

PRELUDE: "Lobt Gott, ihr Christen"

setting by Johann Gottfried Walther

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

OPENING HYMN: "Let All Together Praise Our God" (LSB 389, please stand for last stanza)



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:

How great a mystery!

How strong the tender Christ Child's love!

No truer friend than He,

No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door

To blessèd paradise;

The angel bars the way no more.

To God our praises rise,

To God our praises rise.

7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,

Lord Jesus, we adore

And praise to God the Father yield

And Spirit evermore;

We praise You evermore.

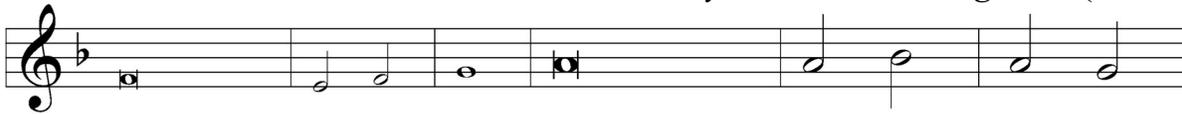




on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS:**

*“Glory to God in the Highest” (LSB 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;



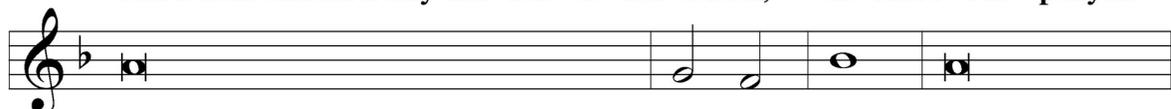
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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,



P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA and VERSE:**

(LSB 190)



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL:**

*Matthew 2:13-23*

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

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

P: When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

*(5 p.m. & 8 a.m.) Apostles’ Creed (p 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.**

*(10:30 a.m.) 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.

(5 p.m. & 8 a.m.) **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE SONG:**

*“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”* ((LSB 390, vs. 1-3)



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,  
 2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,  
 3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.  
 That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
 There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.

(5 p.m. & 8 a.m.) **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

*“Children of the Heavenly Father”* (LSB 725)



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en      Such a ref - uge      e'er was      giv - en.  
 spares them;      In His might - y      arms He      bears them.  
 show - eth,      And their sor - rows      all He      know - eth.  
 sole - ly      To pre - serve them      pure and      ho - ly.

**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 Neprt, 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

*The 5 p.m. & 8 a.m. service continues with the Lord's Prayer, and a Closing Prayer.*

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



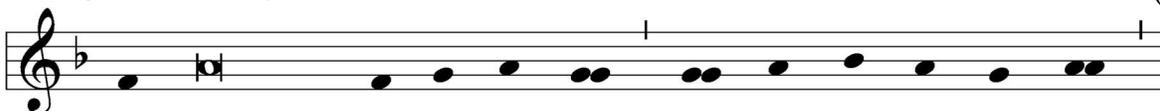
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

(LSB 196)



**¶** 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 &#x2191; 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  $\dagger$  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)*

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising” (LSB 375)



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the  
 2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending 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.**

“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” (LSB 624)



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -  
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con  
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own  
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple  
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought  
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels  
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.  
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.  
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.  
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
As at the rail on bended knee  
Our hungry mouths from Him receive  
The bread of immortality.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
A priestly food and priestly meat;  
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim  
Our voices join the endless hymn,  
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" (*LSB 352*)



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



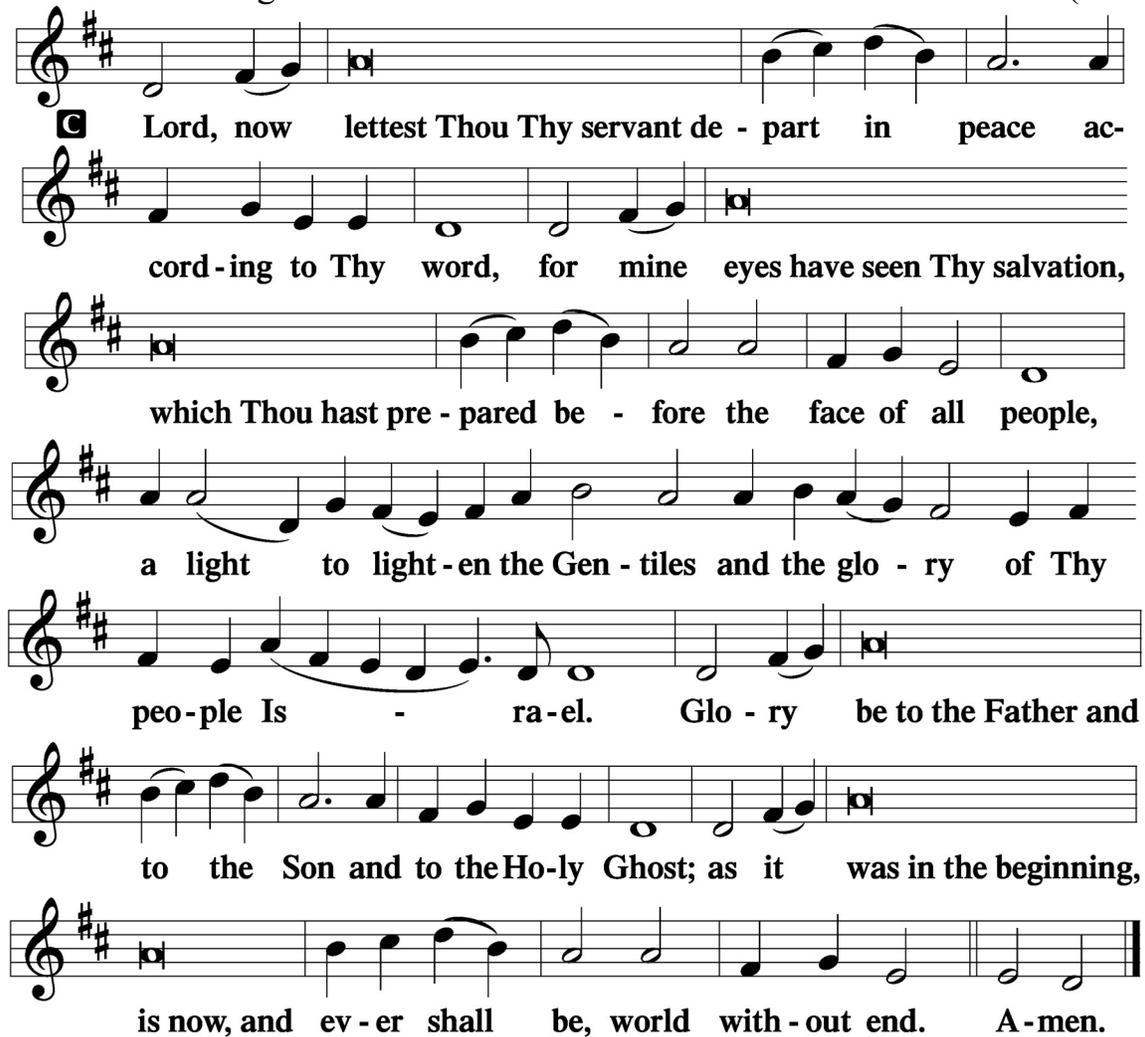
Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

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.

# 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:**

“Once in Royal David's City” (LSB 376)



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.  
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.  
 stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

**POSTLUDE: “Partita on “Irby”***setting by John A. Behnke*

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**This Week with Our Lord, December 28, 2025-January 4, 2026**SUNDAY, December 28-9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class, **No Sunday School being held**Monday, December 29-**No School – Christmas Break**Tuesday, December 30-**No School – Christmas Break**

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

11 a.m. Women’s Bible Study Christmas Luncheon at 1860 Public House

Wednesday, December 31-

***No School & Office Closed – New Year’s Eve***

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

6:00 p.m. New Year’s Eve Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – DCE Bill Becker

Thursday, January 1- ***Happy New Year!***

***No School & Office Closed – New Year’s Day***

Friday, January 2-

***No School***

Saturday, January 3-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Amelia Cheek

SUNDAY, January 4-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Elle Sutton

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

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Austin Stellhorn

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

December 21: Worship: 324; Communion: 194; Adult Bible Classes: 33; Sun. School: 20

Dec. 23-24: Women’s Bible Study: *No classes held this week.*

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 12/21- General: \$12,612.20; School: \$550.00; Debt Elimination: \$53,300.00.

**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.

## **EPISTLES:**

Paper copies of the January edition of our congregation's newsletter are on the tables in the entryway. It is also posted on our website and has been sent by email to those for whom the office has an email address. *To ensure an article is in the February Epistle, please send an email to the office by **January 23<sup>rd</sup>**!*

## **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 \$99,907.01 to repay Estate Fund & \$8,960.00 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**.

### **THANK YOU:**

Dear Members of St. John's, I want to thank you for remembering me during this Christmas season with your monetary gifts. Your love and support for the past 28 years is truly appreciated! May God bless you all!! Love, Mr. Becker and family.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE:**

Perfect Attendance for December- Pre-K3: August Guebert, Dallin Liefer, Eleanor Liefer, June Russell; Pre-K4: Cash Grohmann, Kane Whelan; Kindergarten: Eve Guebert, Lillian Guebert, Nolan Liefer, Clay Zeller; First Grade: Bennett Buch, Demi Grohmann, Nolan Kassing, Benjamin Langrehr; Third Grade: Jettson Grohmann; Fifth Grade: Amelia Langrehr, Liam Langrehr; Seventh Grade: Natalie Kassing. Thank you for your participation and your dedication to our Sunday School ministry!

### **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:**

12/28- Brenda vanBuren, Linda Koester, Addison Dilley, Bentley Valentine; 12/29- Kevin Miller; 12/30- Edward Wagner, Erin Cowell, Traci Proctor, Jordan Buch, Taylor Stellhorn; 12/31- Reese Foster, Emma Guebert; 1/1- Esther Williams, Jill Henslee, Jeremy Voss, Jackie Aubuchon; 1/2- Julie Moll, Evan Guebert, Tailor Neuhaus; 1/3- Terry Liefer, Alice Guebert, Linda Guebert, Clara Zeller.

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

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

### **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. As we complete this year, we keep in mind that in Christ, we will never finish but simply transfer into the glorious life the Lord has prepared for us. We never let death have the final word, for Jesus has conquered it. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in putting your life-celebrating plan together. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 [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 devil hates little children because he hates the Christ child, who was promised to crush his head (Genesis 3:15). Sadly, his influence can still be seen today in those who, like Herod, see little children as a threat to their authority and aim for their destruction (Matthew 2:16). As we weep with Rachel and her children (Jeremiah 31:15), we also rejoice that by sparing His only-begotten Son from Herod's wrath, God has provided eternal salvation for all the holy innocents—past, present and future—that they too might join in the heavenly song around the throne of God (Revelation 14:3).

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

**Galatians 4:4 – “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law.”** Jesus was born under the law so that He might fulfill the law in our place. His perfect righteousness is credited to us. And it is this free forgiveness of sins and this crediting of righteousness that sets us free to follow our Lord in godly living. Since we are freed from the law's condemnation, we are freed from any mercenary attitudes. Now that the Lord has shown His love to us in saving us, we freely show our thanks to Him in generosity, humility and kindness.

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

Here at KFUE, we celebrate Christmas for all 12 days of the season! From now through January 6th, tune in for special programming featuring sacred music, Scripture readings, and greetings from missionaries and chaplains across the LCMS! As always, you can find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or in the KFUE Radio app.

### **THE LUTHERAN HOUR: “Get Ready for the Best”**

Christ will return—maybe this year, maybe even today! Pastor German Novelli helps us to prepare for the blessings and challenges of a new year. (Luke 12:36-37). 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.

### **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.

**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. Joan Ruwald (8 a.m.) Lector & Children's Message: DCE Bill Becker

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) Alexa Cheek; (8 a.m.) Aiden Kiefer; (10:30 a.m.) Max Voss

Greeters: (5 p.m.) Virginia & Mark Moeller; (8 a.m.) Christine Doerr & Lisa Quinn

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

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

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