

December 1, 2024

1st Sunday in Advent

Color-PURPLE [Sorrow, repentance, and royalty]

Rev. Jonathan D. Meyer, Pastor

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HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEDOR

The Elder-in-Charge – Martin Schubert

The Organist – Daniel Krause

The Head Usher – Allan Urban

The Altar Guild – Julie Schubert, Linda Patschke

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH - LEXINGTON

The Elder-in-Charge – Guy Latimer

The Organist – Daniel Krause

The Acolyte – Boone Brockenbush

The Head Usher – Wesley Boriack

The Finance Board – Ryan Brockenbush, Jeremy Brown, Tom Kleinschmidt, Clyde Lay

The Altar Guild – Candy Brown, Becky Exner, Karen Hoelscher, Sandra Lay

The Flowers – To the glory of God in honor of Teresa Exner's birthday today by her children, Jordon and Heather.

TO OUR VISITORS - In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bid you welcome. May the Holy Spirit bless you, together with us, as we give our attention to the Word of God this morning. *** Please sign the GUEST REGISTER [please also include your address] in the NARTHEX as you leave the church.

HOLY COMMUNION STATEMENT AND POLICY: It is our expressed belief, confidence and joy that the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, present under the bread and wine, are distributed in the Lord's Supper. All who commune at His altar are to be in complete confessional agreement with the other communicants. This practice of Closed Communion is an evangelical expression of our love for the communicant and for Christ's Holy Supper. In accordance with the Word of God in 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:27-29, we only permit members of this congregation, as well as members of fellow Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod congregations, to commune today. If your membership is with a different faith group, so that you have a belief which differs from our belief and confession on Holy Communion, then we kindly ask you in love to refrain from communing today and first speak with Pastor or an Elder. Members of our congregation who wish to commune are asked to sign the communion registration sheet in the Narthex.

OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION - PAGE 15 IN THE FRONT OF THE HYMNAL.

(Our visitors are asked to please read and honor our communion statement above.)

PLEASE NOTE: In place of the normal page 15-16 *Confession and Absolution* to begin the *Divine Service*, we will begin instead with page 46-48, which is *The Order of the Confessional Service*.

Beginning with the opening versicles on page 46 and 47, followed by the *Exhortation to the Communicants* on page 47, and finally *Confession and Absolution* on the bottom of page 47 and top of page 48. Following *The Order of the Confessional Service*, the *Divine Service* will continue with the Introit on page 16.

SILENT PRAYER upon entering the nave: Loving heavenly Father! I have come to hear Your Holy Word that makes the soul righteous. So then, put Your Holy Spirit in my heart that I may accept Your Gospel with awe and truly believe it. Amen.

† IN THE NAME OF JESUS †

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL (CALL TO WORSHIP)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: ♪ 60

PREPATORY SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION AND SERVICE OF THE WORD
[PAGES 46-48: THE ORDER OF THE CONFESSORIAL SERVICE; PAGE 16: INTROIT TO PAGE 23: OFFERTORY (FRONT OF THE LUTHERAN HYMNAL)]

INTROIT (ENTRANCE INTO THE SERVICE OF THE WORD)

PASTOR: Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

CONGREGATION: Save us, we pray, O Lord! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!

P: We bless You from the House of the Lord.

C: The Lord is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us.

P: Who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? Who among the heavenly beings is like Him?

C: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before You.

P: Blessed are the people...who walk, O Lord, in the light of Your face, who exult in Your Name all day long, and in Your righteousness are exalted.

C: For our Shield is the Lord, the Holy One of Israel. (*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:25-27; 89:6, 14-16, 18*)

♪ Glory be to the Father....

COLLECT (PRAYER) OF THE DAY

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, it is fitting for us to always thank, praise and glorify You since, for us poor sinners, whose trespasses would otherwise have kept us under the tyranny of death and Satan, You appointed Your Son as King: to be our just Lord and Savior, by Whose death we are delivered and saved from our sins. We pray that You would enlighten, direct and lead us by Your Holy Spirit, that we would cling only to our true King and Savior, and not, like the world, be offended by His lowly form or despise His Word, but by firm trust in Him receive eternal salvation, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – JEREMIAH 23:5-8

P: ^{23:5}“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the Name by which He will be called: ‘The Lord is our Righteousness.’

⁷“Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives Who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ⁸but ‘As the Lord lives Who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where He had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 24

P: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all its people belong to Him.

C: For He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

P: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place?

C: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

P: He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

C: Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of Glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of Glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of Glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HYMN: ♪ 55

EPISTLE LESSON – ROMANS 13:8-14

P: ^{13:8}Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the Law. ⁹For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

TRIPLE HALLELUJAH AND READING OF THE GOSPEL LESSON – MATTHEW 21:1-9

C: ♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

P: ^{21:1}Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to Me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and He will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

NICENE CREED (CONFESSION OF FAITH) [PAGE 22]

HYMN OF THE DAY: ♪ 58 [FIRST TUNE]

SERMON: CHRIST READIES YOU TO BE READY FOR HIS COMING TO YOU IN WORD AND SACRAMENT – MATTHEW 21:1-9

“See, your King is coming to you, righteous and having salvation!” (Zech. 9:9) Amen.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, through Jesus Christ, our King Who comes to save us! Amen. Whether it's Palm Sunday or the First Sunday in Advent or, really, any-and-every day in which Christ lovingly comes to us, His beloved saints, Jesus' entry into Jerusalem speaks to His coming into our world, into our Church, and into our heart. Like those with palm branches in their hands; with hosannas on their lips, what better way can we welcome our Redeemer, receive Him aright than with a grateful heart; with joy and awe at His advent?

And so the *Advent Season* begins by asking, “Are you ready – in heart-and-soul – to rightly receive Him Who comes to you with His good grace and favor?” This is the question also in Jesus' *Parable of the Wise Servant Versus the Foolish Servant*, in which our Lord says, “*Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. But the wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ so that he begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards. The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*” (Mt. 24:45-51)

It's vital for you to be oriented – in your faith and life – toward the Lord Jesus...as often as He comes to you; however He tends to you in His mercy and compassion. You're to be the wise servant Jesus speaks of, trusting and abiding in Him with all your heart. Always ready to welcome Him and greet Him aright. Your faith in your Savior is also to be busy in love and good works toward all those whom God has called you to serve in Christian compassion.

Being a bad servant is never for you! It simply won't do for you since such a person is under God's condemnation. To be a miserable servant is to be earthly-minded: to love the world and the things that are in the world and to lack the love of the Father. (See 1 Jn. 2:15) This is to live in darkness. But God has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light, so that now you are “*light in the Lord. Walk always as children of light.*” (Eph. 5:8) Since Christ your King first came to you as a tiny baby in Bethlehem... Since He comes to you now by-way-of His Holy Word and Sacraments, and will come again in glory for you, greet Him always – at every one of His comings – with overflowing joy!

Our Lord's wondrous coming to us is further illustrated in His words to us, His Christians, in Revelation 3:20: “*See, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to [abide with him,] and he with Me.*” Some misinterpret this text to mean that we have to “open the door” to Jesus or accept Him into our heart in order for Him to be our Savior. But no one who's dead in sin and unbelief can ever choose Jesus or invite Him into his heart. It's God alone Who makes dead unbelievers alive believers in Jesus Christ. Yet this is beside the point of Revelation 3:20 since here the Lord Jesus is knocking on the door of all those who're already devout believers in Him, and He's determined to visit you with goodness and mercy all your days! He stops at nothing to restore your sin-sick heart, to purify it with His Word and blood! He makes you well-pleasing to God, Who then delights to dwell in you through faith.

In one sense we really shouldn't want the Holy Son of God to come to us because of our sinful unpreparedness to greet and welcome our coming King aright. We sure don't want Him to come to us in wrath and displeasure as He should – as we deserve. So we take the words of Psalm 5:4 seriously: “*You are not a God Who delights in wickedness; [sinners] may not dwell with You.*” God is holy; we lawbreakers can't abide in His presence. If poor, guilt-ridden, rotten-stinking transgressors like us should find ourselves in God's blameless presence, it wouldn't go well for us! We'd be toast! So actually, in a sense, it's safer for us not to be in the presence of God, Who's a consuming fire! (See Heb. 12:29) Yet it's also at the same time horrible, woeful for us to not be in God's presence – to be apart from Him. For this is to have no part in Jesus, His life and salvation.

This is the predicament we're in as sinful people. We justly deserve to be consumed by God's wrath for our transgressions! But we also need His most holy, sacred presence in our lives. How can we finally stand before God? By knowing and acknowledging that our sins are really bad, deadly, damning to us. In fact, they're sapping us of life; killing us. In the *Christian Questions and Their Answers* portion of the *Small Catechism* we find these words: “*We must learn to be horrified by our sins and regard them as very serious.*” And the *Catechism's Close of the Commandments* says, “*God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them.*”

So repent, since this is always God's will for you. He calls you to turn from your sins, and He works repentance in you so that your iniquities aren't your downfall. Yes, repent, especially during this penitential *Season of Advent*, but really, always! Change your ways, confess your sins to God, seek His forgiveness in Jesus. In-so-doing, you're being a Christian. (*Luther*) So "*cast off the works of darkness.*" (*Rom. 13:12*) The crucial part of repentance is putting an end to offending God, desecrating His holiness with your wrongs. This involves turning away from, having nothing to do with drunkenness, sexual immorality, perversity, quarreling and jealousy. (*See Rom. 13:13*) And then turning to what pleases God: being sober-minded, leading a sexually pure, decent life, being at peace with others and being content with who God has made you to be; how He's blessed you.

So "*clean up your life. Stop doing the filthy things you do. Prepare for [Jesus'] coming like your salvation depends upon it – because staying in your sins will certainly [condemn] you. Turn from them. Your repenting in and of itself doesn't save you. Jesus saves you. Advent is about Jesus coming; Jesus making you ready for Him*" (*HigherThings, Reflections Devotions*) since He comes to save you as the Son of God born of Mary, as your humble Lord upon a donkey, as your dear Redeemer upon a cross! So be forgiven by God; be saved from the darkness, death and doom of your sin! Flee from this every day, every hour – into the arms of your beloved Savior!

How can you stand before your holy God and not be consumed in His wrath? Look to Christ your King Who comes to you in a very specific way – an unthreatening, merciful way – announcing God's great love for you. This is a sure sign of His kindness toward you. He, the eternal Son of God, the Lord of glory, comes in "hidden glory" – in great weakness and humility! Born of a lowly virgin, assuming flesh and blood just like yours, Christ comes to you in love! "*Love caused Thy incarnation, love brought Thee down to me,*" (*TLH 58:4*) we sing. Your Savior-King also comes to you "*humble, and mounted on a donkey.*" (*Mt. 21:5*) He comes to you righteous! Yet Christ in His righteousness doesn't intend to incinerate you in judgment, but to suffer the judgment and incineration of God's justice for you – in your place! Which is why He, in His righteousness, has eternal salvation to give you, and brings it to you on a donkey!

All of Christ's righteousness becomes yours at His Passion – from His holy cross. From there your heavenly Father absolves you, O penitent sinners, of all your sins. From Jesus' cross God covers you with His very own holiness – in Baptismal waters, by the Word of His mouth. From on high He gives you to eat of His Son's pierced flesh and to drink of His shed blood so that you never perish eternally but live forever on the living body and blood of Jesus.

Now you're safe-and-sound in God's abiding presence – holy and precious in His sight since the holiness and purity of God the Son covers you from head-to-toe! Your sins, iniquities, ills are taken away by Christ your Savior – forgiven, forgotten forever by your God!

Don't fear that you're unprepared to rightly greet and welcome the Lord as He comes to you. The wonderful reality of having Jesus as your Savior is that He prepares, readies your heart for His glorious coming! You who are in Christ are always ready for His arrival and knock! God loves you, so He disciplines and reproves you for your sin as His sons and daughters. This isn't to hurt, trouble or depress you, but to help you, to have you look to Christ alone for forgiveness and life as you cry, "Hosanna!" "Save us now, O Lord!" And save you He sure does!

The Rev. Luther writes of Jesus' *Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem* and into our hearts, saying, "*We should get really well acquainted with this Christ-King, and place all our hope boldly in the life which is to come, where we will be forever happy, free of all sin and infirmity. It's for that reason that Christ came, and was crucified, died, rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven to occupy His Kingdom. That's how He overcame sin, death, and the devil for us, and by His blood and Holy Spirit swept us clean of all filth, so that all who believe in Him are righteous and blessed, and will someday pass through temporal death into His eternal, heavenly Kingdom.*" (*Luther's House Postil; a sermon on John 12:12-19*)

From now until then, be ever-faithful in receiving Christ in His many comings to you. Trust always, by His Word and by faith, that He first came to you, for you in His blessed birth as God enfleshed and laid in a manger. Be assured that He comes to you now in His Holy Word and Sacraments. Be comforted that He'll come again for you and all His dearly beloved ones on the Last Day!

From now until then, let your "*faith [be] active in love*" (*Gal. 5:6*) as you love and care for, serve and support family, friend and neighbor. Attend to the needs of others in your various vocations. Do "*not grow weary of doing good, for in due time [you] will reap a harvest if [you] do not give up. So then, as [you] have opportunity...do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*" (*Gal. 6:9-10*) Amen. *The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

OFFERTORY (ANTHEM PRECEEDING THE OFFERING OF TITHES) [PAGES 22-23]

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For readiness and watchfulness as we enter a new Church Year, knowing that salvation is nearer now than when we first believed, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who await the second advent of Christ, that our shout of “Hosanna” would be answered now through God’s Word and His Sacrament and soon by Jesus’ return, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our congregation, especially our catechumens, that we may live sober lives, cast off the deeds of darkness as children of light, and that we would remain steadfast in God’s Word all our days, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the faithful, that the Lord would renew the faith and quicken the love of all Christians to cast off the works of darkness, put on Jesus Christ and live as children of the eternal day, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those weak in the faith and in danger of turning away from Christ, that they would be defended from the evil one, sustained in their time of trial, and kept in Jesus’ saving Name through the power of the Holy Spirit: let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For Christian homes, that God would defend the single, husbands and wives, and all children from the temptation to walk in the works of darkness, clothing them instead with the armor of light, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who govern, that the Lord Who rules with righteousness and justice, steadfast love and faithfulness, would grant the authorities of our land to act justly, so that His people might live in peace as we make known His love and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who hunger, those unemployed, those destitute, and those without homes, that the Lord would give them faith to cast their cares upon Him, and that the Lord would give His people everywhere a ready willingness to share their blessings with those in need, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the sick, the suffering and those in need, especially _____, that our Father in heaven would ease their pain, increase their faith and grant them healing and peace in accordance with His own wisdom and will, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who commune, that the Lord, Who humbly rode into Jerusalem for our salvation, would give to us repentant hearts that confess our sin and rejoice in His forgiving, saving body-and-blood presence in Holy Communion for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the families of those whom God has delivered from this vale of tears, that the Lord will comfort the sorrowful with everlasting joy and lift up their hearts to the God Who became flesh to redeem their loved ones from sin and eternal death, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Holy God, You declared that the days were coming when You would accomplish our salvation, and in Your time You caused Your Son, the righteous Branch, to spring up for David. By Your grace, keep us joined as branches to Christ, that we might bear fruit until the day He returns in glory; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR [PAGES 24-31]

PROPER PREFACE FOR HOLY COMMUNION (LORD’S SUPPER OPENING PRAYER)

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance, that we would escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with a angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

COMMUNION HYMNS: 🎵 161, 68 & 304

CLOSING HYMN: 🎵 74

† TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY †

OUR ATTENDANCE FROM LAST SUNDAY

	Worship	Comm.	S.S. & B.C.	Offerings
Trinity	51	--	15	\$2,508.00
St. James	59	--	5 11	\$1,815.00

Sunday Offerings—Trinity, Fedor

	Operating	Building	Missions	Cemetery	Week
Goal	69,983.00				
Actual	90,999.72		7,080.00		47
Last Week	2,308.00			200.00	

Sunday Offerings—St. James, Lexington

	Operating	Mission	Future Development	Total	Week
Goal	123,845.00			123,845.00	
Actual	95,068.77	705.00	645.00	96,418.77	47
Last Week	1,815.00			1,815.00	

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THIS WEEK

TODAY

2:00PM: Decorating of the Christmas tree (Holy Trinity)
 3:00PM: Children's Christmas Eve practice (St. James) followed by
 decorating of the Christmas trees/party

WEDNESDAY

9:00AM: LWML (St. James)
 3:40PM: Week Day School

FRIDAY

+Pastor's Day Off

NEXT SUNDAY

*Elders (Holy Trinity) following the service
 +Elders (St. James) following the service
 2:30PM: Voters (Holy Trinity)
 3:00PM: Children's Christmas Eve practice (St. James)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

+++**We remember in our prayers:...**at Holy Trinity...*Dorothy Schimank, Tim Faske, Eldor Brade, Monroe Brade, Carolyn Nitsche;*...at St. James...*Charles Hartfiel, Guy Latimer, Ferman Iselt Jr., Zoey Rudd, Della Biehle, Bernice Lay, Lois Turner, Darvin Drosche, Lillie Mae Boettcher, Tom Kleinschmidt, Ronnie Iselt, Egor Raines, Genell Boettcher, David Roensch, Ernest Biehle, Charles Kaiser, Ginger Clifford, Walter Dube Jr., Lorine Lerche, Zachary Hartfiel* [nephew of Charles Hartfiel], *Tim Faske* [relative and friend of St. James members], *Ruth Siegmund* [friend of St. James members], *JoAnne Meyer* [mother of Pastor Meyer], *Carole Heller* [mother of Juanita Clifford (St. James)], *Amber Brockenbush* [friend and relative of St. James members], and *all of our sick and shut-ins*.

*****Advent Daily Devotional Setting & Devotions Available**...Please help yourself to one or more copies of our Advent devotions for the season. The title and theme is: "Isaiah Twas Foretold It." An Advent Devotional on the Messianic Prophecies of Isaiah.

+++Holy Trinity...all **HELP** would be greatly appreciated to help decorate the Christmas tree and

- church **TODAY**, December 1, beginning at 2pm. For more information, see Paul Tucker!
- *****Invitation to go Christmas caroling**...Kristy Kaufmann of St. John, Lincoln, has invited anyone who may be interested in going Christmas caroling **TODAY**, December 1, meeting at the church parking lot at 1pm. For more information, please contact her at 979-540-8405!
- +++**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**...we are asking for Christmas poinsettias to grace our chancel area for the upcoming Christmas services!!! **At Holy Trinity**, please mark your poinsettia and place them around the tree, etc. **At St. James**, orders will be taken with each poinsettia being \$11.00. Please find the enclosed order form, fill it out, and return it to either Peggy Raines or Sandra Lay by Wednesday, December 11. If paying by check, please make the check payable to Lexington Country Greenhouse! THANK YOU!!!
- *****ST. JAMES...Children's Christmas Eve Service**, practices will begin **TODAY**, at 3pm. Following this practice, we will get together to decorate the Christmas trees and have a Christmas party!
- +++**St. James**...we have a variety of cards (including Christmas cards!)...available individually or by the box...see either Ruth Meyer or Sandra Lay!
- *****SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS**...St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians is the subject of our Sunday morning Bible Class (Holy Trinity: 8-8:24AM; St. James:10-10:24AM). All are welcome to attend.
- +++Devotional book available: Copies are available in the office of Ruth Meyer's "**Truth Notes**." This devotional is based on her past blog post and point to God's timeless truths in a changing world. Books are \$15 each. See either Sandra Lay or Ruth Meyer to purchase yours!
- *****QUILTING**...St. James LWML will be quilting every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9-12!!!
- +++**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**...Holy Trinity-Eldor Brade, 4; Donna Faske, 4;...St. James-Tina Biehle, today; Matthew Brade, today; Teresa Exner, today; Tony Hicks, today; Carl Kolacek, 2; Zachary Lay, 2; Curtis Yurk, 3; Reese Brade, 4; Alan Burns, 4; Lily Patschke, 4; Lauren Cass, 6; Levi Kirkpatrick, 6; Eli Lerche, 6; Alli Lay, 7.