

ISAIAH 9:6, KJV

*And  
His name  
shall be  
called...*

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

December 18, 2024

# **WELCOME**

Thank you for worshipping with us today.  
Please sign the guest register in the entry  
as you leave the church today.

## **TODAY'S SERVICE**

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Speaker:** Pastor David Ude

**Organist:** Lila Brown

# PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

*Read Matthew 7:24–29*

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God’s Son, who was given the name Jesus—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” However, in addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles that describe something about His person or work. We will examine the four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace—and will study how each of these titles describes something about who Jesus is and what He did for our salvation.

Today we consider how God rescues us from the cunning counsel of the devil and blesses us with the wonderful counsel of His Son, whose Word of truth sets us free from sin and its damning deception. Jesus is given the title Wonderful Counselor because His Word rescues us from the lies of the devil and our own self-deception and leads us into God’s wisdom, which results in our salvation.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

#106:1,4-6 The People That in Darkness Sat

## INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

## CONFESSION OF SINS

p God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

c **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us from all sin.**

p If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

c **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

p Let us confess our sins.

**all** Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen

**p** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**c** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

**p** Let us pray . . . Wonderful Counselor, you descended from heaven and delivered to us Your gracious word of truth, grant that we might so hear, learn and inwardly digest this word that we might also proclaim Your peace all the days of our lives for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

# PSALM

*Psalm 119:129–136;*

- P Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.
- C **The unfolding of Your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.**
- P I open my mouth and pant, because I long for Your commandments.
- C **Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is Your way with those who love Your name.**
- P Keep steady my steps according to Your promise, and let no iniquity get dominion over me.
- C **Redeem me from man's oppression, that I may keep Your precepts.**
- P Make Your face shine upon Your servant, and teach me Your statutes.
- C **My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep Your law.**

# THE WORD

**Romans 11:32-36** <sup>32</sup> For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all. <sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out! <sup>34</sup> "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?" <sup>35</sup> "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?" <sup>36</sup> For of Him and through Him and to Him *are* all things, to whom *be* glory forever. Amen.

## RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT

*LSB*, p. 230

- P Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- P In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C     **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

P     Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C     **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

## **#95: 1-4, 6 Savior of the Nations, Come**

### **SERMON**

**Isaiah 9:1-2,6-7** Nevertheless the gloom *will not be* upon her who *is* distressed, As when at first He lightly esteemed The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, And afterward more heavily oppressed *her*, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined . . . <sup>6</sup> For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His



shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

## WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

### A Wonderful Counselor Born For Us!

## #705 Come, O Long Expected Jesus

### OFFERING AND PRAYER

P Wonderful Counselor, we come to You, Lord Jesus, thankful that You have enlightened us with the counsel of Your wonderful gracious word of forgiveness for all our sins. Help us, we pray, as we interact with people who may be entrapped by their sin, not knowing Your full forgiveness, and unable to rejoice at the anniversary of Your birth. Wonderful Counselor, use us and all we have, to bring others to hear and believe the Good News. Have mercy upon us and hear us as we join to pray:

### Luther's Evening Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and gra-

ciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## THE BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen

**#58:1,4,7,8 O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee**



# **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

N1529 State Road 73 Markesan, WI 53946

[www.MarkesanLutheran.org](http://www.MarkesanLutheran.org)

## **CHURCH & SCHOOL DIRECTORY**

### **PASTOR MATTHEW UDE**

[pastor@markesanlutheran.com](mailto:pastor@markesanlutheran.com)

(920) 398-0260

### **JESSICA KRUEGER**

Grades 6-8

(920) 369-8113

### **SCHOOL OFFICE**

[principal@markesanlutheran.com](mailto:principal@markesanlutheran.com)

(920) 398-3171

### **REBECCA LILLO**

Grades 3-5

(262) 271-6129

### **ANN SPRENGELER**

Grades K-2

(920) 295-2667

### **ALISON BROWN**

Pre-School

(920) 229-9854

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