

PRELUDE: (5 p.m.) "Emmanuel, Savior of the Nations"  
(8 a.m.) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Bell Choir  
arranged by Rudolph Moser

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

OPENING HYMN: "Savior of the Nations, Come" (LSB 332, please stand for the last stanza)



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



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



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

5 God the Father was His source,  
Back to God He ran His course.

Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.

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

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

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



**KYRIE:**

(LSB 186)

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

**ADVENT STANZA:**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (LSB 357, vs 1)

I O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

*Refrain*

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

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray.

C: **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** (*please be seated*)

**ANTHEM:** (5 p.m.) "Joy to the World"  
(8 a.m.) "Gabriel's Message"

*Bell Choir*  
*Choir*

1. *The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favored lady." Gloria!*
2. *"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee, Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, Most highly favored lady." Gloria!*

3. *Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head. "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said. "My soul shall magnify His holy name." Most highly favored lady. Gloria!*
4. *Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn, And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: "Most highly favored lady." Gloria!*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

*Isaiah 7:10–17*

P: Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL:**

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

P: Behold, your king is coming to you;

**C: righteous and having salvation.**

P: Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**C: From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

**EPISTLE:**

*Romans 1:1–7*

P: Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA and VERSE:**

*(LSB 190)*

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**HOLY GOSPEL:***Matthew 1:18-25*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

P: Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH:***Nicene Creed (p 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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (LSB 361)



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
 While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.  
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

SERMON

OFFERTORY:

(LSB 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:** Margaret Hanebutt, Roger Hanebutt, Brendan Harms, Ruth Hecht, Beth Kilpatrick, Rev. Russell Koen, Vernon Koester, Mary Liefer, Paul Mollet, Norma Preston, Jay Prigge, Mary Schultz, David Snyder, Eugene Stamm; *Family/Friends of St. John’s Members:* Andy Amann, Doug Burford, Mary Gibson, Shirley Hartmann, Tina Heinemann, Gerald Hitzemann, Andrea Kuehner, Izzy McDermott, Tyson Moonier, Ron Pflueger, Oliver Scarbie, Sue Schreier, Lorraine Serio, Mary Jo Shelton, Ted Stellhorn, Milton Theobald III, Matthew Vallett, Amy Winkelman, Roger Womack.

**MILITARY:** Army- Casey Vallett, 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, Abbey Vallett; Air Force- Gage Baldwin, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, 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, Kaleb Barriger, Tom Beshoar, Kevin Biffar, Breanna Bingel, Chad Buch, Savannah Cowell, Chad Crafton, Steven Falkenhain, Curt Guebert, Jason Guebert, Scot Heller, Blake Koppel, Chad Langrehr, Matt Liefer, Kevin Miller, Craig Moll, Alan Piel, Jason Rippelmeyer, Brad Stechmesser, John Valentine, Mike VanDorn, Tanner Winkelman; Police- Abigail Browne, Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Nick Mounts, Doug Brennan

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** pages 194-202ff.

**PREFACE:**

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: Please 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 .... evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS:**

(LSB 195)



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:**

(LSB 196)

**P** Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,  
 Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it  
 is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;  
 and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who  
 tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to  
 temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.  
**C** 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:**

(LSB 197)



**P** Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  bod - y, which is giv-en for you.



This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



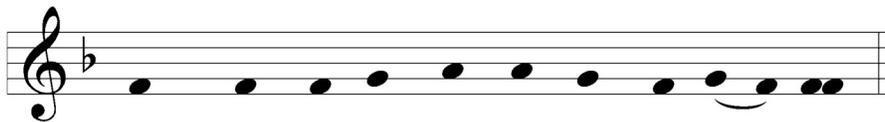
My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

**PAX DOMINI:**

(LSB 197)



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

**AGNUS DEI:**

(LSB 198)

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

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:** *(please be seated)**Anthem: (8 a.m.) "Come and Praise the Lord with Joy" Choir**1. Ye heavens, drop down dew from above, Ye heavens, pour down rain from above.**The dew we long for, Him the Just, The rain we long for, Jesus, our lord.**Chorus: Come and praise the Lord with joy, Joyfully sing to God, our Savior;**Come and praise the Lord with joy; The Rock of our salvation praise!**2. O let the sleeping earth awake, O let the earth bud forth a Savior.**O let the sleeping earth awake, And with our Savior justice come. (Chorus)**3. O Lord, my whole soul longs for Thee as deer do long for running streams.**O Lord, my whole soul thirsts for Thee, For Thee, the strong and living God. (Chorus)**4. The heavens show the glory of God; The heavens show the work of His hands;**The Son comes forth from the end of the heav'n, With joy the giant runs His course. (Chorus)*

Anthem: (5 p.m.) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Bell Choir

(8 a.m.) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (LSB 359)



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

"What Child Is This" (LSB 370)



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!

“God Loves Me Dearly” (LSB 392)



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
 2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and  
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -  
 4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did  
 5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
 dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.  
 deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.  
 of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.  
 ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.

*Refrain*



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

# NUNC DIMITTIS : “Song of Simeon”

(LSB 199-200)



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 be - fore 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:

(LSB 200)

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C: **and His mercy endureth forever.**

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: **Amen.**

## SALUTATION, BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION:

(LSB 201-202)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: **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: **Amen, amen, amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

“Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love” (LSB 900)



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid - en moth - er told,  
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth  
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.  
For the prom - ise that it gave, “Je - sus shall His peo - ple save.”  
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n  
Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved  
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

**POSTLUDE:** “Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love”

*arranged by Kermit Moldendauer*

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***This Week with Our Lord, December 21-28, 2025***

**SUNDAY, December 21-**

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

**Monday, December 22-**

***No School – Christmas Break***

7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

**Tuesday, December 23-**

***No School – Christmas Break***

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

3:15 p.m. Office Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, December 24-**

***No School & Office Closed – Christmas Eve***

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Brody Rahn

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Grayden Schloemann

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Jr. Youth

Thursday, December 25- *Merry Christmas!*

***No School & Office Closed – Christmas Day***

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service; Acolyte – Bryce & Bill Becker

Friday, December 26-

***No School & Office Closed – Christmas Break***

Saturday, December 27-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service; Acolyte – Alexa Cheek

SUNDAY, December 28-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service; Acolyte – Aiden Kiefer

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class, ***No Sunday School being held***

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Max Voss

**OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:**

December 14: Worship: 299; Communion: 60; Adult Bible Classes: 32; Sun. School: 49

Dec. 16-17: Women's Bible Study: 16. Advent Services on Dec. 17: *count not reported*

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/14- General: \$21,281.00; School: \$780.00; Debt Elimination: \$37,507.01.

**SECOND THURSDAY HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES:**

We will be having a Holy Communion Service on the second Thursday of the Month. Our next Service will be held on **Jan. 8th** at 3:00 pm. Feel free to come and join us. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office or Pastor Mark Winkelman.

**VOTERS' MEETING & NOMINATION OPENINGS FOR 2026:**

St. John's Lutheran Church and School will elect officers and board members at the annual Voter's Meeting which will be held on **Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall**. If you are interested in serving your church and school in this manner, please contact Stuart J. Langrehr at 618-663-4890 for additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026:**

Offering envelope boxes for 2026 are on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. If you do not find one with your name(s) on it or have one that you do not intend to use, please call Cynthia in our office (282-2394) so she can adjust the list.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CHRISTMAS BREAK & LUNCHEON:**

Women's Bible Study will be on break for the holidays from Dec 22 - Jan 5<sup>th</sup>. It will resume on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. The Women's Bible Study Christmas Luncheon will be Dec 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at 1860 Public House. All women are invited to attend.

**NEW WORSHIP SERVICE:**

Starting in 2026, St. John's will offer a mid-week worship service year-round. On Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm we will have a spoken word service. We know our lives have become busier, travel is easier, and the world increasingly does not care about Church as it schedules more and more activities even on Sunday mornings. However, it is our desire to help our members prioritize worship while also living in this world (though we are not of the world). When Lent and Advent seasons arrive, we will transition the worship service appropriately to mid-week services. We will

also offer Bible studies and Gatherings throughout the year on Wednesdays (schedule to come). As your pastor, I hope to see more and more attend weekly worship, receiving our Lord's precious gifts and encouraging one another as we travel through this world together with our Lord.

*Rev. Mark Winkelman*

### **THE BIBLE RECAP CLASS:**

The Bible Recap is about to begin! If you have signed up and have had contact with Lori, please meet with her this weekend. She will be available after each service this weekend for questions and to give out some additional information. She will also be available next Sunday, 12/28, after the 8 am and 10:30 am services. If you have not been in contact with Lori, please email her at [lorikay61@gmail.com](mailto:lorikay61@gmail.com) so she can get you ready to start!

### **NEW DEVOTIONAL FOR MEN:**

Men, are you interested in pursuing a path of Christian masculinity and discipline? Check out Memento at [www.memento70.com](http://www.memento70.com). Memento is a new men's devotional and discipline system backed by LCMS pastors and theologians. Its foundation is built on discipline, devotion, and brotherhood, drawing from the historic rhythm of the Church Year to provide a path that is both ancient and deeply relevant today. Please let us know if you are interested in joining a group of us on this journey by contacting Pastor Mark ([mwinkelman@stjohnsredbud.org](mailto:mwinkelman@stjohnsredbud.org)) or Mike DeRousse ([derousse@gmail.com](mailto:derousse@gmail.com)). The program officially begins on **January 1st** so don't wait!

### **MATCHING GIFTS OPPORTUNITIES:**

As you have seen in our bulletin, in order to pay our staff and bills this year, our church has borrowed the maximum amount of money allowed from the Estate Funds (\$200,000). There is an opportunity for us to pay this back as we come to the end of the calendar year (and therefore afford us the opportunity to borrow more in the future should need arise). Every dollar you give towards this repayment will be matched, up to \$100,000. On top of that, another \$50,000 matching gift has been put forward to help pay down our expansion loan. Please mark on your envelope or check memo with which one (Estate Fund or Expansion Loan) you would like to give towards.

***We have raised \$46,707.01 to repay Estate Fund & \$3,360.00 to repay Expansion Loan!!***

*"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11. God abundantly blesses us so that we will bless others and thereby be enriched with God's rewards increasing our praise and thanksgiving to God.*

### **KINDERGARTEN TEACHING POSITION:**

St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud is looking for a Kindergarten homeroom teacher. We invite interested applicants to use this link <https://forms.gle/a6nEts8pyapaiDcR7>, to learn more about the position and send in a resume for review. You may also email ([office@stjohnsredbud.org](mailto:office@stjohnsredbud.org)) or call the office (618-282-3873) Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00 for more information. We have competitive pay and a great benefits package which includes insurance for the employee and a pension. We look forward to the responses that come in and await the plans and people God has in store for St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud. Deadline for submission of applications is **January 9, 2025**.

### **FLOWERS IN CHANCEL:**

+ To have flowers in worship please call the office at 618-282-2394 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:**

12/21- Madison Falkenhain, Maggie Brown, Ava Clifford, Layla Kilpatrick, Langston Wiegard;  
12/22- Addalyn Schloemann; 12/23- Nikolas Stechmesser, Olivia Schluter; 12/24- Camden Moll;  
12/25- Wayne Mesnarich, Laura Dufrenne; 12/26- Michael VanDorn, Christina Gidley, Nikki Sicka;  
12/27- Richard Liefer, Lynn Langrehr, Louis Stellhorn, Angela Cartee, Andrea Liefer, Kelly Horner, Bailey Montroy, Archer Mehring.

### **LCMS MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:**

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. John 1:4

### **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.

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

Addington Place-Sparta: Kathryn Chunn; Oak Hill-Waterloo: Mary Gross, Jean Menke, Jody Winkelmann; Magnolia Terrace-Waterloo: June Lawrence; Cedarhurst Memory Care-Waterloo: Martha Rohlfing; Cedarhurst of Tesson Heights: Ruth Hecht, Paul Schrieber; Freeburg Care Center: Dorothy Byers, Wil Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Geraldine Koester.

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

Columbia: Pat Byer; Red Bud: Elaine Guebert, Alice Hick, Mary Liefer, Omer & Neva Liefer, Vernon Muench, Lorna Schneider, Esther Williams, Helen Winkelman.

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

Don & Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Vernon Koester, Barb Korves, LuAnn & Rick Liefer, Joyce Lopez, Trudy Woolbright.

### **ELDER ZONES FOR 2025-2026:** (Chairman, Stuart Langrehr)

Zone 1: D. Adams thru R. Collins- Elder Bruce Schneider (618/521-0028)

Zone 2: S. Conboy thru D/K Grohmann- Elder Louis Stellhorn (618/623-8495)

Zone 3: N/E Grohmann thru R/K Herriman-Elder Ron Liefer (618/282-3950)

Zone 4: R. Herriman thru T/E Krick- Elder Gerald Hanebutt (618/317-4574)

Zone 5: W/M Krick thru J. Maes- Elder Gary Buatte (618/719-5034)

Zone 6 : P. Malik thru L. Pensoneau- Elder Stuart Langrehr (618/304-5082)

Zone 7: A/A Piel thru D. Schrader- Elder Kirk Liefer (618/282-8228)

Zone 8: J/D Schrader thru B/C Turner- Elder Michael Schnepel (618/363-9575)

Zone 9: D/K Uffelmann – A. Zeller- Elder Joshua Voss (618/719-1840)

### **LCMS FOUNDATION:**

We can face competing priorities when we think about planning our estates someday. As we wrap up this year long consideration, we must ponder whether we see our estate plan as an expression of our Christian faith or just giving up on life. To provide continuity in the estate planning process,

it is essential to speak with family about your plans, so they can see the blessing prepared. It is equally essential to express to ministry leaders the desires you have for the gifts that will flow to ministry, as you express your faith purpose behind the gift. Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in these conversations. Contact Scott Radden phone# 618-977-4049 or email [scott.radden@lfnd.org](mailto:scott.radden@lfnd.org).

### **CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD LUNCHEON:**

**Date:** Friday, Feb. 13, 2026      **Registration:** 11:30 a.m. in Koburg Hall

**Luncheon:** Noon

**Program: Serving Those Who Serve: LCMS Military Ministry Since the Civil War**

*Chaplain Craig G. Muehler, Director, Ministry to the Armed Forces, LCMS*

**Menu:** Grilled chicken with artichoke cream sauce or lemon pepper cod fish, rosemary roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, triple layer chocolate cake

**Cost: \$20 per person**      **RSVP Deadline: Jan. 30, 2026**

Mail reservation with your check(s) made payable to Concordia Seminary Guild to:

Ellyn Petrovic, 3375 Dana Dr, Arnold, MO 63010 **Questions?** 314-952-8202

### **LIFE THOUGHTS FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

The birth of the King of Glory (Psalm 24:7) is surrounded by the messiness of human sin and intrigue (Matthew 1:18-25). As we rejoice that our Lord has taken on our human likeness with all its sin and pain, being “descended from David according to the flesh” (Romans 1:3), we can also rejoice that Jesus has sanctified every human life, even those born in circumstances which are surrounded by sin and pain.

### **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources**

**Matthew 1:21 – “She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”** What our good works could never do, Jesus has done: He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God’s Law could not do — truly motivate us to truly good works — Jesus’ love has done!

### **KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:**

Merry Christmas! On Thursday, December 25th at 10 a.m., Village Lutheran in Ladue, MO will broadcast their Christmas Day service live on KFUEO. But the celebration doesn't stop there! Join us as we rejoice in the coming of our Savior during the 12 Days of Christmas! Tune in December 24th-January 6th for special programming and beautiful sacred music in honor of the season!

### **THE LUTHERAN HOUR: “Everybody Is Somebody”**

God sends His people—the Church—to be His letters to the world, delivering His Word of promise. (Romans 1:7). Listen on KFUEO 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.

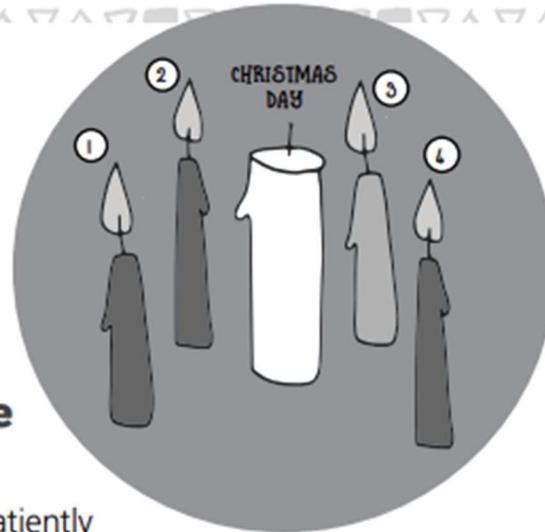
### **ATTENTION COFFEE DRINKERS:**

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!

## CASEY'S REWARDS:

Cash for Classrooms- When you shop at Casey's using its rewards program you can donate your points to St. John's school through the Casey's app.

### + + + KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE + + +



### **What does it mean when four candles have been lit on the Advent wreath?**

You've been preparing and patiently waiting for that wonderful day of celebration. When four of the candles on the Advent wreath have been lit, it means that Christmas is almost here! That's right! The day on which we remember the birth of our Savior is right around the corner!

### **What does this mean to me?**

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Today is the last Sunday of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Next week the Church will celebrate Christmas Day, one of the most important days of the whole year. As you can see, Advent has prepared us for the coming of Jesus, our wonderful Savior from sin!



#### **Parents:**

Remind your children of the important part that Advent plays in the lives of all Christians. This is the time in the Church Year that prepares us for the coming of our Savior. Be sure to bring your children to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.



**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 Winkelman 815/499-1135

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. Sara Shepherd and Miss Cynthia Wilson

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

Junior Youth – Erin Kuehn 618/581-5928

*Faculty and Staff*

Preschool – Heather Nowak Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz

First Grade – Rachel Miller Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Stephanie Valleroy Fourth Grade – Monica Snyder

Fifth Grade – Amanda Ruhmann Resource Teacher – Lara Vause

Sixth Grade Homeroom – Doreen Schnepel Seventh Grade Homeroom – Nancy Whelan

Eighth Grade Homeroom: Kristin Sachtleben Jr High Science – Sara Shepherd

Athletic Director – Scott Voss Cooks – Catrena Heck and Marilyn Oettle

Before/After School Care – Courtney Schoenbeck

School Custodians – Wil Krick, Bob Schramm, and Christian Stechmesser

*Day Care*

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Lisa Quinn, Amy Williams, Nicole Kadlec, Christy Deterding, Kristi Martel, Courtney Schoenbeck, Brittney Eichholz, Brooke Supancic, Pam Henry, Melissa Schilling, Kaitlin Schmitz, Madison Falkenhain, Kaitlyn Brown, Emma Trost, Madison Trask, Mycah Clements, Zandra Harless, Tori Muench, Molly Huether, Cailee Strong, Reagan Birkner, and Olivia Noethen.

*Church Council*

Chairman: Michael DeRousse Vice-Chairman: Kevin Guebert

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Eric Fritsche Board of Finance: Becky Biffar

Elder Chair: Stuart Langrehr Parish Education Chair: Kortney Moll

Trustee Chair: Leonard Salger Estate Fund Chair: Thomas Mulherin

Lutheran High School Board: Vickie Heller and Rebekah Liefer

*Serving Us in Worship Today*

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor Mark Winkelman

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak (8 a.m.) Lector: DCE Bill Becker

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) Grant Florreich; (8 a.m.) Aubrey Kiefer; (10:30 a.m.) Lucy Kuehn

Greeters: (5 p.m.) Stanley & Lynn Langrehr; (8 a.m.) Clyde & Kathy Rowold

(10:30 a.m.) Vernitta Wolter & Cindy Ebers

Video: Eric Fritsche/Justin Palm Communion Cloths: Breanne Muench

Flower Servers: Pam Miller & Diane Kunkelmann Paraments: Irma Birkner