

beloved community



for you are one in Christ Jesus

St. John's Lutheran Church - Lakeville

2024

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**DECEMBER 22 2024**

**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

**FOURTH 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](http://www.sjlcl.org)

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

**PRELUDE:** *"The Angel Gabriel"* ..... arr. Paul Manz  
*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* ..... arr. H. Alexander Matthews

**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.**

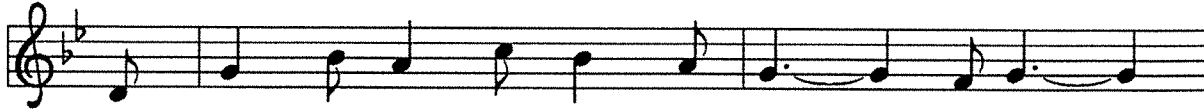
P: My friends, God knows you are imperfect. But God did not invite you here today for what you have done or how you have behaved. God loves you. God always cared much more for you than for your shortcomings. God forgives you all your sins.

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

**GATHERING SONG: "The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came" ..... ELW 265**



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould. 1834-1924  
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE. Basque carol

**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.**

P: God, we breathe in your peaceful refuge,  
C: for you have made a place where we can safely rest.

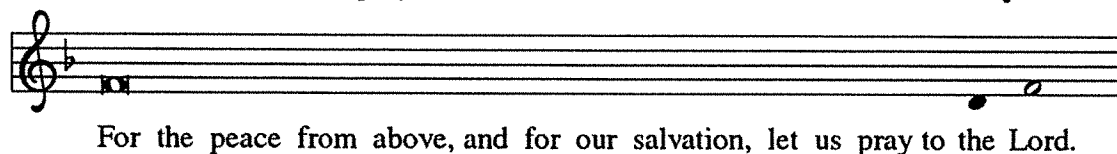
P: Joy ebbs and flows each day, holy God.  
C: so we pray to you in honesty.

P: Your love grows unseen, holy God;  
C: we prepare for you every day.

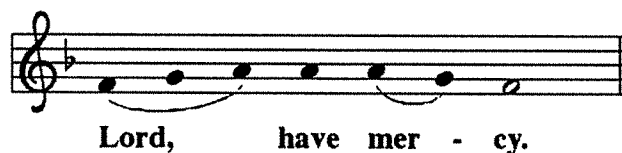
KYRIE: .....ELW p. 138



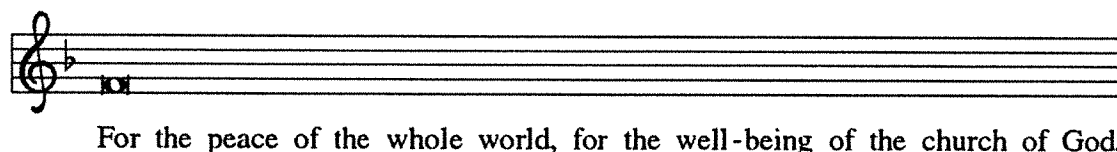
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



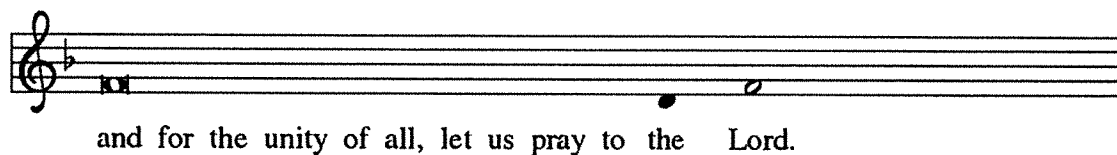
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



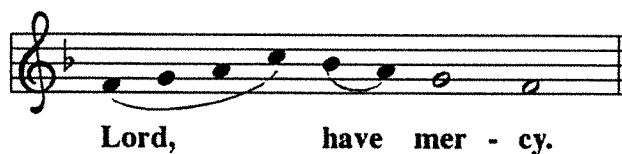
Lord, have mer - cy.



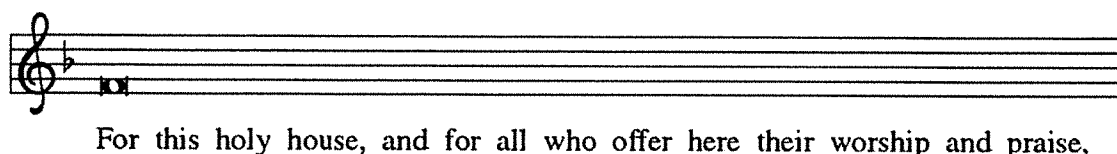
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



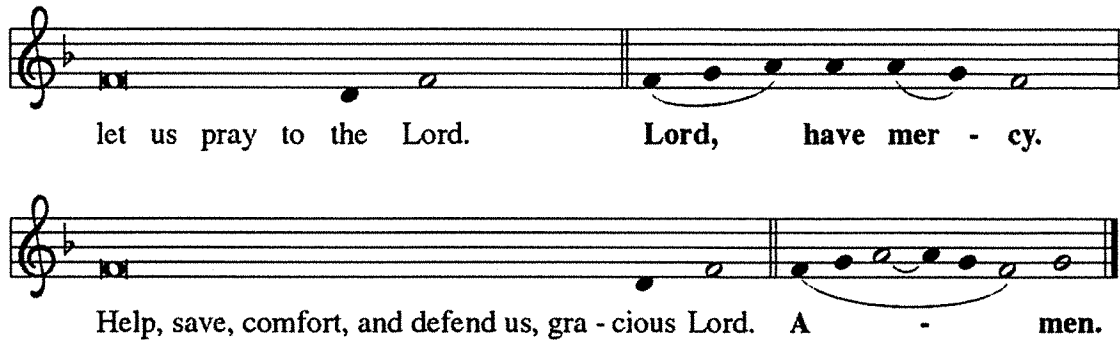
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



## 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 paths of prayer engraved on our hearts. We pray:

C: **Jesus, you shape the world around us, even when you remain just out of sight. As we listen today, help us prepare our lives for you with loving anticipation. Amen.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

L: A Reading from Micah

2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
 from you shall come forth for me  
 one who is to rule in Israel,  
 whose origin is from of old,  
 from ancient days.

3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
 then the rest of his kindred shall return  
 to the people of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
 to the ends of the earth;

5a and he shall be the one of peace.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

**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 1:39-45**

L: A reading from the Gospel of Luke

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

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

P: The Gospel of our Lord

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

**SERMON** *"More Than Just Words: Love"*..... Pastor Nathan Lyke

HYMN OF THE DAY: "People Look East" ..... ELW 248



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
 Music: BESANÇON, French carol  
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (10:30)**

**APOSTLES CREED (8:30)**

**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) "O Holy Night" .....Adolphe Adam  
Hannah Walker, Soloist**

Anthem Text

Verse 1

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn  
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!

Verse 2

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming  
Here come the Wise Men from Orient land  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger

In all our trials born to be our friend  
He knows our need, to our weakness is no  
stranger  
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend  
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend

Verse 3

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His Gospel is Peace  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we  
Let all within us Praise His Holy name  
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!  
His power and glory evermore proclaim  
His power and glory evermore proclaim

**(10:30) "Lost In the Night" ..... arr. Kyle S. Haugen  
Chancel Choir with Savannah Halvorson, soloist**

Anthem Text

Verse 1

Lost in the night do the people yet languish, Long-  
ing for morning the darkness to vanquish, Plain-  
tively heaving a sigh full of anguish.  
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?

Verse 2

Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall  
those who have light no light let us borrow,  
Giving not heed to our burden of sorrow?  
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Verse 3

Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling,  
dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,  
Death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling.  
Christ is coming soon, Christ is coming soon!

Will not day come soon? Come and save us soon!  
Christ is coming soon!



**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 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, the Lord is my hope.

From *Hear Our Prayer: Prayer Responses for Choir and Assembly*, © 2007 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reproduced by permission for non-sale local use only.

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.

BENEDICTION "Soon and Very Soon".....Traditional  
 Gospel Choir

CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World" .....ELW 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Music: ANTIOCH. English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## DISMISSAL


P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: **And also with you**

P: We now encourage you to share the Peace of God with others as you leave.

POSTLUDE: *"People Look East"* .....arr. Jerry Westen Kuehler

## Announcements:

1. ACE today: "ACE in the New Year!" Join Pastor Nathan and the Christian Education Team as we brainstorm, discuss and dream of what topics and areas of focus could be part of Adult Christian Education in 2025.
2. **2025 Offering Intent (Pledge) Cards** were 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
3. **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
4. **Mary Breakfast Bunch Small Group**  
**Facilitator:** Jackie Knauff  
**Meets:** 1st Tuesday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next January 7th.**  
**Where:** Cracker Barrel, Lakeville
5. **Hannah Women's Study Small Group**  
**Facilitator:** Ruth Weber  
**Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30am** from September through June. **(We will not meet in January).** 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.
6. **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 January 9th.**  
**Where:** Highview Hills
7. During December, 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!
8. **Year-end Updates:**  
All offerings received by 12/31/2024 by 4:00 p.m. or postmarked 12/31/2024 will be

recorded as a 2024 gift. All offerings received after 12/31/2024 will be recorded as a 2025 gift. If you have any questions Contact Tyra ([tyra@sjlcl.org](mailto:tyra@sjlcl.org)) or 952-469-6322.

9. More Than Just Lunch in January will be going for lunch on January 21st at Bourbon Butcher in Farmington. We will meet at church at 11:00 for the short drive to Farmington. Our hope is that those attending will come with some suggestions for this year's tours, as well as, what you liked or didn't like about the tours you have been a part of.

10. **Men's Monday Breakfast Small Group**

Facilitator: Peter Gudel (contact: [pjgudel@gmail.com](mailto:pjgudel@gmail.com))

Meets: 3rd Monday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next January 20th.**

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.

11. **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!!

12. **Raise Right Gift Cards:** We support the school in Muhanga Tanzania with this gift card fundraising program. It is as easy as 1. 2. 3. **1. Shop** with a gift card you purchase from the Raise Right table at church or shop online across hundreds of popular brands. **2. Earn funds** while you shop. Instantly earn with every purchase (6% average, up to 20%). **3. Allocate the earnings.** St John's distributes the funds to support the programs in Muhanga. Gift cards are available in the Narthex today between services.

## Good News of Great Joy! Christmas Worship Schedule

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

**Wednesday, December 25** - Christmas Day Worship at 10:00 am with Holy Communion and Full Liturgy

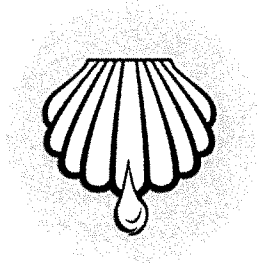
**Sunday, December 29** - 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship at 10:00 am, with Carols You Love to Sing



## **Thank you to all who provided poinsettias for our Sanctuary this Christmas**

- The Antolik Family in memory of John Antolik
- The Boerschel Family in honor of the St. John's Staff
- Phil and Rollie Brandt in honor of our kids and in memory of our parents
- Jerry and Leann Bright in honor of our grandchildren and in memory of our parents
- Don Cross and family in memory of Mary Cross
- Nancy Cross in memory of the Cross family
- The Dougall Family in memory of Jim and Nancy Dougall and Bernard and Dorothy Jalowiec
- Doreen Enggren in memory of loved ones
- Perry and Cindy Fuerniss in honor of our children James and Anna, and in memory of our grandparents
- Jay and Bonnie Fredrickson in memory of Norma, Pat, Art, G.G., Wayne Fredrickson and Joe and Ciel Malecha
- Kathleen Gilmer in honor of husband and family and in memory of Roger Gilmer
- Alan and Mary Gregersen in memory of our parents
- Grove family in memory of Drew and great grandma GG
- John and Jan Hack in memory of Tony, Bergette and Brett Hack
- Paul Hammer in memory of Diane Hammer
- Kathleen Harter in memory of my husband and my family
- Sonja Jarosh in memory of Bernie, Robert Jarosh and Ann Marie Bollinger
- Thomas and Brenda Lardy in honor of our children, Justin and Kate and in memory of Tom's mother, Pat
- Jeff and Kim Larson in memory of Arlys and Ken Larson, and Terry Zweber
- Lawler family in memory of Net Svela
- Phyllis Luckman in memory of Robert and Verna Luckman and Mae Barnes
- John and Diane MacGibbon in memory of our Kelsey MacGibbon
- Corey and Nancy Martin in honor of Kathy Harter
- LeRoy and Nancy Martinson in memory of parents, brother and son-in-law
- John and Judy Miller in memory of our parents, and in honor of our children
- Linda Moe in memory of Marvin M. Moe
- Roger and Marilyn Moller in memory of our parents, Albert and Irene Moller, Lester and Arleen Hansen
- Kris and Dan Nelson in honor of Erica Nelson

- Marilyn Oxley in honor of all family and friends
- Cory and Jan Paulsen in honor of our family
- Bob Rustvold in memory of my father, mother and son and in honor of my children and grandchildren
- Randy and Nancy Schmitz in memory of Randy's parents, Louie and Jean Schmitz, and Nancy's parents, Joe and Norma Betlach
- Doug Scheurenbrand in memory of Laurel, Fritz and Peter
- Steve and Laurie Simonsen in memory of LeRoy and Delores Pederson and Robert and Joanne Simonsen
- Gary and Judy Stinar in memory of our parents
- Theel family in memory of Grandma Debbie and Uncle Nate
- Char Torgrimson in memory of my husband, parents-in-law, two grandkids and brother-in-law and in honor of my 3 daughters and husbands, friends and 6 grand kids
- Nikki Walsh
- Larry and Liz Westfield in memory of loved ones
- Phil and Chris Wolf in honor of our grandchildren
- Dan Wolter in memory of L.K. "Swede" Wolter and in honor of Lois A. Wolter
- Kathy Ziller in honor of my children and grandchildren
- The Zwart family in memory of Adam and Zwart and Carol Zwart



Baptized today at the 10:30 service today is

**Owen Joseph Tacheny**

Son of Travis and Caroline Tacheny

Owen's sponsors are:

Sierra Bonine and Zach Bonine

Welcome, Owen to the family of God

## Those Serving Today:

Organist..... Priscilla Thoreen  
Lector ..... Elisa Brown (8:30), Scott Vial (10:30)  
Usher Team Leader ..... Jeff Larson (8:30), Wright/Olson families (10:30)  
Junior Usher..... (8:30), (10:30)  
Acolyte ..... (8:30), Bryce Baur (10:30)  
Crucifer..... (8:30), (10:30)  
Sound Tech..... Todd Kylo (8:30), Dan Nelson (10:30)  
Clicker Team.....Katie Henning (8:30), (10:30)  
Livestream Team ..... Francine Capasso (8:30), (10:30)  
Worship Coordinator ..... Val Altendorfer (8:30), Peter and Pam Haukoos (10:30)  
Coffee Servers ..... John and Jeanne Hartwig

## Those serving on Tuesday:

Lector.....Barry Fick (3:00), Barry Fick (5:00), Scott Vial (7:00)  
Vocal Duet.....Arin Kylo and Todd Kylo (7:00)  
Communion Clean Up.....Jeanne Hartwig (3:00), Kathy Ziller (5:00), Lynn Coldren (7:00)  
Communion Servers.....Elisa Brown, Amanda Boe, Lowell Grimm, Jeanne Hartwig,  
John Hartwig, Barry Fick (3:00),  
Kathy Ziller, Kristie Winkels, Kris Nelson, Barry Fick, Elisa Brown, Amanda Boe (5:00),  
Kristi Paulson, Eric Engwall, Lynn Coldren, Jenni Tange, Amanda Boe, Scott Vial (7:00)  
Usher team leader ..... Don Knauff (3:00), Jeff Winkels (5:00), Brad Paulson (7:00)  
Acolyte..... Ellorie Jacobs (3:00), Dominic Williamschen (5:00), Ben Beukelman (7:00)  
Crucifer ..... Rhett Conover (3:00), (5:00), JJ Beukelman (7:00)  
Sound Tech ..... Francine Capasso (3:00), Rich Garlock (5:00), Dave Coldren (7:00)  
Clicker Team ..... Francine Capasso (3:00), (5:00), (7:00)  
Livestream Team..... Francine Capasso (3:00)  
Worship Coordinator ..... John Hartwig (3:00), Jeff Winkels (5:00), Jenni Tange (7:00)

## St. John's Staff

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