

Second Sunday in Advent
December 9-10, 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church
Red Bud, Illinois

THE PRELUDE: "People, Look East!" *arranged by Steven Wentz*
THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN: 344 "On Jordan's Bank" (*stand for last stanza, "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.

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 and for self-examination.

(10:30 a.m.) **ANTHEM:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

School Grades 3-8

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

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:

2nd Peter 3:8-14

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

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:

Mark 1:1-8

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

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

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight,’” John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

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

(5 p.m. & 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)*

(please be seated) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SONG: (5 p.m. & 8 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: 354 "Arise, O Christian People"



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

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SERMON: (*Sat.*) "Who Is This?" Mark 1:1-8

(*Sun.*) "Restore, Shine, Save" Psalm 80:1, 3, 7-9

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.”*)

HEALING AND COMFORT: Lorine Reinhardt, Sharon DeRousse, Ruth Hecht, Rev. Russell Koen, Sherry Winkelman, Nancy Langrehr, Jay Prigge, Marcy Watters, JoAnna Ellner, Ryan Valleroy, Zac Carnahan (thanks), Sarah Roy, Ashlynn Crafton, Jack Kennedy; *Family/Friends of St. John’s Members:* Gary Hayes, Caleb Caesar, Karen Stark, Tyson Moonier, Dorothy Fulton, Donald Ray Salger, Rhonda Black. *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 suffer: the family of Marvin Henke, who passed away Thursday

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

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

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray: **Our Father who art....**

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

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: 348 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”



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!

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

(10:30 a.m.) **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, 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: (*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*)

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.

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.

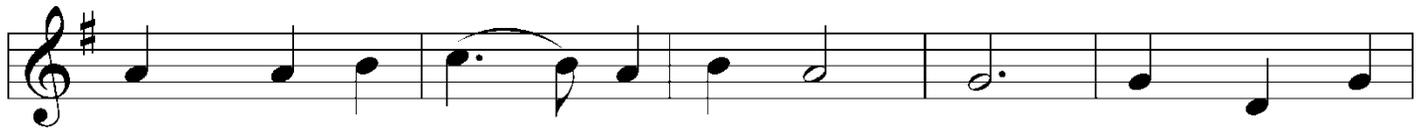
5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,
 I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.

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

797 "Praise the Almighty" (we stand for the last stanza, sing "A-men.")



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!
 2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;
 3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er
 4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,



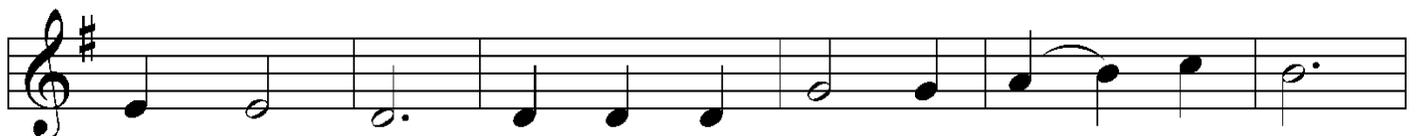
Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the



an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark
 va - tion can noth - ing sev - er, And who in
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and
 grave en - gulfs its prey. Since mor - tals can no
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren



all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand if you are able

Praise, all you people, the name so holy Of Him who does such wondrous things!
 All that has being, to praise Him solely, With happy heart its amen sings.
 Children of God, with angel host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
 Alleluia, alleluia! A-men.

(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 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: 348 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”



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!

THE POSTLUDE: "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

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This Week With Our Lord, December 10-17, 2023

SUNDAY, December 10-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:25 a.m. Nursery-1st Grade Christmas Service practice at church

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

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

6:00 p.m. Nursery-1st Grade Sunday School Christmas Service at church

Acolyte: Sydney Kassing

Monday, December 11-

6:00 p.m. Board for Parish Education meeting in school library

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

Tuesday, December 12-

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

6:00 p.m. Girls' basketball at home vs. Steeleville

6:00 p.m. Boys' basketball at New Athens

Wednesday, December 13-

7 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. 7th & 8th grade Public School Confirmation classes

9 a.m. & 7 p.m. Grades 6-8 Road to Bethlehem Service (church)

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

Thursday, December 14-

9:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting
 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Holy Communion Service at church
 6:00 p.m. Girls' basketball at home vs. TSJ-Nashville
 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony
 6:00 p.m. Men's Club Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 16-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in Fellowship Hall (Proverbs)
 5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Case Hess

SUNDAY, December 17-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte: Hollis Wolfmeier
 9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Bible Classes and Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative); Acolyte: Liam Kilpatrick
 Noon Senior Youth Christmas Lunch at Kirk and Stephanie Liefer's house

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:

Children's Services (AM & PM)- Grades 3-5: 529; Grades K-2: 470

Worship: 281; Communion: 145; Adult/Youth Classes: 48; Sunday School: 50

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)

EPISTLES:

The December edition of our congregation's monthly newsletter, *The Epistle*, is 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.THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "A-T Walker"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#) says that a wilderness can be scary, but if someone is with you who knows the way out, you're not really lost (Isaiah 40:3). Listen on KFYO 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.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS:

Advent devotional booklets from Lutheran Hour Ministries are on the tables in the entryway for your use during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES:

Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall meets Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. with Pastor Nebel leading the video & discussion of "Big Questions/Biblical Answers." This Sunday's topic is "Did Dinosaurs and Humans Live Together?" Mr. Palm's class on Bible Survey will meet this Sunday in the school library.

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/3- General: \$21,256.20; School: \$195; Sound System Donation: \$3,000; Debt: \$175. *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*

2nd Peter 3:11 – “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness?” All the things of the earth have an expiration date: “Good until the last day.” On that day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge: Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

WEEKDAY BIBLE CLASSES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Wednesday Women are on a break until the new year. The Wednesday evening and Thursday morning classes are on break until the first week in January. Men’s Bible Breakfast next meets on Saturday, December 16 at 7 a.m. to study “Proverbs: God’s Ancient Wisdom for Our Modern Living.”

SINGING IN WORSHIP:

December 10, 10:30 a.m. School grades 3-8 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

December 17, 10:30 a.m. School grades Kdg.-2 “Light One Candle”

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

The 3-year-old through 1st grade Sunday School students will meet in the church sanctuary this Sunday December 10 from 9:25 to 10:15 a.m. to practice for their Sunday, December 10th (6 p.m.) Christmas Service.

MEN’S CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER:

Our Men’s Club members will gather this Thursday, December 14 @ 6:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall for our annual Christmas Dinner, Fun and Fellowship. The menu will be baked pork chops, mashed potatoes and milk gravy, green beans and dessert. We invite and look forward to seeing you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT:

Our mission project this year (10% of offerings) will benefit a local project, the Musketeer Market & Royal Table. These are operated through our local District 132 Schools that supply families with food, basic care needs, and supplies for making birthday cakes for the elementary children in our local community. Thank you for your participation in and your dedication to our Sunday School ministry!

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER:

3-Year-old: Nolan Liefer, Clarke Thien; 4-Year-old: Demi Grohmann, Nolan Kassing, Benjamin Langrehr; Kindergarten: Raelynn Stenzel; First Grade: Jettson Grohmann; Third Grade: Amelia Langrehr, Liza Wagner; Fifth Grade: Aiden Arbeiter; 7th Grade: Tessa Stenzel; 8th Grade: Mallory Arbeiter, Sydney Kassing, Lilly Meyer. Thank you for your participation in and your support of our Sunday School ministry!

POINSETTIA GARDEN:

Half-sheet slips are on the tables in the entryway if you would like to donate a poinsettia flower for our sanctuary during the Christmas season. The cost is \$7 and needs to be turned in by December 19. Thank you!

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

The first quarter of 2024 edition of our church body's daily devotional are available in the racks by the front doors of our church building. Sonshine Visitation members, please pick up a copy for those whom you visit.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024:

Boxes of offering envelopes for 2024 are on the tables 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.

WARMING TREE:

Your donation of new coats, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, underwear and blankets to our "Warming Tree" in the Fellowship Hall (or lobby at school) will be given to local families in need to help them stay warm this winter.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

Sun 10 6 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service (at church)

Wed 13 9 a.m./7 p.m. Grades 6-8 Christmas (at church)

Thu 14 *3 p.m. Holy Communion Service

Sat/ Sun 16/17 3rd Sunday in Advent

Wed. 20 9 a.m./7 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas Service (school)

Sat 23 4th Sunday in Advent (5 p.m.)

There will be no Sunday morning services or classes on the 24th!

Sun 24 3 and 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Sun 24 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion & Candlelight

Mon 25 9 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sat/Sun 30/31 *1st Sunday of Christmas (5 p.m. & 10 a.m.)

Sun 31 5 p.m. New Year's Eve Holy Communion

Mon Jan. 1, 10 a.m. New Year's Day Matins

SENIOR YOUTH:

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.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Red Bud High School seniors and St. John's members Addi Dilley, Lyla Hess and Ryker Papenberg have been named Illinois State Scholars for 2024.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/10- Ron Liefer, Delonda Kelley, Leo DuFrenne; 12/11- Michael 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. *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 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: Jody Winkelmann; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace: June Lawrence & Jean Menke; Randolph County Nursing Home: Don Kueker; Bethesda Gardens-Kirkwood: Ruth Hecht; Bria-Columbia: Ken Ruwald; Garden Place, Waterloo: 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 Luttmann, Edna Moeller, Viola Muench, Harold Thies

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Christian Decision Making & the End of Life; Biblical Inerrancy; Has Evolution Disproved the Creation Account; Gender Fluidity; Pre-Marital Sex and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. Listen on-demand at issuesetc.org or the LPR mobile app.

GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksview Road in St. Louis will hold a German Christmas Service this Sunday, December 10, at 2:30 p.m. with Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb preaching. For more information call the church office at 314-892-5610.

PART TIME BOOKKEEPER WANTED:

The Southern Illinois District Office is currently seeking a part-time, 20 hour per week, Bookkeeper beginning immediately to manage the accounting and financial matters for the

district. Knowledge with QuickBooks and previous experience is preferred. All interested applicants may contact Mr. Jeffrey Fick at sidlcmessage@gmail.com for details and or send a resume.

LIFE THOUGHTS FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE: www.lutheransforlife

John the Baptist prophesied the Gospel of the Kingdom that with Jesus' blessing is always coming (Mark 1:7-8). Even during surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis, He is not slow to keep His promises. Instead, He acts patiently, not wishing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). Aren't we crying out about it as this generation's voice in the wilderness (Mark 1:3)?

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

KFUO Radio AM 850 & kfuo.org, a media ministry of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on AM 850 & kfuo.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. 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 AM850, Dive into Advent Hymnody on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), study 1st Corinthians 12-14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), and learn more about the 3rd Sunday in Advent on The Coffee Hour (10/13 at 9:00 a.m.). Music and programming for the 12 Days of Christmas begins December 25! Hear your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.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 for \$1 each. They are available in a variety of flavors. Contact the school, a COS FFA member or Lisa Luebke to order. The snack sticks make a tasty stocking stuffer.

Sponsor a Thrivent Action Team: If you would like to organize or participate in a Thrivent Action Team to benefit COS, please call us to let us know what you would like to do. We can help you fill out the application.

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.

School Hours: Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m.-4 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

Junior Youth – Erin Kuehn 618/581-5928

Sherry Prange, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 618/853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool – Heather Nowak Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz

First Grade – Rachel Miller Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade and Before/After School Care – Cindy Nebel

Fifth Grade – Amanda Ruhmann Resource Teacher – Judy Stephens

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

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

Eighth Grade Homeroom: Kristin Sachtleben Athletic Director – Scott Voss

School Custodians – Wil Krick and Bob Schramm

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Lisa Quinn, Amy Williams, Nicole Kadlec, Christy Deterding, Patty Brewer, Kristi Martel, Courtney Schoenbeck, Brittney Eichholz, Madison Shields, Brooke Supancic, Pam Henry, Melissa Schilling, Kaleigh Reith, Kaitlin Schmitz, Haley Ehler, Hailey Guebert, Courtney Schaefer, Brittany Smith, Callen Reitz, Kailyn Moeller, Madison Falkenhain, Leah Johnston, Lori Johnston, Deanna Ward, Kaitlyn Brown, Emma Wuertz, Madison Trask

Church Council

Chairman: Kevin Liefer Vice-Chairman: Michael DeRousse

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Eric Fritsche Board of Finance: Jill Gross

Elder Chair: Gerald Hanebutt Parish Education Chair: Devon Albert

Trustee Chair: Estate Fund Chair: Brian Guebert

Lutheran High School Board: Rebekah Liefer and Vickie Heller

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: (*Sat.*) Pastor Brian Nowak; (*Sun.*) Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist and Choir Director: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Lectors: (*8 a.m.*) Seminarian Lucas Frauenhoff; (*10:30 a.m.*) DCE Bill Becker

Acolytes: (*5 p.m.*) Addy Schloemann; (*8 a.m.*) Lilly Meyer; (*10:30 a.m.*) Maya Macbeth

Greeters: (*5 p.m.*) Virginia and Mark Moeller; (*8 a.m.*) Clyde and Kathy Rowold; (*10:30 a.m.*) Gerald and Jill Hanebutt

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

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