

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Red Bud, Illinois

Third Sunday in Advent
December 12-13, 2020

Divine Service Four, page 203

The Prelude: "People, Look East" *arranged by Steve Wentz*
The Ringing of the Bell calls us to holy worship.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH! We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the sacraments and provide Christian education in service to all people. We are especially happy that we have visitors with us today. St. John's is a congregation which follows the historic order of Christian worship. Even if you are not Lutheran, you may recognize many of the elements of worship from your own tradition. If you or your small child needs a space for privacy during the service, Room 1 in the Fellowship Hall has a TV with a video feed of our worship service. We ask everyone to sign our Friendship Register that is at the end of the pew. To help with the reverent nature of our worship, please silence and do not use your cell phones and pagers during this service. Thank you!

The Opening Hymn: 936 "Sing Praise to the God of Israel"

(10:30 a.m.) Holy Baptism, pages 268ff.

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord, **C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, (and) call upon Him in prayer and praise, (and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar), let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit: Psalm 85



Show us Your steadfast love, | O LORD,* and grant us Your sal- | vation.
 His salvation is near to those who | fear Him,* that glory may dwell | in our land.
 Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,* and our land will yield its | increase.
 Righteousness will go be- | fore Him* and make His foot- | steps a way.
 Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
 Show us Your steadfast love, | O LORD,* and grant us Your sal- | vation.

Kyrie (*sung*) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

The Advent Stanza: (*sung, LSB 357*)

O come, O come Em-man-u-el, And ran-som cap-tive Is-ra-el,
 That mourns in lone-ly ex-ile here Un-til the Son of God ap-pear.
 Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

P Let us pray together the Collect of the Day.

C Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (*please be seated*)

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their offspring shall be known among the nations,

and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. **A** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you; **righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

The Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Common Alleluia and Verse (*please stand if you are able*)

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands One you do not know, even He who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to You, O Christ.

(10:30 a.m.) **The Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)*

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) **Apostles' Creed**

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life (+) everlasting. Amen.

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) **Children’s Message Song: “Light One Candle”** (AGPS 163)

**Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope,
He brings hope to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!
Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace,
He brings peace to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!
Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy,
Ev’ry nation will find salvation in Beth-l’em’s baby boy.
Light one candle for love, one bright candle for love,
He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!
He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!**

Text: Copyright © 1976 by Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used by permission; CCLI#3196726

Hymn of The Day: 346 “When All the World Was Cursed”

Sermon: “The Answer Was Under Our Noses the Whole Time!” John 1:19-28

(Please stand if you are able) **Prayer of the Church**

HEALING AND COMFORT: Kenneth Koester, Kenny Althoff, Ed Luttmann, Barb Ladwig, Joan Prigge, Ron Seymour, Fred Buch, Dennis Deterding, Lori Rees, David Burgdorf, Jackie Quintin, Kim Mehring; *Family and Friends of St. John’s Members:* Lori Voges, Roger Drinnon, Sr., Elda Guebert, Pat Smith, Barb Niermann, Boniface Becker, Merlin Liefer, Velma Koenig, Denise Ebers, Doug Whelan, Brenda Manning, Peggy Koen. *Help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: *(Please call with names.)* Army- Casey Vallett, Tanner Valleroy, Nathan Koen, Tim Healy, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Austin Scheibe, Trevor Buckner, Jessica DeMarco, Jeremiah Brandt, Benjamin Boeder, Christopher Dupertius, Garrett Carnahan, Tyler Wahlman, Gavin Roche-Voss, Joshua Cox; Navy- Brad Koester, Carl Muehler; Air Force- Gage Baldwin, Brian Hubbard, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, Terry Koester, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Tailor Neuhaus, Josh Butterworth, Keenan Turnure

EMERGENCY PERSONNEL: Fire/EMS- Tom Beshoar, Kevin Biffar, Chad Crafton, Steven Falkenhain, Chad Grohmann, Curt Guebert, Scot Heller, Blake Koppel, Chad Langrehr, Kenny Langrehr, Matt Liefer, Kevin Miller, Alan Piel, Jason Rippelmeyer, Brad Stechmesser; Police- Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Jason Palm *(Please call our office with names)*

+those who mourn: the family of St. John’s members Lou Gerlach; the family of Lola Seibold, the mother of Shawn DeRousse

Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us Your salvation! You sent John to proclaim the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Richly and daily forgive our sins and the sins of all believers. all pastors, teachers and church professionals who serve us

in Christ's name. Gather and preserve Your Holy Christian Church by Your voice and send us faithful preachers who will not deny but confess Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Dear Father, be the source of strength and comfort in every home. Bless the children of our families, that every darkness would be lightened by Your Son's gracious visitation. Sanctify them completely, that their whole spirit, soul and body may be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give wisdom and success to our nation and its leaders. Behold in mercy all who are in authority over us and those newly elected. Preserve our land and its citizens in peace and harmony, and protect all who serve in harm's way, remembering especially our military members, law enforcement agents, emergency responders and all healthcare personnel. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of hosts, graciously regard all for whom we pray asking for relief, recovery and protection from the Covid-19 pandemic, and also praying for the healing and comfort of Kenneth, Kenny, Ed, Barb, Joan, Ron, Fred, Dennis, Lori, David, Jackie, Kim, Lori, Roger, Elda, Pat, Barb, Boniface, Merlin, Velma, Denise, Doug, Brenda, Peggy and those we now name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our thanks in every circumstance for Your kindness in Christ Jesus and the certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life with Him. We pray especially for Lou's family and for Lola's family at this time of their earthly passings. We ask that You would bless them with fond memories of their loved one's life with them, and comfort them with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life that our Lord Jesus won for them by His own life, death and resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(10:30 a.m.) Give us faith to believe this New Testament in Your blood, to seek Your Holy Supper for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith, and to confess Your truth with honest hearts in communion with You and one another at this altar today. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. services conclude here:

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and
forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People: Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. C **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: 518 “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

- 1 By all Your saints in warfare, For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus, Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory Reflected from Your throne.**
- 18 We praise You for the Baptist, Forerunner of the Word,
Our true Elijah, making A highway for the Lord.
The last and greatest prophet, He saw the dawning ray
Of light that grows in splendor Until the perfect day.**
- 3 Then let us praise the Father And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow’r and glory And praise to God alone. A-men.**

Public domain © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET

The Postlude: “A Little Fugue”

by David Schelat

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

(10:30 a.m.) **Service of the Sacrament**

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION: In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The individual cups of white wine in the center of the cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer this. Place a finger to your lips if you prefer an individual cup. For more information about this sacrament, please see pages 326-327 and 329-330 of *Lutheran Service Book*.

Preface

P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (*sung*)

**Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth a-dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho-san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;
Tru-ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near. With thankful hearts we pray, "Come Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and
forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord and The Pax Domini

PThe peace of the Lord be with you always. C Amen.

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

**1 O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world a-way;
O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mer-cy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world a-way;
Have mer-cy on us, Je- sus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Distribution: (*please be seated*)

(Lord Jesus, I pray You to make me, unworthy as I am, worthy through Your grace;
so that Your body and Your blood may be for me a strengthening of my faith,
a proof of my forgiveness, a closer union with You and Your people, an increase of holiness,
the basis of a glad resurrection, and a pledge of everlasting life. Amen.)

Hymn: 342 “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

Hymn: 352 “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

Hymn: 375 “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

(*Please Stand*) **Nunc Dimittis:** page 211

**O Lord, now let Your ser-vant De-part in heav’ n-ly peace,
For I have seen the glo-ry Of Your re-deem-ing grace:
A light to lead the Gen-tiles Un-to Your ho-ly hill,
The glo-ry of Your peo-ple, Your cho-sen Is-ra-el.**

**All glo-ry to the Fa-ther, All glo-ry to the Son,
All glo-ry to the Spir-it, For-ev-er Three in One;
For as in the be-gin-ning, Is now, shall ev-er be,
God tri-une name re-sound-ing Through all e-ter-ni-ty.**

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. C **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: 518 “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

**1 By all Your saints in warfare, For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus, Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory Reflected from Your throne.**

**18 We praise You for the Baptist, Forerunner of the Word,
Our true Elijah, making A highway for the Lord.
The last and greatest prophet, He saw the dawning ray
Of light that grows in splendor Until the perfect day.**

**3 Then let us praise the Father And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow’r and glory And praise to God alone. A-men.**

Public domain © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET

The Postlude: “A Little Fugue”

by David Schelat

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

This Week With Our Lord, December 13-20, 2020**SUNDAY, December 13-**

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:25 a.m. Sunday School and Faith/Pandemic Class in the new gym wing

9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Bible classes in the Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Monday, December 14-

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school music room

Tuesday, December 15-

12:30 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 16-

8:30 a.m. Midweek Advent Service at church

9:00 a.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting

2:15 p.m. Public School Confirmation classes in the Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service at church

Thursday, December 17-

8:10 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (Luke)

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

Friday, December 18-

8:20 a.m. Grade 1 Early Childhood Christmas service online

Saturday, December 19-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in Fellowship Hall (Job)

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Landon Ruebusch

SUNDAY, December 20-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Makennah Harless

9:25 a.m. Sunday School and Faith/Pandemic class in the new gym wing

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Bible Classes in the Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative) Acolyte: Colt Hess

CHALICE/COMMON CUP RETURNS:

The chalice/common cup is available for receiving the Lord's Supper should you desire it. While the risk of transmitting a disease in this way is very slight normally, we take the extra precaution of soaking the cloth purificators in high percentage alcohol, which kills the virus.

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

To have flowers in worship please call the office at 282-3873 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

The next edition of our quarterly devotion, *Portals of Prayer*, for January-March of 2021 is available in the racks by the front and back doors of church.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 310; Holy Communion: 148; Adults & Youth: 45; Sunday School students: 60

Wednesday, December 9 Midweek Advent II- AM- 29; PM- 23

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN, WHATE'ER THE GIFT MAY BE:

We join with one another in the grace of giving. 11/29- General Fund: 12,582; Automatic Giving: \$2840; School: \$270; Thanksgiving Door Offering: \$442.05; Sunday School Rally Day: \$100; Debt: \$100; Lutheran Hour Ministries: \$20; Lutheran Witness: \$18. 12/6- General Fund: \$24,639.98; Debt: \$9,910.47; School: \$415; Elders Baskets: \$140; Lutheran Witness: \$36.

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. And thereby put Me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." (Malachi 3:10)

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: *LCMS Stewardship Resources*

1 Thessalonians 5:18 – “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” Christians express their thanks to God in many ways: in prayer, in giving to the Lord’s work, in acts of service to others, and in faithful living in their daily callings. Everything we do to honor God in our lives is a means of returning thanks for the Lord’s many gifts to us.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

The prophet Daniel illustrates how to face the facts while never losing faith in how the story ends. Listen to “The Prophet’s Paradox” (Daniel 10-12) with Speaker Dr. Michael Ziegler on KFUE AM 850 Sundays at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. (KSIV 1320 AM or 91.5 FM).

ADDITION TO WORSHIP PRAYERS:

If you are or have in your family an emergency responder or healthcare worker whose position has become especially difficult during this time of pandemic, please call or email our office so that we can list the name of that person in our group prayers much like we remember our nation’s military personnel.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES: *(9:30 to 10:15 a.m.)*

Sunday Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall concludes the topic of “The Separation of Church and State” this Sunday. DCE Bill Becker continues his class called “Faith in the Shadow of a Pandemic.” This is in the Junior High wing of the new part of the school.

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE CLASS:

Seminarian Wade Waterstreet and our high school students have begun a study on “The Gospel of Matthew.” This is in Room Two of the Fellowship Hall on Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

ZOOM BIBLE CLASS OFFERING:

Seminarian Waterstreet also is offering a Zoom Bible Class on Saturdays from 4-4:40 p.m. To be part of “Stump the Seminarian” please send an email to him at waterstreetw@csl.edu and he will send you a weekly Zoom link.

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Brynlee Jo Durbin into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the 10:30 a.m. service. She is the daughter of Landon and Karly (Cartwright) Durbin. Her baptismal sponsors are Brooke Hillert and Dustin Sauer. Thanks be to God for His gift of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

+We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John’s member Delores Voss who died in the Lord on December 3 in Austin, Texas where she lived with her daughter. She had been our oldest member at 98 years of age. We do not know of any service plans at this time. Thanks be to God for His gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

+We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John’s member Lou Gerlach who died in the Lord on Wednesday at his home at the age of 90 years. He will receive his Christian burial on Tuesday in a private family service. Thanks be to God for His gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

Students in Sunday School Nursery through Grade One will practice at church this Sunday during the Christian Education hour for their Christmas Service at church this Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER:

Kdg.: Layla Meyer and Maggie Kuehn; 1st Grade: Henry Schnepel 2nd Grade: Natalie Kassing; 5th Grade: Sydney Kassing; 7th Grade: Noah Kassing 8th Grade: Sam Roscow and Daniel Stapleton. Thank you for your dedication and your participation in our Sunday School ministry!

FOOD DRIVE FOR COMWELL:

Our Evening Guild is sponsoring a food drive for ComWell (Human Service Center) Food Pantry! We have a box in the church entryway for your donations.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE:

Our last Midweek Advent Service in church is this Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The theme is “The Three-fold Coming of Christ.” This week we will focus on “Jesus Will Come.”

CHRISTMAS HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES:

In order to enable your attendance at Christmas worship services in a socially-distant and comfortable way, we are asking for you to make a reservation as we want to limit each service to around 120 people (33% capacity of the sanctuary). Please call our church office at 282-2394. We have added two Christmas Eve Holy Communion services, so the times will be 3 p.m. (full), 5 p.m. (full), 7 p.m. (full) and 9 p.m. (full) to go along with the Christmas Day 9 a.m. Holy Communion service (half-full). That will be five opportunities for worship here at St. John's at Christmas. On Christmas Eve please do not arrive more than ½ hour before the 5 p.m., 7 p.m. or 9 p.m. services begin in order to provide the worshippers from the previous service time to depart and for the sanitizing of the sanctuary to take place.

CHRISTIAN MUSIC CDs AVAILABLE:

+St. John's member Joan Voges offers music CDs from her Lilyfields Collection to us for a donation to our school's ministry. You can pick up copies from the table in the entryway.

+Former St. John's member Bryan Perdue has a new CD of music available called, “Freely Given Freely Received.” This, plus a few of his earlier CDs also are available on the table in the entryway for a \$10 donation to our congregation's debt reduction.

CONGRATULATIONS!:

St. John's member and Red Bud High School senior Adrienne Vallett was named Student of the Month for Red Bud High School. This award is provided by the Red Bud Lions Club. She also was one of 14 runners named to the All-South Cross Country Team. She is the daughter of Casey and Tracy Vallett.

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. If you would like to serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact her at 618/521-7417 or dvheller@htc.net. Call our office if you would like to add someone to our worship prayers. *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16).*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Virginia Bahr, Wilma Wagner, Jody Winkelmann; Waterloo Garden Place- Alice Smith; Ruma R&R- Fern Schnepel, Willard Uffelmann; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace- June Lawrence; Cedarhurst Memory Care, Waterloo- Cecelia Lautenschlaeger

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Doris Mueller, Vernon and Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Dr. Paul Schrieber, Elda Seders, Gloria Stellhorn, Wilma Stellhorn, Norma Vogt, Arlin and Helen Winkelman

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH CONFINED IN-HOME:

Kathryn Chunn, Larry Ebers, Don and Betty Fausz, Willie Guebert, Nancy Holmstrom, Kenneth and Geri Koester, Donald Kueker, Omer and Neva Liefer, Orville Liefer, Joyce Lopez, Ed Luttmann, Jean Menke, Edna Moeller.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/13- Jennifer Fritsche, Stephanie Valleroy, Kayce Schaefer, Grayson Herriman; 12/14- Christy Palm, Kollin Liefer, Allister Gunter; 12/15- Mary Schultz, Valerie Crafton, Tessa Miller, MaKenzie Liefer; 12/16- Susie Harms, Adam Mehring, Andrew Millmann; 12/17- Vernon Muench, Lori Langrehr, Jayce Cox; 12/18- Joan Wiegand, Kyle Winkelman. *Please call the office for corrections!*

PARISH NURSE NOTE: from LCMS *Better Health*

Boost Your Immune System: Spinach contains vitamin C, antioxidants and beta carotene which may increase your body's ability to fight infection. Add spinach to a salad or a smoothie.

VIRTUAL "BREW IN THE LOU":

The Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA, we are a member), is selling "Brew in the Lou" passports. They are in our office or you can go to www.LESAstl.org. The cost is \$30 for a 12-month ticket with more than \$300 worth of beverages, distilleries, wineries, restaurants and retailers in the St. Louis area. Money raised supports students in area Lutheran schools.

BOOK NOOK CHURCH LIBRARY FEATURED BOOK:

The latest addition to our church library in the Fellowship Hall is "Hearts of Fire: Eight Women in the Underground Church and Their Stories of Costly Faith." This is published by Voice of the Martyrs. "These role models of faith and passion will inspire you to pursue Christ with heart aflame, no matter what the cost."

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

KFUO Radio, AM850 & kfuo.org, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on **AM850 & kfuo.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get podcasts! Find us on social media @KFUO.org, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week on KFUO and kfuo.org tune in to midweek Advent service on 12/16 at noon from Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, study "Advent with the Prophets" on Sharper Iron with Pastor Timothy Appel (weekdays at 8 a.m.) and hear Holiday Wrappings with Ron Klemm sharing classical music of the season (weekdays at 10:30 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

ISSUES, ETC.:

A daily, 15-minute, verse-by-verse Bible study: “The Word of the Lord Endures Forever” is a podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville. Pastor Weedon will lead a study this week on The Rich Young Man, Laborers in the Vineyard, Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time and A Mother’s Request. Listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

LIFE THOUGHTS: (from *Lutherans for Life*) www.lutheransforlife.org

Few situations force us to acknowledge One greater than ourselves (John 1:27) like surprise pregnancies and terminal diagnoses do. But when we see how He comes as gentle gestating baby and humble suffering servant, and not only binds up the brokenhearted (Isaiah 61:1) but keeps body and soul (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24), even these burdens give way to greater blessings.

CAMP WARTBURG NEWS: www.campwartburg.com

During this time of social distancing, children were in day camp all summer with ten or less in each group. Our staff did an amazing job keeping the children in their groups, delivering snacks and lunch to their separate cabins and providing a safe environment. We were excited to minister to over 120 children at some level. We now are able to provide a much needed service to the community with our day camp, our classroom settings and our before and after school care program. Currently children arrive on the school bus daily ready for lunch and very excited to be at Camp Wartburg for the remainder of the afternoon. Please keep this ministry in your prayers and consider a gift of support as plans are being made to welcome retreat groups and campers this spring.

UNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS: www.unityesl.org

The theme of this school year is “Walking Together in Christ.” There are 136 students this year with 21 of them participating on-line. Unity’s principal, Rev. Aaron Dickerson leads the daily “Belong to Jesus” time. This year he is sharing lessons from the book of Genesis on God’s creation of the world, humanity’s fall into sin, and God’s covenant with Abraham.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL 618-853-7300

Part-time Job Opportunity: *COS* looking to employ a part-time facilities manager for less than 20 hours a week. If you are interested, please call the office for more details.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the work and ministry of *Christ Our Savior*. It is not too late to make a donation for the 2020 tax year. You can make a donation by mailing or dropping off a check or by visiting our website: www.coslhs.org.

Thrivent Action Grants: Members of Thrivent can request two \$250 action grants each year. If you or a family member has a Thrivent Action team they have not used yet, please consider using it for a project for *COS*. We would like to update landscaping, do some deep cleaning, painting, and maintenance work. Please contact Lisa via email at enroll@coslhs.org or call the school if you would like to use an Action Team Grant toward one or more of these projects.

School Hours: The school office is open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.



St. John's Lutheran Church – LCMS
 508 Bloom Street, Red Bud, Illinois
 Church Office & School: 808 South Main Street
 (618) 282-3873 Fax 618-282-4087

E-mail: office@stjohnsredbud.org Web address: www.stjohnsredbud.org

Senior Pastor Mark Nebel 618-237-5802 or home 282-3050

Assistant to the Pastor: Rev. Clifford Adair 507-215-7333

Principal – Mrs. Deitt Schneider 618-806-3049 or home: 824-6335

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 340-6055

Director of Christian Education and School Librarian – Mr. Bill Becker 282-2958

Athletic Director – Justin Palm 214-1103 Secretaries - Julie Ratz & Jessica Schloemann

Senior Youth – Terry and Susie Harms 618-201-5654

Junior Youth -- Lisa Quinn and Jennifer Roscow 282-5343

Matthew Foster, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool – Cindy Steele

Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz; Aide – Patty Schnepel

First Grade – Rachel Miller

Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade – Cindy Nebel (Before/After School Care)

Fifth Grade – Darlene Letcher

Sixth Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Doreen Schnepel

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Nancy Whelan

Eighth Grade Homeroom and Athletic Director (6th-8th) – Justin Palm

Resource Teacher – Lara Vause

Custodians – Alan Ohms, Bob Schramm Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Lisa Quinn, Ashley Brittingham,

Megan Diercks, Jennifer Pfannebecker, Nicole Kadlec, Patty Brewer, Kristi Martel, Courtney

Schoenbeck, Brittney Eichholz, Pam Henry, Eileen Seibold, Christy Deterding, Melissa Schilling,

Kaleigh Johnston, Amy Williams, Karin Russo and Geraldine Thompson

Church Council

Chairman: Bruce Schneider Vice-Chairman: Gary Buatte

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Ray Wagner Board of Finance: Ben Guebert

Elder Chair: Stuart Langrehr Parish Education Chair: Andrew Stellhorn

Trustee Chair: John Preston Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Lisa Quinn and Christina Gidley

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher: Seminarian Wade Waterstreet Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak Greeters: (5 p.m.) Virginia and Mark Moeller

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) Shamus Korves; (8 a.m.) Emily Bowles; (10:30 a.m.) Milla Neff

Video: Eric Fritsche Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Flower Servers: Alverda Rahn and Diane Kunkelmann Paraments: Virginia Moeller