

The Second Sunday in Advent
December 4-5, 2021

St. John's Lutheran Church
Red Bud, Illinois

Divine Service Three, page 184ff.

PRELUDE: "People, Look East" *arranged by Steven 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 honor the reverent nature of our worship, please silence and do not use your cell phones and pagers during this service. Thank you!

Opening Hymn: 344 "On Jordan's Bank" (*please stand for the last stanza, sing "A-men"*)



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

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

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION: pages 184-185

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.**

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: Psalm 81



The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make His | paths straight.”

Hear, O My people, while I ad- | monish you! O Israel, if you would but lis- | ten to Me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.

But My people did not listen | to My voice;

Israel would not sub- | mit to Me.

Oh, that My people would lis- | ten to Me,

that Israel would walk | in My ways!

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.

The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make His | paths straight.”

Kyrie (*sung*)

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

HYMN OF PRAISE: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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 (*sung*) **And with thy spirit.** P Let us pray..

C: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(please be seated)*

(8 a.m.) **ANTHEM:** “Advent Prayer”

Choir

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Malachi 3:1-7b

“Behold, I send My messenger and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear Me, says the LORD of hosts. “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.” 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:

Philippians 1:2-11

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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 3:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

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

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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)*

(10:30 a.m.) 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*)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SONG: (10:30 a.m.)

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!

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HYMN OF THE DAY: 349 "Hark the Glad Sound"



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

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SERMON: (*Saturday*) “Our Hope in the Coming Judgment” Malachi 3:1-7b
 (*Sunday*) “The Lord We Are Seeking Is Coming” Malachi 3:1-4

(*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: 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, Bruce Thies, Stephanie Reinhardt. *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 Brown, Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Nick Mounts, Jason Palm, Doug Brennan, Jason Roscow (*Please call our office with names*)

+those who mourn: the family of St. John’s member Jane Moeller who died in the Lord Sunday

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

O Lord, our God, You declared Israel to be Your people and brought them out of Egypt. You desired their salvation even when they would not listen to Your voice. Since You have called and gathered us also to be Your people, open our hearts to listen and gladly submit to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord, as prophesied by Isaiah who foretold the Christ. Remember those pastors and other church professionals whom

You have called to proclaim Your Word today. Give them wisdom and courage as they admonish and absolve Your people by Your Word, that Your saints might be prepared for Christ's coming again in glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You gather Your people together in Christ and make them partakers of Your grace. Strengthen the faith of those You have gathered into this congregation, that their love may abound more and more with all knowledge and discernment. Lead us to approve what is excellent and be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, as You call and gather us into Your family, so bless the households of this congregation. Bless husbands and wives, fathers and mothers as they go about their work of strengthening marriage and raising children. Let their love abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment, and fill their homes with the righteousness that comes through Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of hosts, John the Baptist counseled penitent soldiers to go about their military duties according to Your Word. Remember those who serve in the armed forces of our nation, law enforcement and firefights, *especially our own St. John's members*. Protect them from harm, give them wisdom and courage, and grant that they fulfill their duties honorably. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, Your forerunner prepared the way for the One who is mightier than all: Your Son, Jesus. For Christ's sake, we entrust to You those in need of healing, comfort and rescue *especially* Elroy, Ruth, Larry, Kathy, Ken, Marcy, JoAnna, Joy, Nelda, Betty, Barb, Ruby, Bruce, Stephanie and all those we name in the silence of our own hearts. We thank You for the service of all emergency personnel and healthcare workers, especially our own St. John's members. Have mercy upon them, protect them according to Your will and strengthen them in faith, that they might be assured of Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks to You, O God, that as You establish our hearts blameless in holiness before You. Hear our earnest prayers for those who are in need of Your comfort as they mourn the loss of loved ones to physical death. We place into Your care and keeping Jane's family at this time of her earthly passing, thankful for the life You gave her to live here with them, grateful for the life she lived in the name of her Lord Jesus Christ, and praising You for the life she now continues to live in His presence with all His saints in heavenly glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) Holy God, by the word of Your servant You prepared all flesh to see the salvation of God. Prepare also the hearts of all who kneel at Your altar today to receive worthily

Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of their sins. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

(10:30 a.m.) Non-Communion Service Continues Here:

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: 338 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

THE POSTLUDE: "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" *arr. by Johann Gottfried Walther*

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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*.

(10:30 a.m.) 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.)

(8 a.m.) **Anthem:** "O Come Redeemer"

Choir

347 "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"



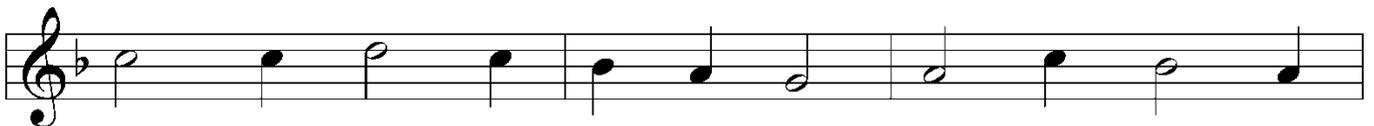
1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



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

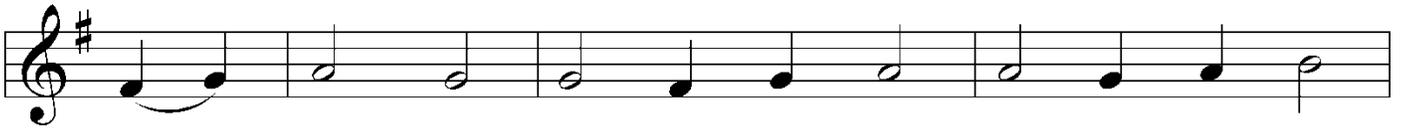


sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

625 "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread"



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grace
 2 To pas - tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa -
 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free
 4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin



pos - sess You. Let me with ho - ly food be fed,
 ters lead me; Your ta - ble well for me pro - vide,
 re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your sight
 would break me; In all my guilt - y heart's dis - cord,



In hun - ger I ad - dress You. Pre - pare me well
 Your wound - ed hand now feed me. Though wea - ry, sin -
 In sor - row and con - tri - tion. Your righ - teous - ness,
 O Lord, do not for - sake me. In my dis - tress



for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my prayer im - plored,
 ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I seek,
 Lord, cov - er me That I re - ceive You wor - thi - ly,
 this com - forts me That You re - ceive me gra - cious - ly,



Give me Your grace and mer - cy.
 To share Your cup of heal - ing.
 As - sured of Your full par - don.
 O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy!

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790 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
 All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
 Let the Amen Sound from His people again; Gladly forever adore Him!

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(Please stand if you are able) **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: 338 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
 2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
 Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
 By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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THE POSTLUDE: “Praise to the Lord the Almighty” arr. by Johann Gottfried Walther

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Three 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 5-12, 2021

SUNDAY, December 5-

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

Noon Senior Youth gathering in the church basement lounge
12:30 p.m. Decorating of the church for the Christmas season

Monday, December 6-

6:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball (AC) at home vs. St. Mary's
7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school's music room

Tuesday, December 7-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Circuit Pastors' Conference at West Point
6:00 p.m. Board of Parish Education meeting in school library
6:00 p.m. Evening Guild Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Girls' Basketball (AC) at home vs. St. John-Chester

Wednesday, December 8-

8:30 a.m. 4th Grade Christmas Service in the new gym
9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting
3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grade Public School Confirmation (school)
7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Service at church

Thursday, December 9-

3:00 p.m. Holy Communion service at church
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony
6:00 p.m. Men's Club Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

Friday, Dec. 10- C Team tourneys: Boys (RBC); Girls (RBL)

8:30 a.m. Kindergarten Christmas Service in the new gym
10:15 a.m. Grades 3-5 Christmas Caroling at Garden Place

Saturday, December 11- 9:00 a.m. Elder baskets to be delivered

5:00 p.m. Divine Service Acolyte: Karleigh Liefer

SUNDAY, December 12-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service Acolyte: Evan Kiefer
9:30 a.m. Sunday School classes at the school
9:30 a.m. Adult (FH/SL) and Youth (basement) Bible Classes
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Lilly Meyer

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 Fellowship Hall with Pastor Nebel: "Job"

Adult Bible Class in the school library with Mr. Palm: "Being Lutheran"

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.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 301; Communion: 84; Adult/Youth Bible Classes: 38; SS: 50

Thanksgiving- Worship: 194; Communion: 159; Midweek Advent I: 50

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

The world tells us we must be useful in order to belong, but that's not how God sees us. Listen to "Because We Belong" (Luke 1:5-25) with Speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUD 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.

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Eli Gabriel Hernandez into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the late Sunday service. He is the son of Gabriel and Karla (Guebert) Hernandez. His baptismal sponsors are Becky and Kevin Biffar, Madi Proctor and Hailey Proctor. Thanks be to God for His gift of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 11/28- General: \$13,654.39; Debt: \$20,499.26; Automatic Giving: \$3,240; School: \$645; Lutheran Witness; \$38. *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)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John's member Jane Moeller who died in the Lord Sunday afternoon at the age of 84 years. She received her Christian burial here on Friday. Thanks be to God for His gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

Luke 3:4 – As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than 700 years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That's yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives. He knows what's coming, and we don't.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS THIS WEEK:

+Evening Guild: Tuesday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. It will be a potluck dinner with games and fellowship. Please bring a covered dish. Fried chicken will be provided by the Evening Guild. Husbands and guests are welcome. +Men's Club: Thursday, Dec. 9 at 6:00 p.m. will be a backbone and sauerkraut dinner in the Fellowship Hall followed by fun Christmas activities.

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.

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.

EPISTLES:

The December issue of our congregation's newsletter, *The Epistle*, is available in paper copy on the tables in the entryway. It also is on our website and has been sent by email to those for whom Pastor has an address.

ELDER BASKETS:

Our Board of Elders members plan to deliver Christmas baskets to our nursing home, assisted living and homebound members on Saturday, Dec. 11. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, please place your gift in an envelope marked "Elder Baskets" and put it into an offering plate in the church entryway.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP:

We will hold Evening Prayer worship at 7 p.m. this Wednesday, Dec. 8. The theme is "The Couples of Advent." We will focus on "Mary and Joseph."

COVID PRECAUTIONS IN WORSHIP:

We are sitting every other pew, using a continuous line to distribute Holy Communion with Pastor/Elders wearing masks for distribution. Please give thought for your health and that of your fellow believers as you consider whether or not to wear a mask into or during worship. We are responsible Christian citizens and caring neighbors to those around us. The Fellowship Hall is available for remote worship in a more socially distanced way.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE PRACTICES:

Nursery through 1st Grade Sunday School will meet in the church sanctuary from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. this Sunday, December 5, and December 12 in preparation for the Wed., December 15 Sunday School Christmas Service at church (7 p.m.).

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER:

1st: Elsie Liefer, Maggie Kuehn, Liam Langrehr and Brewer Krick; 3rd: Maverick Cowell, Sydney Krick and Lucy Kuehn; 4th: Aubrey Kiefer, Payton Liefer and Jozlynn Palm; 5th: Ella Cowell; 6th: Molly Kuehn. Thank you for your participation in and your faithfulness to our Sunday School ministry!

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:

All help is needed and appreciated next Sunday at 12:30 p.m. to decorate the inside and outside of our church building for the Christmas season. With enough help we should be able to finish by 2 p.m.

SCRIPT GIFT CARDS:

If you would like to order gift cards through our script program, we will be placing orders on Dec. 6th and 13th. Cards for local merchants are available!

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!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

School Christmas services will be recorded and uploaded from our new gym. In person attendance is limited to close family members of students in the class that is leading the service. Please wear a mask while in the school building.

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.

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.

VISITORS AT SCHOOL:

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

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.

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

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:

Elaine Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Omer/Neva Liefer, Orville 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

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).

COUGARWEAR:

The Spirit Wear Page is live and now running a "Black Friday" in November sale. They have giftable items like blankets, tote bags, etc. Up to 25% off sitewide and free shipping over \$75. Please see the below from the 1st Place Spiritwear: <https://1stplace.sale/30121>. While most retailers are struggling with inventory and supply chain issues, we are fully stocked. All orders placed in November will be delivered prior to December 24th. We've added great new gift items for parents, grandparents and the whole family. This is our last sale event until spring.

LCMS FOUNDATION:

Who will be best blest by gifts from my estate someday? This is a fun question to ask and answer as you work to create an overall estate plan. Sometimes the legal process of estate planning can get overwhelming and consume all your attention. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you think through and pray through decisions about family and ministry gifts from your estate, preparing you to work with your professionals to create an estate plan. Contact Scott Radden at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfn.org for more information.

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

God's deeds give every member of our race a right to life (Psalm 66:5, 9). He creates us in our mother's womb. He redeems us even as embryos. He calls us all into His everlasting family. Our life is a masterpiece He Himself commences and completes (Philippians 1:6). No sizes, skills, or circumstances on our part can impair or improve the value He has invested in us and our neighbors.

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 KFUO and kfuo.org: begin studying the Gospel of Matthew on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m.), continue in "Advent with the Apostles" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m.), and hear Advent Midweek Service on 12/8 at noon. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or on the KFUO Radio app.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/5- Patty Salger; 12/6- Todd Wagner, Scot Heller, Riley Candler, Jack Valentine; 12/7- Brandy Crafton, Andrea Voss, Kayla Kelley, Erica Unnerstall, Elizabeth Unnerstall, Sage Pensoneau, Claire Doeding; 12/8- Jennifer Moeller, Trevor Stellhorn, Joshua Voss, Wiley Minemann; 12/9- Kenneth Koester, Larry Ehlers, Christian Stechmesser, Emma Kiefer, Even Kiefer, Whitley Henry; 12/10- Ronnie Liefer, Delonda Kelley, Leo DuFrenne; 12/11- Michael Moll, Aubrey Kiefer, Kolton Florreich. *Please call the office with any corrections!*

ISSUES, ETC.:

JOEL BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon will begin a study this week on the Book of Joel. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK at Trinity Lutheran in Millstadt on Saturday, December 11 from 9 am to noon. Sold by the pound. Place order at 618/476-1113.

GERMAN CHRISTMAS VESPER at Peace Lutheran Church in Lemay, MO on Sunday December 12, at 2:15 p.m. Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb preaching. For more information call 314-892-5610.

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

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 new 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 office is open Monday – 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 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, Lexsis Carner, 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: (Sat.) Pastor Brian Nowak; (Sun.) Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist and Choir Director: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Greeters: (5 p.m.) Stanley and Lynn Langrehr; (8 a.m.) Olivia Schmitz and Cindy Steele;

(10:30 a.m.) Ron and Donna Burgdorf

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) Addy Schloemann; (8 a.m.) Austin Kiefer; (10:30 a.m.) Loreli Aubuchon

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

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

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.