

*First Sunday after Christmas*

*St. John's Lutheran Church*

**December 30 & 31, 2023**

*5 p.m. & 10 a.m.*

**Red Bud, Illinois**

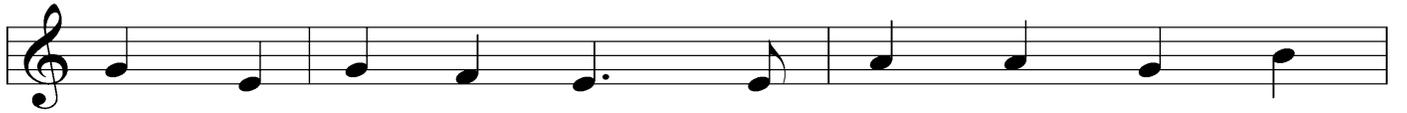
**PRELUDE:** "December Flies Away" *arr. by Donald Busarow*

**THE RINGING OF THE BELL** calls us to holy worship.

**OPENING HYMN: 385 "From East to West"** (*stand for last stanza, sing "A-men"*)



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
 2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
 3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,  
 4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -  
 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
 fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
 in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -  
 above the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the  
 Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
 mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
 yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.  
 Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.  
 Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

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*Divine Service Three, page 184ff.*

**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. 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: Psalm 98; Isaiah 52:10**



The Lord has bared His / ho-ly arm before the eyes of all the | na-tions,  
and all the ends / of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.  
Oh sing to the LORD / a new song, for He has done mar- | vel-ous things!  
His right hand and His / ho-ly arm have worked salva- | tion for Him.  
The LORD has made known His sal- | va-tion;  
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the | na-tions.  
He has remembered His / stead-fast love and faithfulness to the house of | Is-ra-el.  
All the ends / of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!  
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.  
The Lord has bared His / ho-ly arm before the eyes of all the | na-tions,  
and all the ends / of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.

**KYRIE: (sung)**

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us, Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS: pages 187-189**

**P:** Glory be to God on high: **C:** and on earth peace, good-will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

**O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the  
Father. A-men.**

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

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

**C: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (please be seated)**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch.

The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL:**

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

**and the government shall be upon his shoulder.**

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

**Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Sing to the Lord a new song, **for He has done marvelous things!**

**THE EPISTLE READING:****Galatians 4:4-7**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through 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 2:22-40**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel."

And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.

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: 519 “In His Temple Now Behold Him”**

**In His temple now behold Him, See the long-ex-pect-ed Lord;  
An-cient proph-ets had fore-told Him, God has now ful-filled His word.  
Now to praise Him, His re-deem-ed Shall break forth with one ac-cord.**

**In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir-gin pure, be-hold Him lie  
While His a-ged saints a-dore Him Ere in per-fect faith they die.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Lo, the in-car-nate God Most High!**

**Je-sus, by Your pre-sen-ta-tion. When they blessed You, weak and poor,  
Make us see Your great sal-va-tion, Seal us with Your pro-mise sure;  
And pre-sent us in Your glo-ry To Your Fa-ther, cleansed and pure.**

**SERMON:** *(Sat.)* “Go in Peace!” Luke 2:22-40

*(Sunday)* “Showing Off Our New Christmas Clothes” Isaiah 61:10-62:3

**OFFERTORY:** pages 192-193

**Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.**

**Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** (*please stand if you are able*)  
(*Each petition ends “Lord, in Your mercy” and we respond, “hear our prayer.”*)

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** page 194ff.

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*.

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, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we many know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: (*sung*)

**Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;**

**heav’n and earth are full of Thy glo-ry.**

**Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.**

**Bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He**

**that com-eth in the name of the Lord.**

**Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (*Pastor prays the prayer; congregation sings the Doxology*)

**...For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo-ry for-ev-er and ev-er. A-men.**

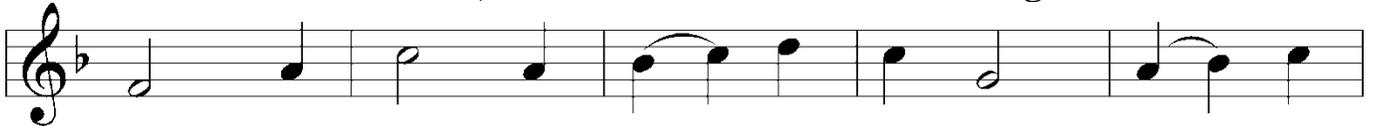
**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD AND THE PAX DOMINI**

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

**AGNUS DEI** (*sung*)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est away the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A-men. (*please be seated*)

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:** (*please be seated*)  
**375 “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”**



1 Come, your hearts and voic - es rais - ing, Christ the  
 2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in  
 3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with  
 4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -  
 love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -  
 com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -  
 fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.  
 tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
 ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.  
 tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

- 5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing When by faith we grasp this blessing,  
 And to You we come confessing That Your love has set us free.
- 6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us, From Your lowly manger cheer us,  
 Gently lead us and be near us Till we join Your choir above. Public domain

**370 “What Child Is This”**



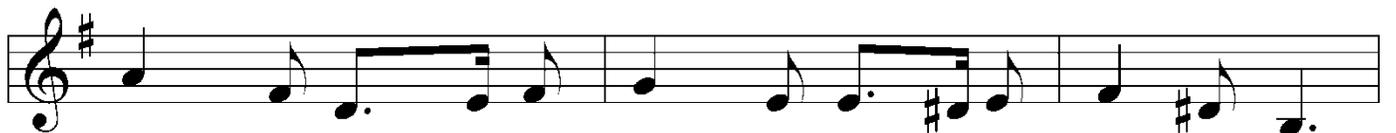
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

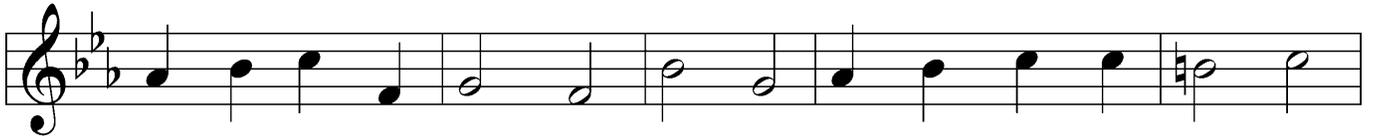


Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

### 360 "All My Heart Again Rejoices"



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es As I hear Far and near  
 2 Hear! The Con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe, Sin and woe,  
 3 Should we fear our God's dis - plea - sure, Who, to save, Free - ly gave  
 4 See the Lamb, our sin once tak - ing To the cross, Suf - f'ring loss,



Sweet-est an - gel voic - es. "Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing  
 Death and hell are bro - ken!" God is man, man to de - liv - er,  
 His most pre-cious trea - sure? To re-deem us He has giv - en  
 Full a - tone-ment mak - ing. For our life His own He ten - ders,



Till the air Ev - 'ry-where Now with joy is ring - ing.  
 And the Son Now is one With our blood for - ev - er.  
 His own Son From the throne Of His might in heav - en.  
 And His grace All our race Fit for glo - ry ren - ders.

5 Softly from His lowly manger Jesus calls One and all,  
 "You are safe from danger. Children, from the sins that grieve you  
 You are freed; All you need I will surely give you."

6 Come, then, banish all your sadness! One and all, Great and small,  
 Come with songs of gladness. We shall live with Him forever  
 There on high In that joy Which will vanish never. Public domain

(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.)

**NUNC DIMITTIS:** "Song of Simeon" pages 199-200 (*please stand if you are able*)  
**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre-pared before the face of all people, a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.**

### **THANKSGIVING**

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

P 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 spir-it.**

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) A-men, a-men, a-men.**

### **CLOSING HYMN: 384 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (sing “A-men”)**



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,  
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with  
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His  
 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him  
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that  
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -  
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -  
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be  
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see  
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face  
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

### **THE POSTLUDE: "All My Heart Again Rejoices" arranged by Kevin Hildebrand**

*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.

### **ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-Red Bud, Illinois**

*First Sunday After Christmas 2023*

*We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the sacraments,  
 and provide Christian education in service to all people.*

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](mailto:office@stjohnsredbud.org) Web address: [www.stjohnsredbud.org](http://www.stjohnsredbud.org)

*This Week With Our Lord, December 31, 2023- January 7, 2024*

**SUNDAY, December 31- No Sunday School or Bible classes today**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Holy Communion Service: Acolyte: Kade Liefer

**Monday, January 1, 2024- Happy New Year!**

10:00 a.m. New Year's Day Matins Service: Acolyte: Payton Liefer

**Tuesday, January 2- Office Closed**

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

7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meets in the Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, January 3- No School!**

9:00 a.m. Faculty meeting

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

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

7:30 p.m. Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 4- School resumes!

7:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall

9:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting

5:30 p.m. Boys' Basketball at Chester Public School

6:00 p.m. Girls' A team Basketball at New Athens

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

Friday, January 5- Girls & Boys B team tourney @ Collinsville

9:00 a.m. All-School Chapel service in the new gym

Saturday, January 6-

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

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Brynlee Liefer

SUNDAY, January 7-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Jacob Liefer

9:30 a.m. Adult &amp; Youth Bible Classes; Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service: Acolyte: Lilly Meyer

Noon Senior Youth gathering in church basement hangout

2:00 p.m. Take down Christmas decorations at church

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "The Exit From Regret"

Guest Speaker, Rev. Dr. John Nunes, says that when life becomes an endless roundabout of regret, Christ is your entrance to forgiveness and a new start (Luke 2:27-28). Listen on KFUE AM 850 Sundays at 12:30 & 5 p.m., on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. on KSIV 1320AM or 91.5FM or on Sirius XM Family Talk 131 Sundays at 9 a.m.

**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 elements of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also how we confess our common 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 more information about this sacrament, please see pages 326-327 and 329-330 of *Lutheran Service Book*.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Christmas Eve: Worship- 668; Communion- 453; Day: Worship- 85; HC- 75

*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. (Heb. 10:24-25)*

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/24- General: \$38,364.94; School: \$600; Debt: \$100; Automatic Giving: \$4,287.51. *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:7)*

ST. JOHN'S FINANCIAL FACTS: Compared to 2022 (through November)

Worship Offerings: \$37,374.66 lower; Total Income: \$73,283.08 lower

Expenses: \$152,566.77 higher; Remaining Expansion Debt: \$645,085.15

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John's member Christine Stechmesser who died in the Lord on Tuesday afternoon at the age of 53 years. Her Christian funeral service was Saturday afternoon. Thanks be to God for His gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

WEEKDAY BIBLE CLASSES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Wednesday Women resume this week at 9:30 a.m. The Wednesday evening and Thursday morning classes also resume this week. Men's Bible Breakfast next meets on Saturday, January 6 at 7 a.m. to study "Proverbs: God's Ancient Wisdom for Our Modern Living."

POSITION BECOMING AVAILABLE:

The position of Pastoral Administrative Assistant will be open after the first of the year in our church/school office. Hours are Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with holidays off. Salary and vacation are based on our District Salary Guidelines. For a job description and/or application, call our office at 282-2394.

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS:

Pastor Nebel would like to begin an Adult Instruction Class in January to cover the basics of Christian Doctrine as taught in the Lutheran Church. This would be a good refresher course for those already confirmed or it could lead to communicant membership at St. John's for those who so desire. Contact Pastor if you have or know of one who has an interest in this class. Day and time TBD.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER:

3-Year-old: Eve Guebert, Lillian Guebert, Nolan Liefer, Clarke Thien, Colby Young, Clay Zeller; 4-Year-old: Demi Grohmann, Nolan Kassing, Benjamin Langrehr; Kindergarten: Kaly Young; First Grade: Jettson Grohmann, Ava Moll; Second Grade: Natalie Bowles, Ellie Stellhorn; Third Grade: Brewer Krick, Liam Langrehr; Fourth Grade: Jackson Carnahan; Fifth Grade: Natalie Kassing, Sydney Krick, Abby Stellhorn, Kade Young; Sixth Grade: Jozlynn Palm; Seventh Grade: Carson Bowles, Clare Carnahan, Carson Moll; Eighth Grade: Sydney Kassing. Thank you for your participation in and your support of our Sunday School ministry!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/31- Reese Foster, Emma Guebert; 1/1- Esther Williams, Jill Henslee, Jeremy Voss, Jackie Aubuchon; 1/2- Julie Moll, Tailor Neuhaus; 1/3- Terry Liefer, Alice Guebert, Linda Guebert, Clara Zeller; 1/4- Jeff Koester, Nick Grohmann, Hudson Schmidt; 1/5- David Blankenship,

Melissa Miller, Sara Shepherd, Devin Johnson; 1/6- Andre Voges, Damon Trost, Emry Voss.  
*Please call our office with any corrections!*

**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](mailto: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).

**PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT:**

Three Springs in Chester: Eunice Wiatr; Waterloo Oak Hill: Ken Ruwald, Jody Winkelmann; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace: June Lawrence & Jean Menke; Randolph County Nursing Home: Don Kueker; Bethesda Gardens-Kirkwood: Ruth Hecht; Bria-Columbia: Sharon DeRousse.

**PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:**

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

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

Wil Guebert, Don/Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Barb Korves, Joyce Lopez, Ed Luttman, Edna Moeller, Viola Muench, Harold Thies

**KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:**

KFUO Radio AM 850 & [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org), a media ministry of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on AM 850 & [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get podcasts! Find us on social media @KFUO.org, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week on KFUO AM850, enjoy the Twelve Days of Christmas with special Christmas music, Scripture, and greetings until January 6. Blessed Christmas! Christ is born!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024** are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you do not find one with your names on it or have one that you do not intend to use, please call Leslie in our office (282-2394) so she can adjust the list.

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

The COS Trivia Night and Silent Auction to support Post Prom and our mission trip will be Friday, January 19. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the trivia starts at 7:00. Adults \$15, students \$7 with up to eight people per table. Reserve your spot by filling out this form: <https://bit.ly/COStrivia2024> or calling 618-853-7300.

Registration for Second Semester 2023-2024 is open! If you have a student or know someone who is high school age, encourage them to consider Christ Our Savior Lutheran High

School. Call 853-7300 to schedule a private tour. Registration for 2024-2025 will start in January. Learn more and download a registration form from our website, [www.coslhs.org](http://www.coslhs.org).

### **Prayer of the Church**

**HEALING AND COMFORT:** Edna Moeller, Lorine Reinhardt, Sharon DeRousse, Ruth Hecht, Rev. Russell Koen, Sherry Winkelman, Gary Schwartzkopf, Tim Deien, Jay Prigge, Marcy Watters, JoAnna Ellner, Ryan Valleroy, Sarah Roy, Ashlynn Crafton, Jack Kennedy; *Family/Friends of St. John's Members:* Tyson Moonier, Dorothy Fulton, Rhonda Black, Mike Coffey, Jeff Gulley, Victor Both. *Help us keep this list current!*

**MILITARY:** *(Please call with names.)* Army- Casey Vallett, Tanner Valleroy, Brandon Voss, Adrienne Vallett, Easton Lucht, Chase Lucht, Ethan Summers, Tim Healy, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Austin Scheibe, Jessica DeMarco, 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, Doug Brennan, Jason Roscow.

+those who mourn: the family of Christine Stechmesser

+for peace in the Holy Land and comfort for those who mourn and suffer

### *Serving Us in Worship*

*Saturday:* Pastor Brian Nowak; *Sunday:* Pastor Mark Nebel Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Acolytes: *(Saturday)* Ella Cowell; *(Sunday)* Austin Stellhorn

Greeters: *(Sat.)* Virginia and Mark Moeller; *(Sun.)* Kalin and Kathy Liefer

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

Flower Servers: Alverda Rahn and Kathy Rowold      Paraments: Irma Birkner