every day. We probably won't cry as loudly as John, but our humble and quiet task is to tell the words of repentance and salvation in the wilderness of our daily world.

**Go: "Cry" the message of repentance and salvation**



**Singing Faithfully at CHRISTmas Services**  
**Children's Programs**

Dec. 14 ~ 6:30p Day School Christmas ~ gym  
Dec. 17 ~ 10:45a Sunday School Christmas ~ gym

**CHRISTmas Season**

**The Angels' Song~Gloria in Excelsis Deo~Glory to God in the Highest!**

**Christmas Eve** 3p: Traditional Christmas ~ sanctuary  
5p: Contemporary Christmas ~ gym  
7p: Traditional Christmas ~ sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Vigil** 11p: with Holy Communion  
**Christmas Day** 10a: with Holy Communion  
**1st Sun of Christmas** Dec. 31: 8, 10:45a ~ Holy Communion  
**New Year's Eve** 6p: with Holy Communion

**shepherd of the hills** LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**Witness ✠ Mercy ✠ Life Together**

5:00 PM | Saturday, December 9, 2017

2nd Sunday in Advent



**Welcome, Guests!**

**The Lord bless you  
as you worship  
with us!**



**Information...**

**●ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Our monthly **In-Sites** has highlights, in-depth announcements, calendars, up-coming events ~ in worship folders 1st Sunday of each month; extras on triangle info-kiosks

**●INFO-KIOSKS:**

These triangular stands have specific ways you can connect with **WITNESS, MERCY, and LIFE TOGETHER.** Let us help you find ways to serve our Lord!

✠ **IN THE NAME OF JESUS** ✠

**Welcome and Invocation**

**Song** # 331:1 & 4-6 "The Advent of Our King"

**Confession of Sin and Forgiveness**

**Song**

**Scripture Readings**

2 Peter 3:8-14 p. 1019 ESV  
Mark 1:1-8 p. 836 ESV

**Song** # 344 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

**Message** Pastor Brad Stoltenow

**Nicene Creed** Please see inside back cover of hymnal

**Offering** Please fill out the Fellowship Book. Thank you!

**Prayers**

**Lord's Prayer** See inside back cover of hymnal

**Lord's Supper**

**Blessing**

**Song** # 387:1, 3 & 4 "Joy to the World"

✠ **TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY!** ✠

**Songs of the Faithful**  
Advent 2017



**Advent Event**  
5:30p supper  
6:15p program  
7:00p worship

Shepherd of the Hills