



December 20, 2020

FAMILY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
MARK—A JOURNEY WITH JESUS
“OMITTING AND SKIPPING CHRISTMAS”
MARK 6:1-6

“MARK... A JOURNEY WITH JESUS”

Christmas programs and sermons tend to focus on the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. In Matthew, we find angels, Herod, and the mysterious wise men from the East. If you are a fan of *Peanuts*, then you know that Linus chose to quote the Christmas story from Luke chapter 2. Surprisingly we find no mention of the Christmas story whatsoever in the Gospel of Mark. Instead, Mark skips us forward to Jesus being baptized as an adult in the Jordan River and immediately tempted by Satan afterwards in the wilderness.

Why does Mark make such a quick dash to the desert? Why no manger, shepherds, star or angels? Instead of focusing on the *how* of Jesus’ birth (which was vital and miraculous), Mark draws our attention to the *why* of Christ’s birth. Jesus was born to die for us on Calvary’s cross. And apart from faith in Christ, we are still stuck in the wilderness far from our Savior.

Pastor Keith



Sunday, December 20

Blended Worship 8:00 & 9:00 am
Youth Bible Study—Youth Center 9:00 am
Adult Bible Study—Gathering RM 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 10:15 am

Tuesday December 22

Finance Meeting 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services with Communion
Contemporary 2:00 pm
Blended 3:30 & 5:00 pm
Candlelight 10:00 pm

Friday, December 25

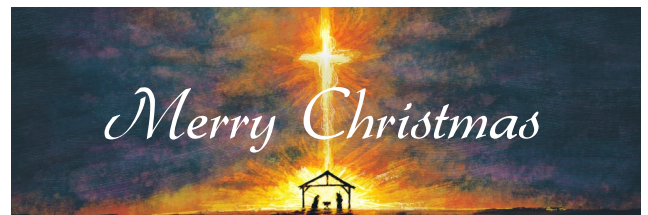
Christmas Blended Worship 10:00 am

Saturday, December 26

Contemporary Music Practice 9:00 am

Sunday, December 27

Blended Worship 8:00 & 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 10:15 am



“Every Christmas we celebrate how the presence of the Christ-Child brings hope, peace, love and joy. We pray all four of these blessings will fill your life in every way this Christmas and beyond. We are so grateful for your partnership in ministry, encouragement and prayers. Most of all, thank you for your faithful worship and service of the Lord throughout 2020. Although this has been a challenging year, the presence of Immanuel (God with us) has brought forgiveness, healing, transformation, spiritual growth and countless blessings to all of us. Merry Christmas and God’s richest blessings to you throughout the new year!”

FAMILY OF CHRIST STAFF



Pastor Keith Grimm
 Pastor Craig Quiring
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 Preschool: 763-413-5037
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 16345 Polk St. NE
 Ham Lake, MN 55304


Office Hours
 Monday - Friday: 8:30 - 4:30

Wi-Fi Network: familyguest
 Wi-Fi Password: family7337

Meet Jesus
Make Friends
Make a Difference

**SUPPORTING
 FAMILY OF CHRIST**
 Click [Online Giving](#)
 Or
 Mail Offerings to:
 Family of Christ
 16345 Polk St. NE
 Ham Lake, MN 55304

Thank you for your continued generosity throughout the year! As a reminder donations received or postmarked by December 31 will be included on this year's giving statement. This includes Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) and gifts resulting from stock donations. Allow additional processing time for donations of stock. Please consult your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of your gift.
 Theresa Schommer
 Business Manager
tschommer@foclutheran.org
 763-434-7337 ext. 14.

 **BLOOD DRIVE
 TUES JAN 5
 12:30 PM - 6:30PM**
 You may sign up to donate at www.redcrossblood.org.
 Sponsor code: FOC

**DCE RUTH WOLTMANN
 INSTALLATION**

Family of Christ is pleased to announce the installation of our new Children's Ministry Director, Ruth Woltmann on January 3. Ruth will be installed at both the 9am and 10:15am services that day. Ruth will oversee Children's Ministry at Family of Christ and will also focus on supporting families and building bridges to our preschool and daycare children and families as well. Please keep Ruth and her family in prayer as they move and make the transition to Family of Christ.

A GIFT FOR YOU!

Family of Christ is pleased to introduce to you a free subscription to RightNow Media. With the subscription you can instantly stream thousands Christian video resources such as children's videos, parent resources, bible study topics and much more. Videos can be viewed through your PC, tablets and other streaming devices. If you are interested please mark so on your Communication Card today and include your email. You can also access it from our website under the "Resource" tab.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER
 JANUARY- MARCH
 FAMILY DEVOTIONAL**

Start or end your day with a daily time of Bible reading and prayer by using the resource Portals of Prayer located outside the Worship Center.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT FAMILY OF CHRIST:
 We will have 4 Christmas Eve services this year all with Holy Communion and they will be as follows:

- **2:00pm** will be our Contemporary Service led by Nathan Tournear with full band and vocals and will include Christmas songs and hymns led by the band.
- **3:30pm** will be a blended service led by Deb Grebin and will include singers, organ, piano and special guest Craig Clark on guitar and vocal. There will be familiar hymns as well as special musical selections.
- **5:00pm** will be a blended service with organ, piano, vocals and special musical selections.
- **10:00pm** will be a blended service which will include piano, organ, vocals and a string quartet.

You can also join us on Christmas day at **10am** for a Blended Service with familiar Christmas hymns.

**LORD'S SUPPER
 BELIEFS AND PRACTICES**

When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, He gave us a precious gift of God in which Christ gives us His true body and blood (in a miraculous way), together with the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith.

The Apostle Paul wrote in I Corinthians 11:28, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats and drinks of the cup."

Before attending the Lord's Supper, ask yourself the following questions:

- Do I believe I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I believe Jesus, by His death offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
- Do I believe I receive the body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and wine? (They are not merely symbolically present)
- Do I truly desire to turn from my sinful ways?
- If you are able to answer "yes" to these questions, we invite you to join us for the Lord's Supper.

For precautionary reasons during this COVID season, Lay Ministers will be distributing communion sets as you enter the worship service. Please do not open these sets until directed by the pastors. Nonalcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are also available at your request.