



# Sonlight

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

Inside this issue:

December Message	1
Advent Worship	1
Lighter Side	2
Marriage Enrichment Week-end 2019	2
Men's Bible Class in January: Hard Sayings of Jesus	2
Christmas Schedule @ LotW	2
December Calendar	3

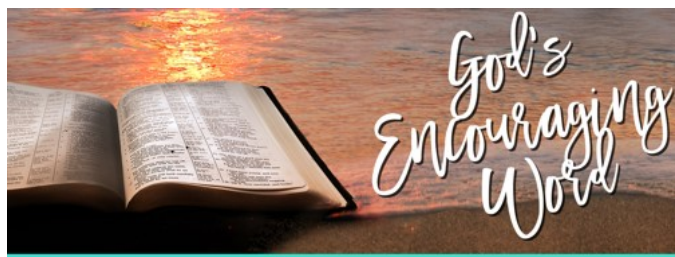
### God's Encouraging Word... when I wonder if I'll go to heaven

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*- John 3:16*

I saw my name on Santa's list! I was so excited. I didn't think it would be there. I got mad and hit my sister on Thanksgiving Day. I admitted my fault. Since then, I was very well behaved. After all, Santa brings good things to good boys, right? I saw MY name! I was getting a puppy for Christmas! I did it! I made up for my sin.

Christmas came and no puppy. I was crushed. I thought I deserved one. I thought Santa loved me. Was the name on Santa's list someone else with the same name as mine? Did Santa think my apology was insincere? Was hitting my sister such a horrible thing that he would totally reject me? No puppy that Christmas. (It



would be another 29 years before I got a puppy.)

What if God treated us like that? We would never be sure we are going to heaven. But God does not treat us like that, and we can be sure we are going to heaven. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..."

Notice what God did not say. "God so loved the ones that don't hit their sisters..." "God so loved the good ones... the top 50%... those who help themselves." No, God loves sinners, all sinners, you and me. He loves the whole world.

God gave us the greatest gift of all. Jesus, God's Son, came at Christmas to save the world from sin and hell. God gave us a gift only he can give—eternal life. God did that by sending Jesus into this world to live a life without sin. Jesus never hit his sister. He never even thought angry or insulting thoughts about anyone. Jesus was punished for all our sins, in our place. Jesus rose from the dead to guarantee our sins are paid for. He did this for the whole world. That includes you.

*Continues on page 2...*

**Key Events This Month:**

- 12/1—Advent by Candlelight**
- 12/2—Christmas Dinner**
- 12/5,12,19—Midweek Advent Worship**
- 12/8—Christmas for Kids**
- 12/9—Christmas Caroling**
- 12/16—Sunday School Christmas Program**
- 12/24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
- 12/25—Christmas Day Celebration**
- 12/31—New Year's Eve Worship**

### Christ, Our All-Testament Hero

As we begin December and move into the Christmas season, we as a church move into a new church year, which begins with the season of Advent. During this time, we wait in eager expectation for the coming of the Christ-child.

For this year's Advent season, our theme is "Christ, Our All-Testament Hero." In our mid-week Advent worship, we'll see comparisons between Christ and heroes of faith of the Old Testament.

In addition to our Wednesday

evening Advent worship, which will be at 6:30pm, starting on December 5, we'll also have a dinner beforehand at 5:30pm. More details on that will be coming in the next few weeks.

*...continued from page 1*

Jesus is the greatest gift ever given. Trusting him as your Savior, you can be certain you will go to heaven. Enjoy God's gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Have a blessed Christmas!

- Pastor Jason Strong

## *Light of the World Mission Statement*

*As a family of believers united in faith, we serve Jesus, the true Light of the World, as we **GATHER** around God's Word and the Sacraments and **GROW** together in our faith and our relationship with Jesus, so we can **GO** and share the good news of Jesus in our community and the world and **GLOW** with the love of Christ in our lives.*

## *On the Lighter Side...*

### **The Hotel Is Full**

Jewish lady named Mrs. Rosenberg many years ago was stranded late one night at a fashionable resort - one that did not admit Jews. The desk clerk looked down at his book and said, "Sorry, no room. The hotel is full."

The Jewish lady said, "But your sign says that you have vacancies."

The desk clerk stammered and then said curtly, "You know that we do not admit Jews. Now if you will try the other side of town..."

Mrs. Rosenberg stiffened noticeably and said, "I'll have you know I converted to your religion."

The desk clerk said, "Oh, yeah, let me give you a little test. How was Jesus born?"

Mrs. Rosenberg replied, "He was born to a virgin named Mary in a little town called Bethlehem."

"Very good," replied the hotel clerk. "Tell me more."

Mrs. Rosenberg replied, "He was born in a manger."

"That's right," said the hotel clerk. "And why was he born in a manger?"

Mrs. Rosenberg said loudly, "Because a jerk like you in the hotel wouldn't give a Jewish lady a room for the night!"

## *Marriage Enrichment Weekend*

Marriage is a profound mystery. In Ephesians 5:32 Paul calls marriage literally, a "mega-mystery." The word mystery seems to imply it can't be solved but there is an answer and it's entirely possible to know it. It's entirely possible for you to know, feel and act on the secret to a great marriage.

On March 1-3, 2019, you have the opportunity to join other WELS couples from around Alaska for our 2nd Marriage Enrichment

Weekend down at the Dimond Center Hotel in Anchorage. The theme for this weekend is "Mysterious Marriage," and the intent of the weekend is encourage and enable married couples to rejoice in the mysteries of marriage so they can continue to grow. More info will be coming, especially concerning the cost but if you are interested, you are encouraged to speak to Pastor.

## *Men's Bible Class*

One Saturday morning each month, the men of Light of the World have the opportunity both to gather together for some breakfast at Hometown Restaurant and also to study God's Word.

Over the better part of the past year, we've been studying the book of Acts. Now, the regulars have chosen to start a study based on the harder sayings of Jesus.

We'll be looking to start this study up in January, and we'd like to

have as many men join us as we can. If you are interested, there is an accompanying book that you can purchase for \$15, but the book would not be necessary.

Here's a blurb about the study: *"This Bible study examines some of Jesus' more controversial or confusing statements and helps reveal the profound truth they contain. These 13 complete lessons will give participants better comprehension and added confidence as they read the gospels on their own."* We hope you can join us!

## *Christmas Schedule*

**December 1, 3:00pm**—Advent by Candlelight

**December 2, 5:30pm**—Christmas Dinner

**December 5, 12, 19, 6:30pm**—Midweek Advent Worship

**December 8, 1:00pm**—Christmas for Kids

**December 9, 1:00pm**—Christmas Caroling @ Pioneer Home and the Denali Center

**December 16, 10:30am**—Sunday School Christmas Program

**December 24, 6:00pm**—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**December 25, 10:30am**—Christmas Day Celebration

# DECEMBRE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 3:00—Advent by Candlelight						
2 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Prayer Group 5:30—Christmas Dinner	3 6:00—BBB Class	4 5:30—Catechism 7:00—Choir	5 5:30—Advent Meal 6:30—Advent Worship	6 6:30—Financial Peace University	7	8 1:00—Christmas for Kids
9 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Potluck 1:00—Christmas Caroling	10 6:00—BBB Class	11 5:30—Catechism 7:00—Choir	12 5:30—Advent Meal 6:30—Advent Worship	13	14	15
16 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Sunday School Christmas Program 12:00—Council 12:00—GLOW Meeting	17 6:00—BBB Class	18 5:30—Catechism 7:00—Choir	19 5:30—Advent Meal 6:30—Advent Worship	20	21	22
23 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Elders	24 6:00—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 10:30—Christmas Day Celebration	26	27	<b>Church Cleaners for December :</b> 12/2-12/8—Young 12/9-12/15—Ziesmer 12/15-12/22—Austin 12/23-12/29—Carpenter 12/30-1/5—Coleman, Bob & Gail	
30 10:30—Worship	31 6:00—New Year's Eve Worship					

**Facebook!**

**Check us out on**

*Pastor Jason Strong  
Phone: 907-479-4324  
E-mail: strongjas@gmail.com*

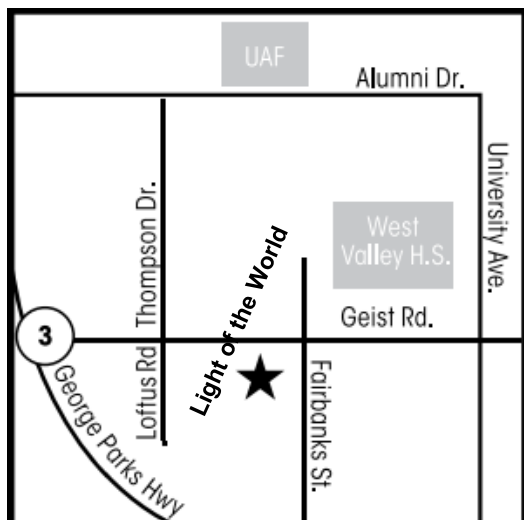
*4155 Geist Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709*

**Light of the World Lutheran Church**  
*www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com*

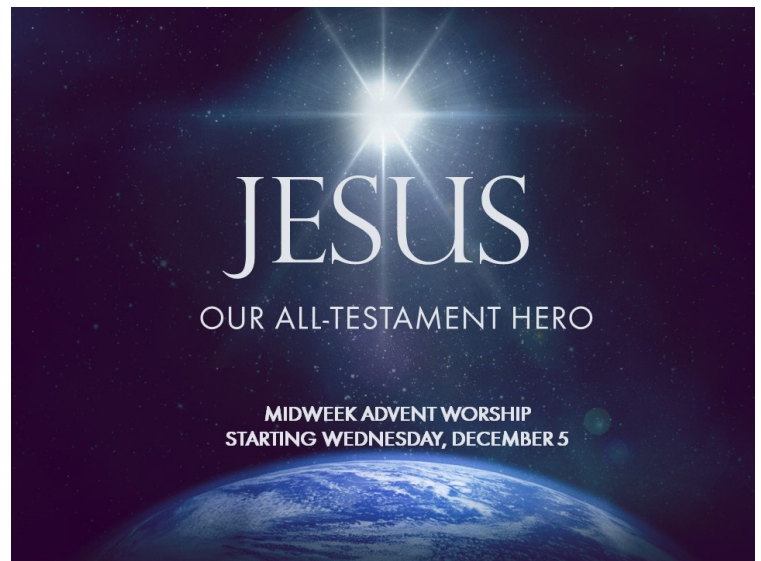
**Grow in God's Word with us!**

**Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am**

**Sunday Worship - 10:30 am**



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



**STARTING  
DECEMBER 5TH**