

The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 18-19, 2021

5 p.m. and 8 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Red Bud, Illinois

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 honor the reverent nature of our worship, please silence and do not use your cell phones and pagers during this service. Thank you!

PRELUDE: (*Sat.*) "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" *Bell Choir*
 (*Sunday*) "Savior of the Nations, Come" *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

Opening Hymn: 934 "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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Divine Service Three, page 184ff.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION: pages 184-185 (*please stand if you are able*)

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

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Silence for reflection on God's Word.*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

Introit: Luke 1:46b-47; and 1st Samuel 2



My soul magni- fies the Lord,	and my spirit rejoices in God my Sav-ior.
My mouth derides my en-e-mies,	because I rejoice in Your sal-va-tion.
There is none holy like the LORD;	there is no rock like our God.
The barren has borne sev-en,	but she who has many children is for-lorn.
The LORD kills and brings to life;	He brings down to Sheol and rai-ses up.
The LORD makes poor and makes rich;	He brings low and He ex-alt.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son	and to the Holy Spir-it;
as it was in the be- gin-ning,	is now, and will be forever. A-men.
My soul magni- fies the Lord,	and my spirit rejoices in God my Sav-ior.

Kyrie (*sung*)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O lit-tle town of Beth-le-hem, How still we see thee lie!
A-bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si-lent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shin-eth The ev-er-last-ing light,
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to-night.

ANTHEM: (*Saturday*) "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Bell Choir

(*Sunday*) "Come and Praise the Lord With Joy"

Choir

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** (*sung*) **And with thy spirit.** P Let us pray.

C: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; 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:

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of His brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth. And He shall be their peace.

P: 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:

Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, He said, "Sacrifices and offerings You have not desired, but a body have You prepared for Me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God, as it is written of Me in the scroll of the book.'" When He said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then He added, "Behold, I have come to do Your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

(please stand if able)

ALLELUIA and VERSE: page 190 *(sung)* **Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

Luke 1:39-55

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

C: (sung) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,

and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with His arm;

He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.

He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy,
as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

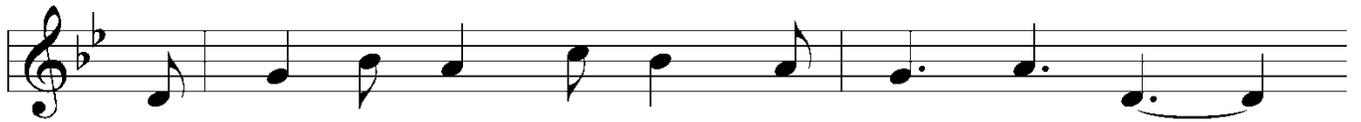
OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed, page 191

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)*

HYMN OF THE DAY: 356 “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

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SERMON: "He Has...." Luke 1:46-55

(Please stand if you are able) **Offertory (sung)** page 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

(Each petition ends "Lord, in Your mercy" and we respond, "hear our prayer.")

HEALING AND COMFORT: Orville Liefer, Elroy Stellhorn, Ruth Hecht, Larry Ebers, Kathy Grohmann, Ken Williams, Marcy Watters, JoAnna Ellner, Joy Prigge; *Family/Friends of St. John's Members:* Nelda Eggemeyer, Betty Deterding, Barb Niermann, Ruby Muench, Stephanie Reinhardt, Clarence Guebert, Rev. Mark Willig. *Please help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: *(Please call with names.)* Army- Casey Vallett, Tanner Valleroy, Brandon Voss, Adrienne Vallett, Easton Lucht, Nathan Koen, Tim Healy, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Austin Scheibe, Trevor Buckner, Jessica DeMarco, Benjamin

Boeder, Christopher Dupertius, Garrett Carnahan, Tyler Wahlman, Gavin Roche-Voss; 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, Austin Grohmann

EMERGENCY PERSONNEL: Fire/EMS- Jerre Atchison, Tom Beshoar, Kevin Biffar, Breanna Bingel, Savannah Cowell, Chad Crafton, Steven Falkenhain, Chad Grohmann, Curt Guebert, Jason Guebert, Scot Heller, Blake Koppel, Chad Langrehr, Kenny Langrehr, Matt Liefer, Kevin Miller, Alan Piel, Jason Rippelmeyer, Brad Stechmesser, John Valentine, Mike VanDorn; Police- Abigail Browne, Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Nick Mounts, Jason Palm, Doug Brennan, Jason Roscow (*Please call our office with names*)

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, mighty God, there is none like You in holiness, constancy and might; yet, You exercise Your power for the salvation of sinners. As we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' birth, fill our hearts with gratitude that Your Son humbled Himself and became flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, Bethlehem was too small to be among the clans of Judah, yet from it came forth the King of kings. Remember the congregations of Your people where numbers are small and resources are few. Provide for their needs and remind them that the Lord of lords dwells among them in His Means of Grace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, You make poor and You make rich. Receive our thanks for Your gifts of daily bread. Give us contentment with what You provide, preserve us from coveting what You do not give and grant that we would be wise stewards of Your blessings. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, You sent Your Son to shepherd His flock in strength and to be great to the ends of the earth. Grant wisdom to our leaders, peace among the nations, safety for the members of our nation's armed forces, protection for those law enforcement agents, firefighters, emergency personnel and healthcare workers that protect us, so that through their service to us in Your name we may dwell secure. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, You helped Your servant Israel, and Your mercy endures forever. Look upon those brought low by illness, injury, grief or other affliction *especially* remembering Orville, Don, Elroy, Ruth, Larry, Faye, Kathy, Ken, Marcy, JoAnna, Joy, Nelda, Betty, Barb, Ruby, Stephanie, Clarence, Rev. Mark and those we name in our hearts. Have mercy upon them, grant them healing and strength, and maintain in them the certain hope of Your faithfulness to them for Jesus' sake. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, You have sanctified us through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, once for all, on the cross. Prepare the hearts of all who commune this day with penitence and trust in Your promises, and so make us holy with Your Son's body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, mighty God, You have done great things for us, most of all delivering us from death to life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Mercifully hear our prayers and answer them according to Your will for the sake of Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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*.

Service of the Sacrament, page 194

Preface (*we sing the responses*)

P The Lord be with you. C **And with thy spirit.**

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

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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*)

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

P 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.

(*sung*) **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. A-men.**

The Words of Our Lord and Pax Domini

P ...The peace of the Lord be with you always. C (*sung*) **A-men.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A-men.** (*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.)

Distribution Hymns

Anthem: (*Sat.*) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Bell Choir

(*Sunday*) "People, Look East"

Choir

357 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest all things
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,
Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law
tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,
heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
And teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!
In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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347 "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"



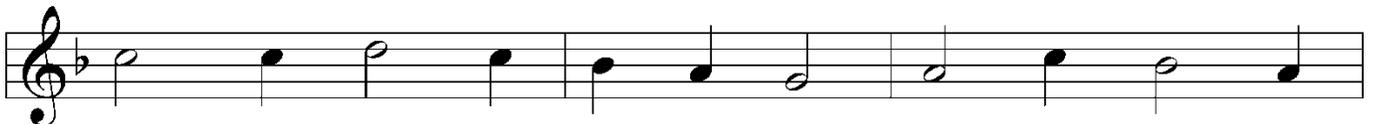
1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

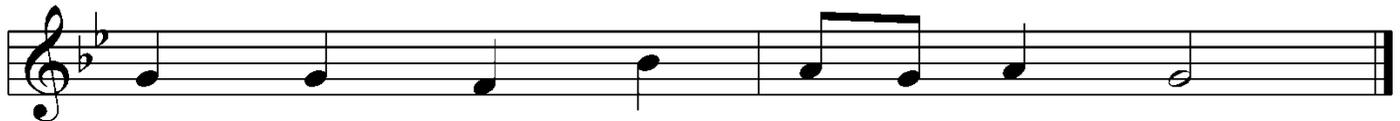
332 "Savior of the Nations, Come" (we stand for the last stanza, sing "A-men.")



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

(Please stand if you are able)

8 Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity. A-men.

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Nunc Dimittis (*sung*) page 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, **C** (*sung*) and His mercy endureth forever.

A 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 (sung) Amen.

Salutation, Benedicamus and Benediction

P The Lord be with you. **C (sung) And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord. **C (sung) Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and (+) give you peace.

C (sung) Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 935 “Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord”

**Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
Un-num-bered bless-ings, give my spir-it voice;
Ten-der to me the prom-ise of His Word;
In God my Sav-ior shall my heart re-joice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
His ho-ly name, the Lord, the Might-y One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His might!
Pow’rs and do-min-ions lay their glo-ry by.
Proud hearts and stub-born wills are put to flight,
The hun-gry fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of His Word!
Firm is His prom-ise, and His mer-cy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord
To chil-drens’ chil-dren and for-ev-er-more!**

THE POSTLUDE: “From God, the Father, Virgin-born” *arranged by Benjamin M. Culli*

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This Week With Our Lord, December 19-26, 2021

SUNDAY, December 19-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult (FH/SL) and Youth (basement) Bible Classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative)

Monday, December 20-

8:30 a.m. Second Grade Christmas Service in the new gym
 5:30 p.m. Girls' Basketball (AC) at SPPCS in Waterloo
 6:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball (AB) at home vs. Marissa
 6:00 p.m. Nominating Committee meeting in the Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school music room
 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 21-

8:30 a.m. 6-8 Grades Christmas Service at church (in-person)
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
 1:45 p.m. Early school dismissal
 7:00 p.m. 6-8 Grades Christmas Service at church (in-person)

Wednesday, December 22- No school thru January 3

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 24- Office Closed!

3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion services
 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion Candlelight service

Saturday, December 25- Christ the Savior Is Born!

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service (*No 5 p.m. service*)

SUNDAY, December 26- 9:00 a.m. Divine Service (No Sunday School)**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES: (9:30 to 10:15 a.m.)**

High School Bible Class in the basement with Mr. Becker: "Revelation"
 Adult Bible Class in the school library with Mr. Palm: "Being Lutheran"
 Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Nebel: "Proverbs"

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

To have flowers in worship please call the office at 282-2394 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

PORTALS OF PRAYER DEVOTIONS:

The new issue of our quarterly devotional booklets, *Portals of Prayer*, for January through March is available in the racks by the front doors of church.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 351; Communion: 94; Adult/Youth Bible Classes: 22+; SS: NR
 Sunday School Christmas Service: 165

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

The drama surrounding the first airing of "The Charlie Brown Christmas Special" 56 years ago, against all odds, gave viewers the true story of Christmas and doomed aluminum Christmas trees to near extinction. Listen to "Charlie Brown Christmas Tree" (Luke 2:1-15) with Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUE AM 850 Sundays at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio on Sundays at 8 a.m. on KSIV 1320AM or 91.5FM.

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/12- General: \$18,211; School: \$1,620; Elder Baskets: \$100; Debt: \$1,000; Automatic Giving: \$6,040. *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

Luke 1:45 – “And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord’s own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord’s commands in the face of the world’s anger and resistance. Mary’s faith also gave her the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

ENVELOPES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Boxes of offering envelopes for 2022 are on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up yours and those for your immediate family members. If you do not have a box but would like one, please call Leslie in our church office.

BIBLE CLASSES ON BREAK:

Our midweek Bible classes, Wednesday Morning Women, Wednesday evening (1st Kings) and Thursday morning (Ezekiel) are on a break until January. When the Wednesday morning women’s class again meets on January 5 at 9:30 a.m. they will begin a study of the book of Esther based on a guide by Donna Snow. Please contact Janel Kassing for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT:

Through the Big City Mission project, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod can show the love of Christ to all different kinds of people living in the inner city. Gifts and offerings to the Big City Mission project help kids and adults learn about how much Jesus loves them. By providing something simple like a lunch or backpack, those involved in urban ministry can build relationships that allow them to tell people about their Savior, Jesus!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Those officers and board members whose term of service is ending are the Nominating Committee for the elections in our January 23rd Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee will meet again Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall before the Church Council meeting.

CHILDREN’S SERVICES THIS WEEK:

The Second Grade will hold its Christmas service this Monday at 8:30 a.m. in the new gym. Close family members of students in this class are invited to attend (please wear a mask). Grades 6-8 will hold the “Road to Bethlehem” service on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the church. These services are open in-person to the public. These services will be recorded for later viewing on Facebook.

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS:

Our church/school office will be closed on the Fridays of December 24 and 31 and Monday the 27th. Office hours for Tuesday-Thursday, December 28-30 will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Deitt Schneider, Bill Becker and Lindsey Hudak will not be in the office on Dec. 22 & 23. Pastor Nebel will be on vacation Dec. 27.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

There will be three Holy Communion services on Christmas Eve (3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 9 a.m.) and one on Christmas Day (9 a.m.). We are not taking reservations for these services and seating will

be open, not every other pew. For those wanting social distancing, the Fellowship Hall will be available for worshipping by closed circuit projection. There will not be a Saturday 5 p.m. service on Christmas Day and next Sunday will be only one service at 9 a.m. New Year's Eve Holy Communion is Friday, Dec. 31 at 6 p.m. There will not be a New Year's Day service. The weekend of January 1-2 will be our regular schedule of Saturday evening at 5 p.m. and Sunday morning at 8 and 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School and Bible class in between.

SENIOR YOUTH FUNDRAISER:

Our Senior Youth is selling greeting cards (all occasions) for \$1. Cards are on display in the Fellowship Hall. We are using an honor system for payment. A money box is next to the card display. We also have full boxes of greeting cards for sale. They cost \$30 for 30 cards and come with a lovely storage box.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS:

Thank you to all who helped with decorating of the church inside and outside for Christmas. Mrs. Valleroy and members of our Junior Youth took part.

MUSKETEER MARKET COLLECTION:

Our Evening Guild is sponsoring a food and personal care drive for the Musketeer Market at Red Bud High School. A collection box is in the Fellowship Hall. We will deliver the items to high school weekly.

POINSETTIA FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS:

We thank the Altar Guild for taking on this project each year as it is such a beautiful addition to our chancel as well as a heartfelt way to remember our loved ones or just give thanks to the glory of God for His many blessings to us. You may find the Poinsettia Garden forms in the back of church in the Epistle basket. The cost is \$7 and you may return it to the office or by way of the offering basket by Monday, December 20. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS!

St. John's members and Red Bud High School seniors Megan Henry, Addison Liefer, Katie Schneider and Hannah Sievers have been recognized as 2022 Illinois State Scholars. They rank in approximately the top ten percent of graduates from Illinois high schools.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER:

The latest edition of our school's Alumni Newsletter has been mailed. Copies of this excellent issue are on the tables in the entryway.

CHRISTIAN MUSIC CDs AVAILABLE:

+Joan Voges offers us music CDs from her Lilyfields Collection for a donation to our school's ministry. Copies are on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

+Former St. John's member Bryan Perdue also has CD music available on the table in the Fellowship Hall for a \$10 donation to St. John's debt reduction.

VISITORS AT SCHOOL:

Other than regular volunteers, we are limiting visitors into the school. Parents and guests are to stay in the entryway of the Main Entrance to drop off/pick up items or to meet their children to take them to appointments. Thank you!

CHURCH WEEK AT RURAL KING IN WATERLOO:

Rural King in Waterloo is holding its Church Week from December 9-24. The receipts from what you purchase there during those days must be submitted online at www.ruralking.com/churchweek for St. John's by January 7, 2022. We then will receive 10% of what you spent.

MEN'S RETREAT AT CAMP WARTBURG:

Brian and Jeff Becker (cousins to Jennifer Becker-Roscow) will lead a Tender Lions Men's Retreat at Camp Wartburg (south of Waterloo) this coming January 14-15. Come join us as we explore the vital relationship between fathers and sons. This link takes you to the camp's site... <https://campwartburg.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Mens-Retreat-2022.pdf>

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Alice Smith, Jody Winkelmann; Ruma R&R- Fern Schnepel, Willard Uffelmann; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace- June Lawrence; Cedarhurst in Waterloo- Elda Seders; Columbia Convalescent- David Burgdorf; Coulterville Care Center- Orville Liefer.

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:

Elaine Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Omer/Neva Liefer, Vernon/Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Paul Schrieber, Gloria Stellhorn, Wilma Stellhorn, Norma Vogt, Arlin/Helen Winkelman

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH CONFINED IN-HOME:

Robert Burgdorf, Kathryn Chunn, Larry Ebers, Don/Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Kenneth/Geri Koester, Donald Kueker, Joyce Lopez, Ed Luttmann, Jean Menke, Edna Moeller, Harold Thies

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/20- Jacob Moll, Jeremy Collins; 12/21- Madison Falkenhain, Maggie Brown, Ava Clifford, Langston Wiegard; 12/22- Addalyn Schloemann; 12/23- Nik Stechmesser, Olivia Schluter; Wayne Mesnarich, Kenneth Ruwald, Laura DuFrenne. *Please call the office with any corrections!*

LCMS FOUNDATION:

Who will be best blest by gifts from my estate someday? Just as you think about how your family will be blessed, you can also ponder about the blessing that will take place in ministries that you support with God's gifts. Try to picture and imagine someone coming to faith and inheriting eternal life through the ministry you support with your estate gift. Then pray for God to make that happen. Your LCMS Foundation counselor can help you focus your God given attention on ministry gifts. Contact Scott Radden at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org for more information.

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

The Scriptures clearly declare the liveliness our Lord brings even when unborn (Luke 1:41). Not only does He bestow this love explicitly upon every embryo, but He makes it a reason for rejoicing (Luke 1:44). Let the whole world think us fools (Psalm 80:6) – only let us still leap, delight, and speak loudly in celebration of the sanctity of life!

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

KFUO Radio AM850 & kfuo.org, a media ministry 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 KFUEO and kfuo.org: Hear "Advent with the Apostles" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m.), study Matthew 5-7 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m.), and hear the final midweek Advent service from Village Lutheran Ladue at noon on 12/22. Special "Twelve Days of Christmas" programming begins December 24 with sacred music, scripture, and prayer for the Christmas season! Tune in at kfuo.org or on the KFUEO Radio app.

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. 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 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).

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: The Christmas Hymn "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," The Movie "Spider-Man: No Way Home," What Can We Learn from "The Benedict Option"?, Jesus Seeking the Lost in Luke 15 and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUEO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

PARISH NURSE NOTE: (from LCMS *Better Health*)

Facts on Food Myths: Sea salt is not healthier than table salt. Both contain the same 2,300 milligrams of sodium per teaspoon. Table salt is fortified with iodine. This is essential for your thyroid gland to function properly. Table cost is mined. Sea salt is from evaporated ocean water and costs more.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL- 618-853-7300

Merry Christmas! Thank you for supporting the ministry of *Christ Our Savior* in 2021. We are looking forward to a joy-filled and blessed ministry to families with you in 2022.

Holiday Office Hours: Office Hours will be 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. December 20-22, 26-30, and January 3. The office will be closed December 23, 24, and 31. Classes and regular hours will resume on January 4.

Registration for 2022-2023 is now open! If you have a student or know someone who will be high school age during the 2022-2023 school year, encourage them to consider Christ Our Savior Lutheran High school. Call 853-7300 to schedule a shadow day or a private tour. Learn more and download a registration form from our website, www.coslhs.org. Early registration ends March 31. Don't miss out!

School Visitors: To comply with continuing ISBE and state COVID regulations, visitors are asked to contact the school to make an appointment for a visit or for deliveries. Face coverings are required for entry into the school. We are asking for your patience, prayers and understanding as we strive to do our very best to protect our students, faculty, staff, and you.

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 S 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

Associate Pastor Brian Nowak 708/369-7741

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

Secretaries – Mrs. Leslie Froemling and Mrs. Sara Shepherd

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

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 and Junior Youth – Stephanie Valleroy

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

Fifth Grade – Darlene Letcher Resource Teacher – Lara Vause

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

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

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

Custodians – Wil Krick and 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, Kaitlin Schmitz, Haley Ehler, Hailey Guebert, Courtney Schaefer and Geraldine Thompson

Church Council

Chairman: Bruce Schneider Vice-Chairman: Darren Liefer

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

Elder Chair: Eric Fritsche Parish Education Chair: Andrew Stellhorn

Trustee Chair: John Preston Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Christina Gidley and Kathy Valleroy

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel Organist/Choir Director: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Greeters: (5 p.m.) Stanley and Lynn Langrehr; (8 a.m.); Roger and Peggy Hanebutt
(10:30 a.m.) Gerald and Jill Hanebutt

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) ; (8 a.m.) Mallory Arbeiter; (10:30 a.m.) Collin Korando
(10:30 a.m.) Lector: DCE Bill Becker

(10:30 a.m.) Instrumentalists: John Kellerhouse & Jonathan Hudak

Video: Eric Fritsche/Justin Palm Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Flower Servers: Alverda Rahn and Lynn Langrehr Paraments: Irma Birkner

Creed:

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) **The Apostles' Creed, page 192**

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. *(please be seated)*

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) Non-Communion Service Continues Here:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us all 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.

CLOSING COLLECT:

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and (+) give you peace.

C: *(sung)* A-men, a-men, a-men.

CLOSING HYMN: