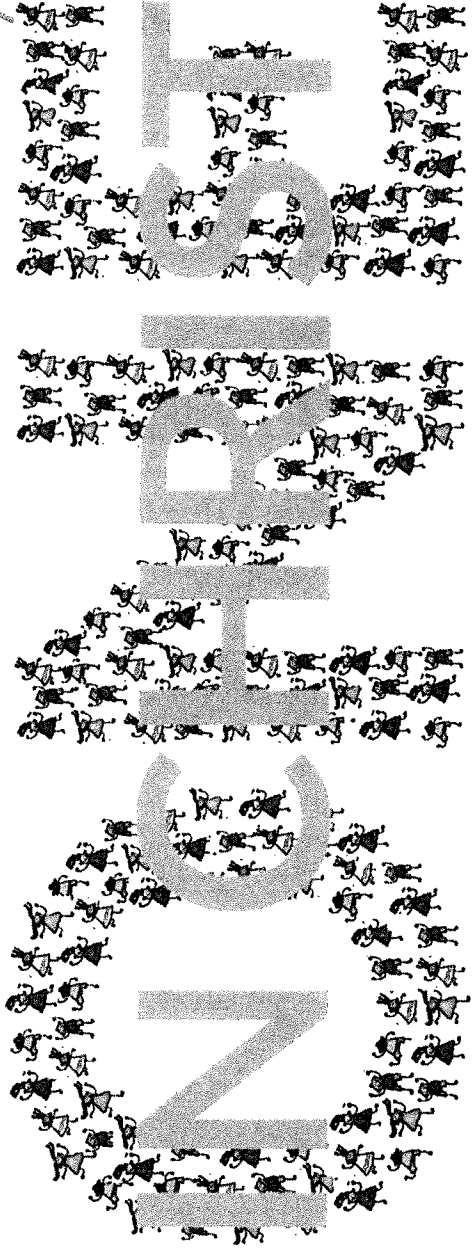


beloved community



for you are one in Christ Jesus

St. John's Lutheran Church - Lakeville

2024

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 1 2024

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

LISTEN ON 92.3 FM

St. John's Lutheran Church • 20165 Heath Avenue • Lakeville MN 55044
952-469-4916 • www.sjlcl.org

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
KIM KYLLO, SENIOR PASTOR
NATHAN LYKE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE: "Savior of the Nations, Come" Hans Klotz (German, 1900-1987)
"Savior of the Nations, Come" Helmut Walcha (German, 1907-1991)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Peace to you in the name of the triune God, the one whose word always accomplishes: the Shaper of Life, the Savior of Humanity, the Spirit of Renewal.

C: Amen.

P: Today, as we confess our sins, we recognize how easily we overlook the gifts God gives. And we accept the sad truth that our limitations often create the conditions for sin.

Silence for meditation.

P: Let us pray.

C: God, we want a faith that feels like more than words, but we lack your power to embody goodness. We hear your call to serve others yet feel too worn out to make the food. We hunger to taste justice but fear the burning spice of the meal. We want our place at your table but resist sitting beside a stranger. We have lost our appetites for mere thoughts and prayers, but we fail to match our intentions to our actions. Forgive us and restore us with the healing wholeness of your presence.

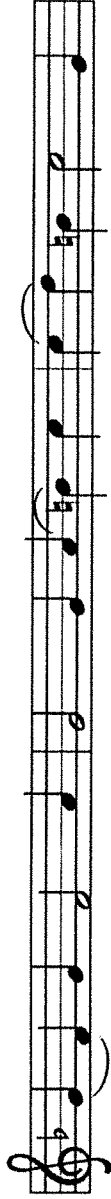
P: My friends, God knows you are imperfect. But God did not invite you here today for what you have done or how you have behaved. God loves you. God always cared much more for you than for your shortcomings. God forgives you all your sins.

C: We accept God's forgiveness. We take our place in God's purpose. Amen.

GATHERING SONG: "Fling Wide the Door" ELW 259



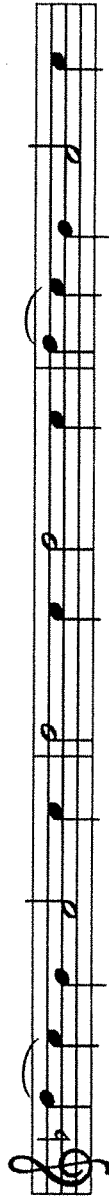
1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior. Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



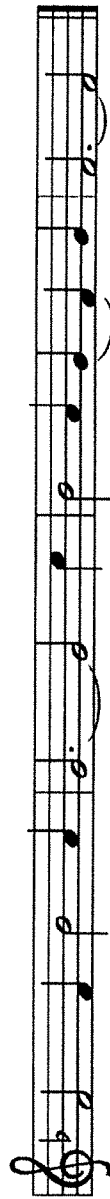
comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
 Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TUR, J. A. Freylinghausen. *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*. 1704
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. admin. Augsburg Fortress

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P: The season of Advent is a time when the long-told tradition of God's faithfulness is met with the hope of promises fulfilled. Each of our Advent candles represents God's generous goodness, the advent of Jesus, God's greatest gift, the Spirit's fluttering flicker of joy. As we light each candle, the old and the new together, the we recognize the gifts God has given us this week. Together, we pray:

P: God, we reach for unreasonable hope;

C: and you prepare an incomparable future.

KYRIE:.....ELW p. 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

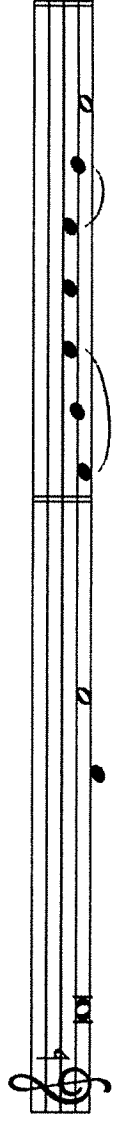
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

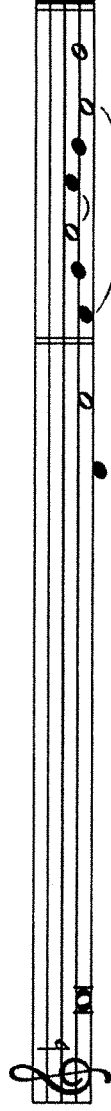
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you
C: **And also with you**

P: Now that the warmth of God's presence fills this place, we pray that the Spirit will illuminate our lives through the words we hear, the songs we sing, and the pathways of prayer engraved on our hearts. We pray:

C: **Spirit, you know how shallow hope feels when our faith hides from what is real. Use your holy story to show us the human moments when you worked wonders for your people, so we can find hope in our lives, too. Amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:14-16

L: A Reading from Jeremiah

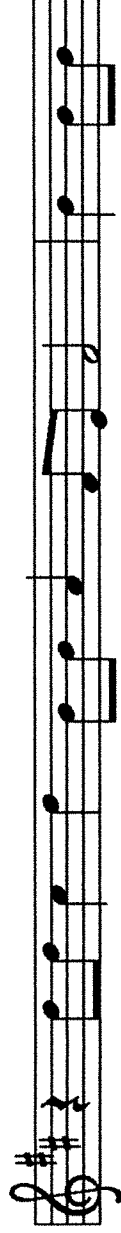
¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

L: The Word of the Lord

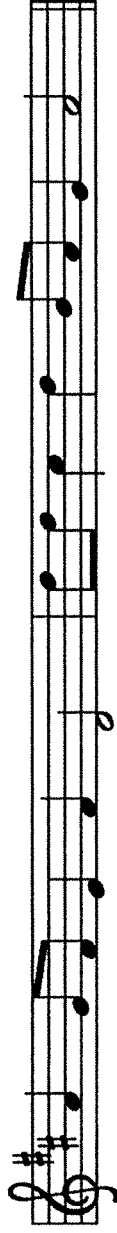
C: **Thanks be to God**

CHILDREN'S SERMON.....Pastor Nathan Lyke

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 21:25-36

L: A reading from the Gospel of Luke

C: **Glory to You, O Lord**

²⁵There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵'like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON "More Than Just Words: Hope" Pastor Kim Kylo

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Christ Be Our Light"

..... ELW 715

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
 Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING MUSIC: (8:30) "Once He Came in Blessing" Sedio
Chancel Choir with Cindy Johannessen on Flute

Anthem Text

Once he came in blessing,
all our ills redressing;
came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
bore the cross to save us;
hope and freedom gave us.

Thus, if you have known him,
not ashamed to own him,
nor have spurned him coldly,
but will trust him boldly,
he will then receive you,
heal you, and forgive you.

Still he comes within us;
still his voice would win us
from the sins that hurt us;
would to truth convert us
from our foolish error
ere he comes in terror.

Those who then are loyal
find a welcome royal.
Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
from our sins release us;
let us here confess you,
till in heav'n we bless you.

(10:30) "Once He Came in Blessing"

Ernst Köhler (Polish, 1799-1847)

GIVE WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE please scan this QR code or text "give"
to 218-210-7853 and click the link

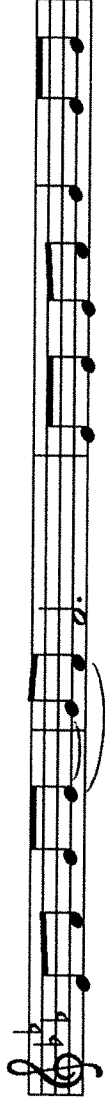
The pink envelopes in December support The Open Door. As the largest food shelf in Dakota County, the Open Door serves roughly 14,000 Dakota County residents each month through a combination of innovative programs.



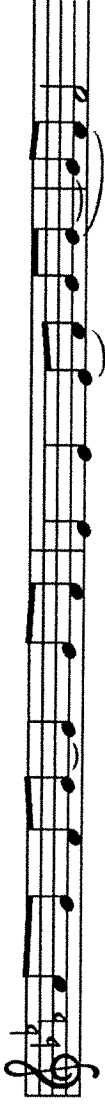
OFFERTORY: "Create In Me a Clean Heart O God" ELW 185



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



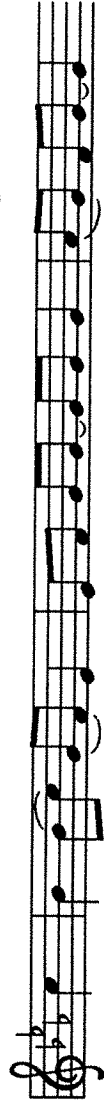
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Together we pray. Holy Spirit, please bless these small gifts we give.

C: **You set the table with plenty of love.**

P: Prepare room in your home

C: **for my neighbor and me.**

P: Prepare a place in your vision

C: **for my neighbor and me.**

P: Prepare a seat at your table

C: **for my neighbor and me.**

P: Holy Spirit, you have blessed these gifts we give.

C: **You set the table with plenty of love. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PETITION RESPONSE:

P: In hope we pray

C:

1 The Lord is my hope, the Lord is my hope.

hope, the Lord is my hope.

From *Hear Our Prayer: Prayer Responses for Choir and Assembly*, © 2007 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
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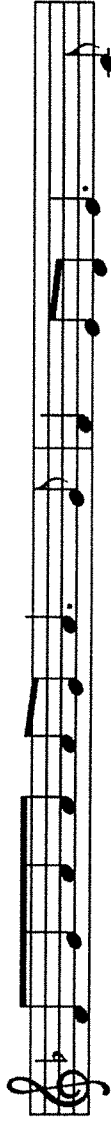
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER.....ELW p. 145

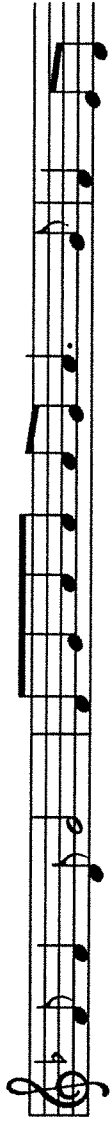
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

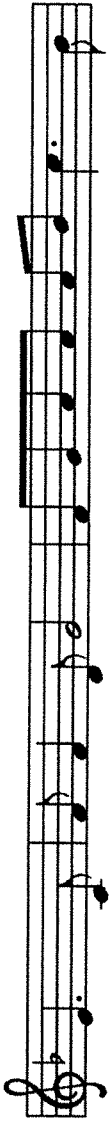
DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "Lamb of God" ELW p. 146



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

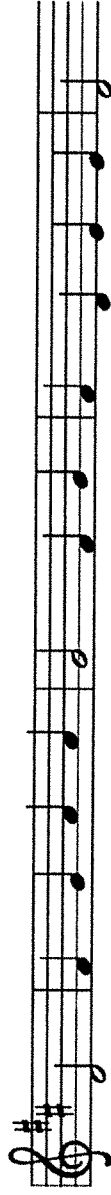


world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

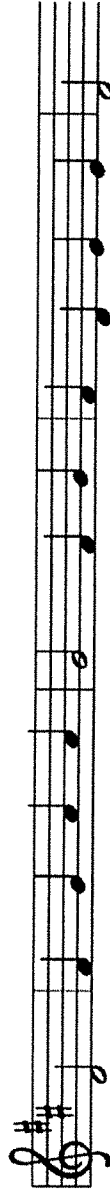


sin of the world; grant us peace.

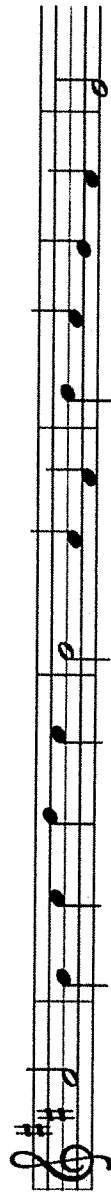
DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" ELW 241



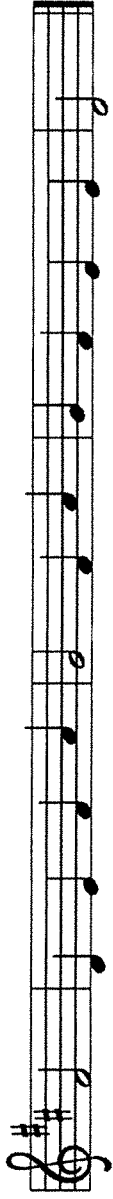
- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
- 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
- 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
- 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty,
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

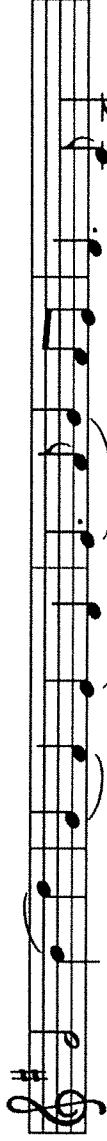
Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite
 Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

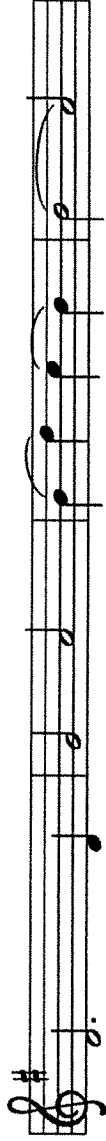
P: God, what you have planned for us unfolds slowly. Your love is often unrecognized, unappreciated, gentle and unnoticed. But in this place, we have noticed what others do not see. We have tasted your unspoken goodness. And now we will magnify your love, in Jesus' name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

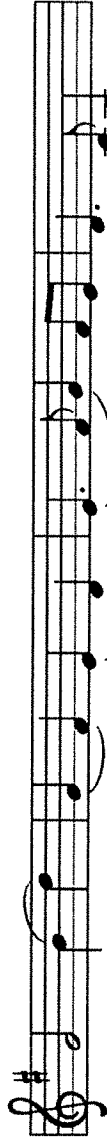
CLOSING HYMN: "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"ELW 435



1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,




once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn e - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take pow'r and glo - ry,

Announcements:

1. No ACE today.
2. Altar Flowers today are given by Al and Bonnie Voegele
3. Christmas Festival Concert - *Healing: of the Nations*
Join the National Lutheran Choir at the beautiful Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis for the Christmas Festival tradition. This year's program, *Healing: of the Nations*, seeks to bring a beacon of hope to all who open their hearts and listen. Concerts will be held on December 13 & 14. Tickets at NLCA.com.
4. **Sunday, December 8 David Cherwien** – will be sharing his music in worship and then leading an Advent Hymn Festival at 4pm. In addition to being a nationally known composer, arranger and conductor, Dr. Cherwien is known for these unique events which weave together a blend of song and spoken word in a profound interactive presentation. If you've not had a chance to attend one of his hymn festivals before, you will want to take part in this! Our choir will also be collaborating that day.
5. **2025 Offering Intent (Pledge) Cards** have been mailed to the whole congregation in late September. Please prayerfully consider how you might participate in our 2024 theme "Growing in Generosity" and tangibly grow your own generosity in the coming year. You can still submit your "2025 Offering Intent" (Pledge) cards to God in gratitude for all that God has and continues to do for us. There are extra ones on the table in the Narthex if you still need one.

2025
Pledge
Card
6. **Thursday Morning Small Groups:**
Paper Crafters Small Group - 1st Thursdays, 9 am - 2 pm
Quilters Small Group - 2nd & 3rd Thursdays, 9 am - 2 pm
Stitchers Small Group - 4th Thursdays, 9-11 am
7. **Mary Breakfast Bunch Small Group**
Facilitator: Jackie Knauff
Meets: 1st Tuesday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next December 3**
Where: Cracker Barrel, Lakeville
8. **Hannah Women's Study Small Group**
Facilitator: Ruth Weber
Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30am from September through June. Contact Ruth for details.
Where: St. John's
Topic: A study of other religions and other faiths, with fellowship and treats. The study group is open to women of all ages and backgrounds.
9. **Dementia Caregivers Support Group**
If you are a family member or caregiver to someone experiencing Alzheimer's disease, join us for this small group, where you'll find an open environment for sharing feelings,

thoughts, and experiences to better cope with and manage the shared problems of dementia.

Facilitators: Pastor Kim Kylo & Lola Amendt (of Highview Hills)

Meets: Once/month, 10:00-11:00am on the 2nd Thursday of the month we **meet next on December 12.**

Where: Highview Hills

10. During November Pink Envelope designated gifts will support the Open Door Food Pantry if you would like to make a financial gift - above & beyond your general offering to support the Open Door, please contribute your gift in a pink envelope in the offering plate or by giving online. If you choose to give online, select "Pink Envelope" under "Give To," and write "Open Door" in the memo line. Your generosity is making a difference!
11. More Than Just Lunch will be heading to the Union Depot in St. Paul on **December 13th** for a tour of the historic depot. This building was started in 1921 and after several fires, completed in 1926. It was a destination for immigrants from the east as well as a stop for the orphan train which brought children to homes in Minnesota. The cost for the tour is \$10. After the tour we will have lunch at the 1881 restaurant in the depot. After lunch there will be an opportunity to stroll through the European Market, weather permitting. **We will meet at church at 9:15am.**
12. **Men's Monday Breakfast Small Group**
Facilitator: Peter Gudel (contact: pigudel@gmail.com)
Meets: 3rd Monday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next December 16.**
Where: Perkins in Lakeville
Would you like to spend time chatting with old friends or get to know other men from St. John's? Gather with us at Perkins for fellowship and food.
13. **Everyday Bible Conversations (EBC's).** Every week, we look for God in our Everyday Lives with a video and devotions based on the week's Gospel, wherever we happen to be.

These weekly messages include a 3–5-minute video (available on St. John's YouTube channel, and through the website and app), as well as a one-page devotional that summarizes the reading, asks a few questions, and encourages an action step for the week to come. If you would like to access EBC, but need help, please ask Candy in the church office. And let's go find God!!
14. Muhanga Student Scholarship Giving Opportunities
As you may be aware, St. John's congregation provides a significant number of student scholarships for our companion congregation in Muhanga. With this assistance, many eager children are able to continue their education. These scholarships are vital to the adolescents of Muhanga in helping them reach their full educational potential. If you are interested in providing scholarship assistance, please contact any member of the Church Staff or Global Missions Committee, or simply place your donation in the offering plate in an envelope with both your check & the envelope clearly marked

MUHANGA SCHOLARSHIP. A single scholarship for 2025 is \$400 and provides for a full year of education. However, any fractional amount is perfectly acceptable and very much appreciated. **Please let us know of your commitment now. Funds need to be received in the church office by December 15.**

15.

Life Line Screening will be here at St John's Lutheran Church Lakeville on Saturday, December 14, 2024 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these health screenings today. Please refer to the attached flyer to get more info about how you can sign up. There is no time like the present to take action!

Three ways to register:

- **Call toll-free: 1-888-814-0466** promo code HSCA001
- **Online: <https://www.lsa.social/hasca>**
- **Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607**

16.

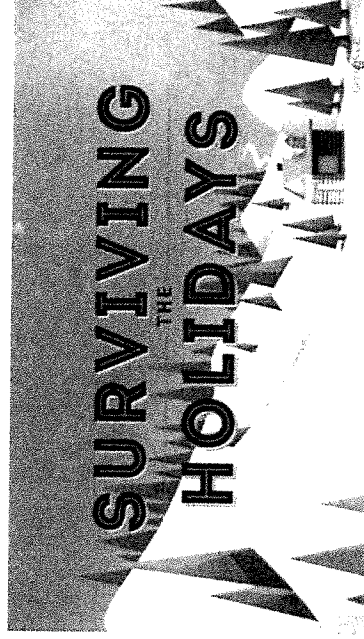
Sunday, December 15 *Laura Pettis Piano Students Recital* – St. John's will host the piano recital for the students of Laura Pettis. The group is split into two times, 4pm and 5:30pm. You are welcome to attend one or both.

Surviving the Holidays: Grief Support Event December 9th at 6:30 pm

Facilitators: Lisa Horn, Judy Strand, Heather Theel, Pastor Kim Kyllö

When: Monday, December 9th at 6:30 pm at St. John's

Event Description: While the holiday season can be filled with merriment and cheer, for many of us who are grieving a loved one, the holidays can be uncomfortable and filled with sadness. Especially if you are surrounded by people who seem overly joyful, the holidays can feel hard or even impossible for a grieving person. If you are hoping to simply get through these next weeks, join us for this one-night "Surviving the Holidays" grief support event. Come, experience a momentary reprieve and be with other people who get it. All are welcome. Child care **MAY** be available, upon request. Scan the QR code to register.



December Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 1 - Advent 1 "*More than Just Words: Hope*" Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 and 10:30 am

Wednesday, December 4 - Restorative Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 8 - Advent 2 "*More than Just Words: Peace*" Worship with Guest Musician: David Cherwein

Wednesday, December 11 - Restorative Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 15 - Advent 3 "*More than Just Words: Joy*" Worship with Holy Communion, with the Sunday School Christmas Program at 10:30 am only

Wednesday, December 18 - Restorative Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 22 - Advent 4 "*More than Just Words: Love*" Worship

Tuesday, December 24 - "*Good News of Great Joy*" Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion and candlelight at 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 pm. Childcare available in the nursery at 3 and 5pm.

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day Worship at 10:00 am

Sunday, December 29 - 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship at 10:00 am, with Carols You Love to Sing

Those Serving Today:

Organist.....Karen Olson
Lector Kathy Ziller (8:30), Erin Boerschel (10:30)
Usher Team Leader John Hartwig (8:30), Erin Boerschel (10:30)
Acolyte..... (8:30), (10:30)
Crucifer..... (8:30), Brody Fitzke (10:30)
Communion Set Up and Clean Up..... Kathy Comer
Communion Servers..... Danny Barth, Lowell Grimm, Jeanne Hartwig (8:30)
Amanda Boe, Carolyn Metcalf, Charlotte Wolfgram (10:30)
Sound Tech Dan Nelson (8:30), Thomas Milbradt (10:30)
Clicker TeamKatie Henning (8:30), Christie Wright (10:30)
Livestream Team..... Francine Capasso (8:30), (10:30)
Worship Coordinator Amanda Boe (8:30), Christie Wright (10:30)
Coffee ServersMark and Jo Knutson

Those Serving Next Week:

Organist..... Priscilla Thoreen
Lector (8:30), Kay Halvorson (10:30)
Usher Team Leader Perry Fuerniss (8:30), Lowell Grimm (10:30)
Junior Usher..... (8:30), (10:30)
Acolyte..... (8:30), (10:30)
Crucifer..... (8:30), (10:30)
Sound Tech Brandon Wright (8:30), Rich Garlock (10:30)
Clicker Team (8:30), Lynn Coldren (10:30)
Livestream Team.....Francine Capasso (8:30), (10:30)
Worship Coordinator Dan Nelson (8:30), (10:30)
Coffee Servers Dan and Kris Nelson

St. John's Staff

Senior Pastor: Kim Killo, pastorkim@sjcl.org • Associate Pastor: Nathan Lyke, pastornathan@sjcl.org
Children, Youth and Family Director: Amanda Boe, amanda@sjcl.org
Financial Analyst: Tyra Wiemann, tyra@sjcl.org • Vacation Bible School Coordinator: Elisa Brown
Director of Music: Roxanne Litchfield, roxanne@sjcl.org • Children's Music Director: Malynda Riehle
Office Manager: Candy Nordine, candy@sjcl.org • Facilities Care: Butch Oswald