

Third Sunday in Advent
December 10-11, 2022

St. John's Lutheran Church
Red Bud, Illinois

PRELUDE: "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" *arranged by James Brauer*
THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN: 345 "Hark, A Thrilling Voice" (*stand for last stanza; sing "A-men"*)



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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

Divine Service Four (pages 203ff.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

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

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

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

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

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, (and) call upon Him in prayer and praise, (and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar), let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one

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

(8 a.m.) **ANTHEM:** "Hark! The Glad Sound"

Choir

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

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:

James 5:7-11

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early

and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand if you are able) **ALLELUIA and VERSE:** page 205

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

Matthew 11:2-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: Creed *(inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) Apostles' Creed (page 207);

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 206

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)*

(please be seated) (5 p.m. & 8 a.m.) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SONG:

Light one can-dle for hope, one bright can-dle for hope,

He brings hope to ev-'ry heart, He comes! He comes!

Light one can-dle for peace, one bright can-dle for peace,

He brings peace to ev-'ry heart, He comes! He comes!

Light one can-dle for joy, one bright can-dle for joy,

Ev'ry na-tion will find sal-va-tion in Beth-l'em's ba-by boy.

Light one can-dle for love, one bright can-dle for love,

He brings love to ev-'ry heart, He comes! He comes!

He brings love to ev-'ry heart, He comes! He comes!

HYMN OF THE DAY: 346 "When All the World Was Cursed"



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na - tion,
 2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres - sion,
 4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.
 Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.
 Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.
 The word pro-claimed by John, Our true re - pen-tance voic - ing,



With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,
 By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,
 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,
 That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way



And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.
 He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.
 Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

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SERMON: (*Sat.*) "Where Are Your Expectations Taking You?" Matthew 11:2-15
 (*Sunday*) "What More It Will Be Like When Jesus Comes" Isaiah 35:1-10

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*please stand if you are able*)

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

HEALING AND COMFORT: Kenneth Koester, Donald Fausz, Ellery Byer, Stanley Langrehr, Clyde Rowold, Ruth Hecht, Rick Stenzel, Rick Horrell, Sherry Winkelmann, Randy Miller, Rhonda Schaefer, Susie Harms, Marcy Watters, Zac Carnahan, Ashlynn Crafton; *Family/Friends of St. John's Members:* Susan Sochowski, Ava Kern, Jim Arrington, Gary Hollmann, Rose Schneider, Delores Stirnaman. *Help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: (*Please call with names.*) Army- Casey Vallett, Tanner Valleroy, Brandon Voss, Adrienne Vallett, Easton Lucht, Ethan Summers, 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- Carl Muehler; Air Force- Gage Baldwin, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, Terry Koester, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Josh Butterworth, Keenan Turnure, Austin Grohmann; National Guard: Jeremiah Brandt

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, Matt Liefer, Kevin Miller, Alan Piel, Jason Rippelmeyer, Brad Stechmesser, John Valentine, Mike VanDorn, Tanner Winkelman; Police- Abigail Browne, Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Nick Mounts, Jason Palm, Doug Brennan, Jason Roscow, Aaron Runge.

+thanksgiving for the birth of a daughter to Kory & Natalie (Ruebke) Liefer on Dec. 1

+thanksgiving for the birth of a son to Shane & Chelsea (Nebel) Smithson on Dec. 8

OFFERTORY: (*sung; LSB 786*)

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;
Use them Your ho-ly pur-pose to ful-fill.
To-kens of love and pledg-es they shall be
That our whole life is of-fered to Your will.
We give our minds to un-der-stand Your ways;
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de-sign;
Hearts with the flame of Your own love a-blaze—
Thus for Your glo-ry all our pow'rs com-bine.**

The 5 p.m. & 8 a.m. services continue here:

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

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.
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 look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. **Amen.**

(5 p.m.) **CLOSING HYMN: 348 “The King Shall Come”**



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
 And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
 The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

(8 a.m.) **CHORAL CLOSING:** “Songs From Isaiah: I Will Give You as a Light to the Nations” *Choir*

POSTLUDE: “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

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(10:30 a.m.) **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** page 208ff.

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. For more information about this sacrament, please see pages 326-327 and 329-330 of *Lutheran Service Book*.

Preface

P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**
 P Lift up your hearts. C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

Sanctus (*sung*)

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

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

The Words of Our Lord and The Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

1 O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world a-way;

O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mer-cy on us, Lord, we pray.

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

(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: *(please be seated)*

352 “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace. Public domain

353 “Jesus Came, the Heaven's Adoring”



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



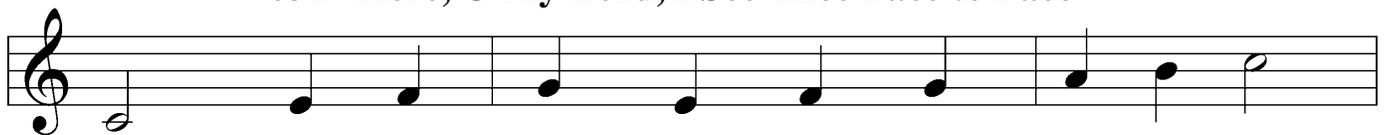
Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

Public domain

631 "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face"



1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
 2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
 Here drink with Thee the roy - al wine of heav'n;
 This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;
 An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.



Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,
 Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
 Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.
 Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.
 The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.
 My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone.

5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
 Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
 Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
 Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
 Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love. Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS: "Song of Simeon" page 211 (*please stand*)

O Lord, now let Your ser-vant De-part in heav'n-ly peace,

For I have seen the glo-ry Of Your re-deem-ing grace:

A light to lead the Gen-tiles Un-to Your ho-ly hill,

The glo-ry of Your peo-ple, Your cho-sen Is-ra-el.

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

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION: page 212

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

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

CLOSING HYMN: 348 “The King Shall Come”



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

POSTLUDE: “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

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SUNDAY, December 11-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class (FH) and Sunday School (school building)

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

6 p.m. Nur.-Grade 1 Sunday School Christmas Service (church); Acolyte: Sydney Kassing

Monday, December 12-

6:00 p.m. Girls' & Boys' C team basketball home vs. St. James

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

Tuesday, December 13-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Red Bud Care Center

6:00 p.m. Boys' A & B basketball home vs. New Athens

Wednesday, December 14-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Christmas Service in the old gym

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

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

3:00 p.m. Office Staff meeting

3:30 p.m. Grades 6-8 Public School Confirmation at school

7:00 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas Service in the old gym

Thursday, December 15-

1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin

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

5:30 p.m. Girls' A & B basketball away at TSJ/ILS

Saturday, December 17-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Loreli Aubuchon

SUNDAY, December 18-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Jack Kennedy

9:30 a.m. Sunday School/Youth and Adult Bible Classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative); Acolyte: Molly Kuehn

??? p.m. Senior Youth Progressive Dinner

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 287; Communion: 151; Adults: 28+; Youth/Sunday School: NR

Grades Kdg-2 Christmas Service: AM- 275; PM- 270

And let us consider how to stir one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

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.

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/4- General: \$30,731; Elder Baskets: \$55; Lutheran Witness: \$36; Sunday School: \$200; School: \$465. *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* (2nd Corinthians 9:7)

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

Isaiah 35:4 – “Say to those who have an anxious heart, ‘Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.’” The return of our Lord at the Last Day is a cause of joy and anticipation for us believers. We know our Lord and His love, and we look forward to His Second Advent. Indeed, how we live our lives here and now flows from our certain hope of resurrection and eternal life.

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Case Lucas Durbin into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the late service this Sunday. He is the son of Landon and Karly (Cartwright) Durbin. His baptismal sponsors are Dawn Durbin, Luke Durbin and Megan Rohlfing. Thanks be to God for His gift of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Sunday ABC meets from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with refreshments provided. We continue Bible survey with a focus on 2nd Timothy.

WEEKDAY BIBLE CLASSES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Wednesday Women meet at 9:30 a.m. Both Wednesday evening and Thursday morning classes now are on a break until the first week of January. Men’s Bible Breakfast next meets on Saturday, December 17 to study “Proverbs: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Living.”

EPISTLES: (newsletter) for December are on the tables in the entryway.

THE LATEST ALUMNI NEWSLETTER is available in the entryway!

CONGRATULATIONS:

God has blessed Kory and Natalie (Ruebke) Liefer with the birth of their first child, a daughter, Eleanor Lynn, on Thursday, December 1 at Mercy South. Thanks be to God for His gift of new life in the birth of a child!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE PRACTICE:

PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1ST GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS: This Sunday, December 11, we will meet in the front of the church sanctuary to practice our Sunday School Christmas Service. We will begin practice at 9:25 a.m. and will dismiss at 10:15 a.m. This Christmas service will be held this Sunday at 6 p.m. at the church. Thank you! [Page 3](#)

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

Flowers on the pedestal today are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the birth of Hudson Ray Smithson, son of Shane and Chelsea (Nebel) Smithson and grandchild of Pastor Mark and Cindy Nebel.

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

The next quarter's issue of *Portals of Prayer*, our daily devotional booklet, is available in the racks by the church's front door. Sonshine Visitation members, please take a copy for those whom you visit.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023:

Boxes of offering envelopes for 2023 are on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. If you do not find one for yourself and would like to have one, please contact Leslie in our church office at 282-2394. Thank you!

ADVENT DEVOTIONS:

Two types of Advent devotions are available on the tables in the entryway. The one from LCMS Office of Worship is meant for brief use at the family table. The other devotional booklet is from Lutheran Hour Ministries.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP:

Thank you to everyone who helped with decorating the church building for Christmas inside and out last Sunday. Between the work of the children, youth, adults and aged (Pastor) it all went quickly and smoothly.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT THIS YEAR:

Our international mission project is Bible Books for Families in Ukraine through Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Only \$5 provides a Ukrainian family with a Bible storybook, Small Catechism, or other Bible resource in their language! To support this project, please direct your offering to the attention of the Sunday School.

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 dvheller@htc.net or 618/521-7417. 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).

SCRIP CARDS:

The holiday season is quickly approaching. If you plan to give the gift of gift cards this year consider shopping through our scrip program. Every card purchased earns money for our school. Cards are available for hundreds of retailers and restaurants including Amazon, Walmart, Texas Roadhouse and many more. Orders can be placed by stopping by or calling the office. Select cards are kept on hand but are sold on a first come first serve basis. December 12th will be the last order placed before Christmas.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

Sun. Dec. 11, 6 p.m. Nursery-Grade 1 Sunday School Christmas Service

Wed. Dec. 14, 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas Service

Tue. Dec. 20, 8:30 a.m./7 p.m. Grades 6-8 Christmas

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Ellery Byer, Alice Smith, Jody Winkelmann; Ruma R&R: Fern Schnepel; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace: June Lawrence and Jean Menke; Bria-Columbia: David Burgdorf; Randolph County Nursing Home: Donald Kueker

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:

Kathryn Chunn, Elaine Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Omer/Neva Liefer, Vernon Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Paul Schrieber, Arlin/Helen Winkelman, Carl/Flo Zschiegner

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH CONFINED IN-HOME:

Robert Burgdorf, Wil Guebert, Don/Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Kenneth/Geri Koester, Joyce Lopez, Ed Luttmann, Edna Moeller, Viola Muench, Harold Thies

CUSTODIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED:

+A part-time paid position is available in our church custodian rotation for about 8 - 12 hours every 2 weeks. We need someone for Saturday evening service ONLY and/or Sunday morning services. Trained provided. This involves the opening and closing of the building for worship, lighting, setting temperatures, ringing the bell, and light cleaning. See John Preston or Pastor.

+Our school seeks a maintenance/janitorial aid/substitute to work with our two custodians on days when school is not in session to work larger projects as well as day-to-day cleaning and also to work as-needed when the other custodians are on vacation. Please inquire by calling the school office or stopping by Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. We look forward to working with you!

"THE WARMING TREE":

Our school lobby tree needs some Christmas cheer and so do those in need. Help us "warm-up" the Christmas season by bringing in new or gently used hats, gloves, scarves, coats, and socks to the school lobby. You can hang them on the tree or place them underneath. Donations will be accepted through December 21st. All donations will benefit local children in need!

ATTENTION COFFEE DRINKERS:

We are in Community Coffee's program, "Cash for Schools." By clipping the proof of purchase off packages of ground coffee and/or K cups our school earns rewards. You can drop off proof of purchases at the school office. Thank you for participating in this program to benefit our school!

PARISH NURSE NOTE: from LCMS *Better Health*

When We Have a Cold- No alcohol! It suppresses your immune system and causes dehydration which prolongs your illness. It also interferes with sleep.

FINANCIAL NEED FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT:

St. John's member and Red Bud High School senior Ashlynn Crafton has been diagnosed with leukemia. We can provide some financial assistance for her treatments at her GoFundMe account <https://gofund.me/3579ba87> or at an account set up with Buena Vista National Bank Account #272745. Thank you for considering how you can help during this difficult time.

SENIOR YOUTH FUNDRAISER:

Our Senior Youth is selling greeting cards (all occasions) for \$1. Cards are on display in the Fellowship Hall. A money box for payment (honor system) 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/11- Mike Moll, Aubrey Kiefer, Kolton Florreich; 12/12- Allen Stoll, Sutton Jones, Elaina Uffelmann, Jettson Grohmann; 12/13- Jennifer Fritsche, Stephanie Valleroy, Kayce Schaefer, Grayson Herriman; 12/14- David L. Stellhorn, Christy Palm, Kollin Liefer, Allister Gunter; 12/15- Mary Schultz, Valerie Crafton, Tessa Miller; 12/16- Susie Harms, Stephen Stellhorn, Adam Mehring, Andrew Millmann; 12/17-Vernon Muench, Lori Langrehr. *Please call with corrections!*

LCMS FOUNDATION:

Do you know of someone who has their Christmas shopping done already? They are being very intentional about their plans, making sure everything will be in place. We want to be the same way about our estate plans, leaving the best gifts to family we love and the ministries we care about. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor Scott Radden can help you become intentional. Contact him at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: from Lutheran Bible Translators

Readings for the year are on the tables in the entryway. December 11- Isaiah 28:14-29; December 12- Isaiah 29:1-14; December 13- Isaiah 29:15-30:14; December 14- Isaiah 30:15-26; December 15- Isaiah 30:27-31:9; December 16- Isaiah 32:1-20; December 17- Isaiah 33:1-24.

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

God's kingdom comes as He mercifully preserves at our weakest (Matthew 11:5-6). We do not seize happiness at the expense of others. Rather, we advocate endurance in sufferings such as surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis (James 5:11). With our support for them we strengthen instead of extinguish life (Isaiah 35:3).

GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT PEACE:

The Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb, Professor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, will preach at the German Christmas Service, Sunday, December 11, 2:30 pm at Peace Lutheran Church in Lemay. He will be accompanied by music from the Liederkranz, Men's Chorus and Frauenchor, Ladies' Choir of the St. Louis German Cultural Society. They will render seasonal numbers in the German language. Peace Lutheran Choristers will sing carols in English. The festive setting, including congregational singing, will be in German; however, English helps will be provided. Fellowship and ethnic refreshments follow.

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmuehler and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org; or Facebook: facebook.com/issuesetc; or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. Listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

KFUO Radio AM850 & **kfu.org**, a media ministry of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on AM850 & **kfu.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at **kfu.org** and wherever you get podcasts! Find us on social media @KFUO.org, Facebook, **Twitter**, and **Instagram**. This week on KFUO and kfu.org: Hear the history and theology of Advent Hymnody on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m.), study Exodus 23-27 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.) and hear Advent midweek worship from Village Lutheran Church in Ladue on 12/14 at noon. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfu.org or the KFUO Radio app!

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

FFA Fundraiser: The COS FFA is selling Stonie's Snack Sticks. Contact the school, a COS FFA member or Lisa Luebke to order.

22nd Annual Trivia Night: Join us for this year's "Decades" Trivia Night & Silent Auction on January 20 at 7:00 p.m. in our gym. Adults \$15 ea., 5th-8th grade students \$6 ea., and 9th-12th grade \$10 ea. with a limit of eight people to a table. Reserve your table by calling 618-853-7300. Table proceeds from the evening will support Prom and Post-Prom at COS. The silent auction will benefit the next Mission Trip.

School Hours: The office is open Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

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 618/282-3050

Associate Pastor Brian Nowak 708/369-7741

Principal – Mr. Justin Palm 618/214-1103

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 618/340-6055

Director of Christian Education & School Librarian – Mr. Bill Becker 618/282-2958

Secretaries – Mrs. Leslie Froemling and Mrs. Sara Shepherd

Senior Youth – Kirk and Stephanie Liefer 618/967-0804

Matthew Foster, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 618/853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool – Cindy Steele Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz

Aides: Nola Jean Vallett, Shawn DeRousse, and Elizabeth Schaefer

First Grade – Rachel Miller Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade and Junior Youth – Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade and Before/After School Care – Cindy Nebel

