

# The Master's Notes

## December 2017

### Lutheran Church of The Master

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
*a Reconciling in Christ congregation*

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Craig Shepherd 2000

### December Worship Schedule

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent -Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist

Dec 10<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent -Lessons & Carols, including *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent -*The Magnificat* – and other texts of joy!

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> morning! - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent –We light the 4th Advent candle, leaning into Christmas

Christmas Eve – December 24<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. Festive Candlelight Eucharist with full glorious choir!

First Sunday of Christmas -December 31<sup>st</sup> 11:00 a.m.  
Let's close 2017 in Carols & Communion.

### Thoughts from Pastor Peg



Dear friends in Christ,

"Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns." It is not without significance that this favorite carol is written in the present tense. The Lord "is" come. The Savior "reigns." This is the good news that we welcome at Advent and celebrate at Christmas. It is a great joy that the Christ Child comes into our world and lives. It is wonderful news for the earth that the Savior is at work even now, if only we have eyes of trust to see.

The Advent/Christmas/Epiphany cycle is the conviction that God wants us to trust this, crazy as it may sound. The Lord "is" come in the Child of Bethlehem; the Child who shows us God's choice to come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Immanuel.

All manner of things can frighten us today. No need for me to name them. You can make a list in no time. To be Christian is to say to our lists of woes, "Yes, it is true, and yet it is also even more surely true that God is at work in ways beyond our knowing; working for good; being present in the midst of suffering, empowering Christ's body, the Church, to make a difference called love.

One of the best things I've heard recently was a declaration, "Yes, AND God is also at work." I say the same to you as we enter this holy season. Yes, there are foreboding realities in our lives and world, AND at the same time, God is at work, close at hand: The Lord IS come! The Savior reigns. God's grace will find a way. Love wins. Yes, we live in an imperfect world, AND God lives with us in this same world, giving us courage to trust God's way of love.

This what Jesus the Christ Child says: Love always wins. And a little child shall lead them. May we follow this Child! This Child! This holy Child of Bethlehem! Join us this holy season!

In the joy of the Christ Child, *Pastor Peg*

## From the President

### Council Meeting Highlights

- This year Christmas Eve (Dec. 24), falls on a Sunday. We rejoice to worship together twice on Dec. 24: at 11:00 a.m. as the 4th Sunday of Advent, and return in the evening that same day (Sunday, Dec. 24) for a Festive Christmas Eve Candlelight service. You'll love both of these Sunday services. There will be no Christmas Day service on Monday.
- Barbara is collecting talent cards so we know what resources we already have in the church.
- Plumbing in the sanctuary has been repaired, thanks to an anonymous donor.
- A fun event was scheduled for Dec 2nd, a concert at Cal Lutheran.
- Next council meeting is on the 13th.

*Kevin Grant, President*

## From the Minister of Music

When I was young, my sister and I would anxiously wait each Christmas Eve for the arrival of our cousins. As the appointed time grew near we would impatiently look out an upstairs window, watching for the approach of their car. Their arrival meant fun, family time, great food and, of course...presents!

This season of Advent offers us the opportunity to spend time awaiting the promised Messiah. Just as my sister Barbara and I would wait for our guests, we too can look forward in anticipation as we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest."

Join us in worship each Sunday in Advent as we sing hymns that foretell the coming of the Child in the manger:

"Light one candle to watch for Messiah"

"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near"

"Come, thou long-expected Jesus"

"People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year"

"O hope and expectation, O Jesus now draw near"

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"

"Savior of the nations, come"

"Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!"

### Music for Advent and Christmas-

- 12/3 The choir sings German and Finnish folk tunes arranged by William Miller and Phil Kadidlo. The men of the choir sing during communion.
- 12/10 Advent Service of Lessons and Carols The choir and soloists, joined by flute, oboe and cello, will sing music by Alfred V. Fedak, John Gardner, Richard Proulx, Richard Shephard and Dale Adelman.
- 12/17 Music by Santa Barbara composer Emma Lou Diemer and solos by Thomas Hollow and David Childs.
- 12/24 On the Fourth Sunday in Advent, music will highlight the Annunciation story and usher us into the season of Christmas.
- 12/24 Christmas Eve The choir and congregation sing familiar carols of Christmas, accompanied by flute and horn. The service concludes in candlelight with the singing of "Silent Night". Composers featured include Ralph Vaughan Williams, Jester Hairston, David Willcocks and Michael Fink.
- 12/31 Soloist Nancy Yamasaki and accompanist Leah Chang will offer music and carols for the First Sunday of Christmas.

*David York, Minister of Music*

## Financial Update



Happy Advent!

In November we donated a total of \$8,487.00 to the General Fund, of which \$1,120.00 was for Thanksgiving and the ELCA Disaster Response. So far this year we have donated \$102,177.83, or 70.04% of our goal of \$145,875.00.

Thank you!

*Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary*

## Offering Envelopes

It's time to distribute the 2018 offering envelopes. If you currently do not have your own box of offering envelopes and would like to get one, please let either Emily Jackson-Yano or the church office know, preferably before December 15. If you have previously received a box of offering envelopes, you will get another one for 2018 unless you let us know otherwise. Envelopes will be available starting December 17.

## LCM Annual Meeting Sunday, December 17

The Congregation gathers immediately after worship on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, for the Annual Budget and Election Meeting. Business to be discussed includes the approval of the proposed 2018 budget; nomination and election of officers, congregation council, and synod assembly voting members; and ratification of a constitutional amendment. Voting members will receive a letter in the next few days detailing the meeting agenda.

## Call Committee Update – December

Our LCM Ministry Site Profile has been approved by Bishop Erwin. We expect to be interviewing pastoral candidates soon. When the interview process begins, all information will be confidential within the Call Committee. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Browning at (310) 850-2682. We ask for your prayers as we continue the call process.

Blessings from the Call Committee,  
*Kevin Grant, Tom Jacobson, Deborah Kovac,  
Richard Levine and Barbara Browning*

## Flower Chart



December 3	Open
December 10	Mary Savage, in memory of John Savage
December 17	Bettijune Fanning, in memory of Ray Fanning's birthday
December 24	Barbara Browning
December 31	Valerie Raby and Family

Please consider donating the altar flowers for worship. If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. Note: the cost in 2017 is \$15 for a single vase and \$30 for both

vases. When paying for the flowers, please include the payment in your offering envelope and make sure to write "flowers" on the envelope.

## Holiday Cards for Prisoners



In years past we have gathered cards to send to prisoners. We often don't think of the fact that prisoners have family and friends as we do and like to send cards on holidays, birthdays and other events important to them. Please consider bringing some cards and placing them in the basket on the table in the parish hall or the narthex. We will be sending them to the prison the first part of December in time for the holidays. Thank you for participating in this Charitable Giving Project.

## Advent Tree Ornaments

This year we will decorate our gift tree in the narthex with ELCA Good Gifts Advent Tree Ornaments. ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love. The tree will have ornaments to purchase pigs, bees, chicks and goats of different value. Take an ornament, make a check payable to LCM and give the ornament to someone as a Christmas gift. LCM will send the donations to ELCA Good Gifts at the end of Advent on December 24. Your gift carries God's love to others, making a difference in lives around the world. The animals provide livelihood and food for those in areas of need around the world. As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. If you have any questions ask Barbara at church or give her a call at (310) 850-2682.

## Porsche Toy Drive - Los Angeles House of Ruth

We are invited to join with our Porsche neighbors in a toy drive for the local House of Ruth. House of Ruth is a national organization which provides temporary and transitional housing for homeless and battered women and their children. See [HouseofRuth.org](http://HouseofRuth.org) for more information. Porsche is collecting toys for ages 5-12, or gift cards (Target, iTunes, Walmart, Amazon, Grocery Stores), and wrapping supplies. Bring your contributions to the narthex to be taken over to Porsche. Help make the holidays special!

## December 16th Hanging of the Greens - Decorate LCM for Christmas

Join us Saturday, December 16 at 9:00 a.m. to decorate the church for Christmas. There will be trees to decorate and many projects to prepare for a wonderful holiday.

## Christmas Cookie Exchange December 17<sup>th</sup>

For our first Christmas cookie exchange every person should bring two dozen decorated cookies to church on December 17. Also bring an empty cookie tin with you to church. At the end of the service we will put all the cookies out and each person will choose among the cookies and will take home two dozen mixed cookies in their cookie tin. This will be a fun way to share our own special Christmas cookies with others.

## Save The Date! January 6, 2018

We are going to celebrate our Annual Tea on Epiphany. Epiphany marks the visit to the baby Jesus by three Kings, or Wise Men. We will have our tea as usual at Ye Olde King's Head in Santa Monica. There will be more information as the date comes closer. Save the date, January 6, 2018 at 12:30 PM.

## Invitation to Explore Scripture

Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the parish house as we preview and discuss one of the scripture passages we'll hear during that day's worship. Leah Chang continues to facilitate; all participants continue as teachers. Added incentives? You can enjoy a donut and a cup of coffee, lemonade, or tea! Hope to see you there!

## Want to Visit the Holy Lands?



Pastors Peg & Reg are planning a Holy Land trip for April 17-27, 2018. You are heartily welcome too! It will include visits to Caesarea, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, the Mt of Olives, etc. (There is also an optional pre-trip visit to Jordan, Petra, and Mt. Nebo: April 15-18). For more info. email Pastor Peg at [pastorpeg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorpeg@sbcglobal.net).

## AmazonSmile



Would you like to benefit LCM while shopping online? You can if you have an account with Amazon! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, etc. as Amazon. However, if you use the AmazonSmile website, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of all eligible purchases to LCM at no additional cost to you. You can "unsubscribe" at any time.

To register:

- Sign in to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
  - From your desktop, go to "Your Account" from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to "Change your Charity".
  - From your mobile browser, select "Change your Charity" from the options at the bottom of the page.
- Select a new charitable organization to support. Be sure to choose "Lutheran Church of the Master in Los Angeles".

Any questions? Contact Emily or Ken

## Helping The Homeless

John Johnson, our office manager, continues to hand out lunches, hygiene kits and limited items of clothing to the homeless. If you would like to contribute food, we can use individual packaged items such as easy-open cans of tuna, meat, fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers, energy/protein bars, juices and small bottles of water. If you would like to contribute to the hygiene kits, we need travel-size tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes and gallon-size resealable plastic bags. Desired clothing items include new socks, underwear and t-shirts. Thank you for being a part of our ministry to the homeless.

## Free Community Law Clinic



Attorney Parviz Malakouti continues to host the Community Law Clinic to provide free legal consultations to individuals, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **The next clinic will be on November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## Fellowship Brunch



Are you interested in contributing something to our weekly fellowship brunch such as sandwiches, pizza, dessert, or anything of your liking? If so, please contact Barbara at (310) 393-6844.

## Craft Day

December's craft day will be the Hanging of the Greens this month - Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

## Our Prayer List



We keep in prayer: Tony Avila, David Arriola, Karen Beatty, Gina Beretta, Barbara Bombach, Melissa Bomes, Ester Cabacungan, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, the family of Emma Lou Candow, Sonia Casas, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and family, Sara Ehrman, Bensiyon Eyice, Mohamad Fatemeh, Emmett Fisher, Badri and Negin Hunold, Ted and Lynne Jackson, Rosana Johnson, Malinda Jones, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, Peter Lewis, Ma, Jeff, Lester Mahaffay, Jean Medina, Frank Nakamura, Steve Newberry, Kaitlyn Nickel, the Nickel Family, Bobby Orue, Meghan Reul, Harley Rockoff, Tim Rutherford, Rosamelida Sandoval, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Peter Stackhouse, Huiling Sun, Polina Tashlitskaya, Sue Tehrani, Sophie Umhofer, John Warren, Kent Weed, Steve Weiss, Shawn Willcuts, Mary Ann Wright, Hideto Yano, the plight of the Syrian people and refugees and immigrants everywhere, and members of our AA Groups.

*Names may be added to the prayer list by filling out a prayer card in the pew racks or by contacting the office by email.  
Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 months.*

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Every Sunday	<b>December 2017 Calendar</b>					
<b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Choir Warm-up</b> 10:28 a.m. <b>Worship</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Fellowship</b> 12:15 p.m.	Please refer to CALENDAR at <a href="http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org">http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org</a> for updates.					
	<b>Church Office Hours:</b> <b>Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>					
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Cal Lutheran University            Christmas Concert            4 p.m. at Cal Luth</b>
<b>3</b>  <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>  <b>Holy Baptism            11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>8</b>  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>7</b>  <b>Choir Rehearsal            7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>  <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>  <b>Lessons and Carols            11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>13</b>  <b>Council Meeting            6:00 p.m.</b>  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>14</b>  <b>Choir Rehearsal            7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>Hanging of the Greens -            Decorating Day            9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>17</b>  <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> <b>The Magnificat - 11:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Annual Congregation            Meeting - 12:00 noon</b>  <b>Christmas Cookie Exchange</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>20</b>  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>21</b>  <b>Choir Rehearsal            7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>22</b>  <b>Masters Notes            articles            due in office.</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>  <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>  <b>Candlelight Eucharist            with Choir - 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>26</b>  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	<b>27</b>  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	<b>28</b>  <b>No Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>  <b>First Sunday of Christmas</b>					<b><u>December Birthdays</u></b> <b>Daniel Cheng - December 4<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Wayne Wetts – December 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>Sara Foss – December 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	

# Lutheran Church of The Master

## December 2017 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

<b>USHERS</b>	<b>READERS</b>	<b>ASSISTANT</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>
<b>December 3</b>	<b>December 3</b> <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<b>December 3</b>
Charlotte Johnson Julie Johnson	Noubar Taykalderanian Isaiah 64:1-9 and Corinthians 1:2-9	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning Maria Gustafsson Grant
<b>December 10</b>	<b>December 10</b> <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>December 10</b>
Richard Levine Carlos Valera	Charles Peruchini Isaiah 40:1-11 and Peter 3:8-15	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano Ronald Nickel
<b>December 17</b>	<b>December 17</b> <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>December 17</b>	<b>December 17</b>
Fred Ascher Manny Cabacungan	Fred Ascher Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	Emily Jackson-Yano	Barbara Browning Joshua Nickel
<b>December 24</b>	<b>December 24</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>December 24</b>	<b>December 24</b>
Kevin Grant Bryan Yamasaki	Millie Rojas 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 and Romans 16:25-27	Maria Gustafsson Grant	Emily Jackson-Yano Maria Gustafsson Grant
<b>December 24</b>	<b>December 24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>December 24</b>	<b>December 24</b>
Kevin Grant Steve Weiss	Charles Peruchini Isaiah 9:2-7 and Titus 2:11-14	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano Maria Gustafsson Grant
<b>December 31</b>	<b>December 31</b> <b>First Sunday of Christmas</b>	<b>December 31</b>	<b>December 31</b>
Julie Johnson Richard Levine	Charlene MacKenzie Isaiah 61:10-62:3 and Galatians 4:4-7	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano Ronald Nickel