



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024**

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

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**LISTEN ON 92.3 FM**

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

**PRELUDE:** *"Comfort, Comfort Now My People".....* Georg Bohm (German, 1661-1773)  
Chorale and Variations II, IX, X

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (8:30) *"Prepare the Way of the Lord".....* Taize  
Chancel Choir

**GATHERING SONG:** *"O Come, O Come Immanuel".....* ELW 257  
The original text has been revised to correspond to texts for Advent, Year A by Barbara K. Lundblad

- 1      O come, O come, Immanuel,  
         and ransom captive Israel,  
         that mourns in lonely exile here  
         until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:*

**Rejoice, rejoice! Take heart and do not fear,  
God's chosen one Immanuel draws near.**

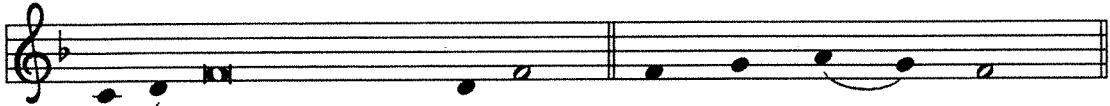
- 2      O come, O King of nations, come,  
         O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
         refresh the hearts that long for you;  
         restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

- 3      O come, strong branch of Jesse, free  
         Your own from Satan's tyranny;  
         Forge justice for the poor and the meek,  
         Grant safety for the young ones and the weak. *Refrain*

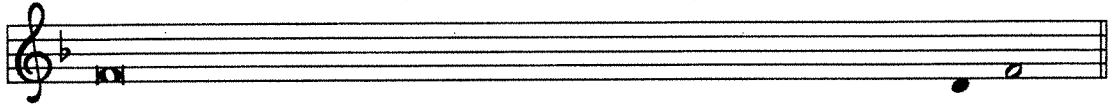
**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**P:** Dear God, In the height of our Advent walk, give us the courage to make room for Joy.

**C:** Joy in the face of apathy, Joy in the face of sorrow, Joy in the face of uncertainty. Amen



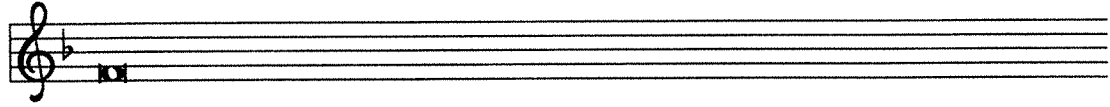
P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mer - cy.



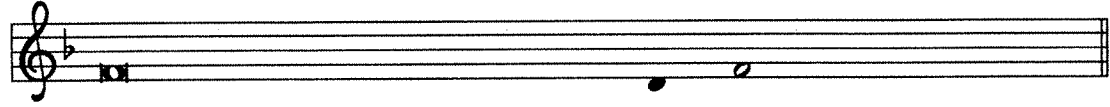
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.



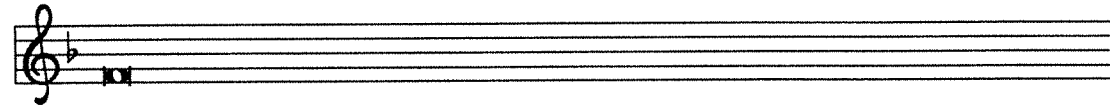
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



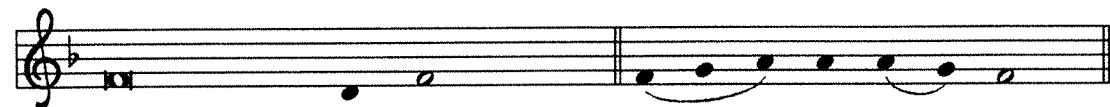
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



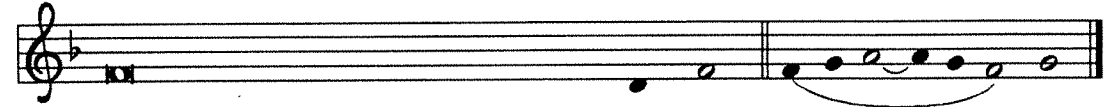
C: Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mer - cy.



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C:** O God, the light to all who are stuck in darkness, increase our joy. Lift the burdens of sorrow and suffering we carry, that our weary hearts may find relief that joy still glows within us. Enable us to bear with others in their burdens, so that joy may expand among us as we await the birth of Christ. Amen.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to invite someone to view the livestream of this service, scan this QR code and share the link.



## MUHANGA CLINIC APPEAL VIDEO

**THE 10:30 SERVICE CONTINUES ON PAGE 10**

**READING: "Mary"**..... Susan Paulo Cherwien  
Pastor Kim Kylo

**VOCAL DUET: "The Snow Lay on the Ground"** ..... arr. William Cutter  
Katie Pelletier & Roxanne Litchfield, Cynthia Johannessen, Flute

Anthem Text

1. The snow lay on the ground, the star shown bright  
When Christ, our Lord, was born on Christmas Night.  
Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum  
(Come ye, that may adore the Lord.)

2. 'Twas Mary, Virgin pure, of holy Anne  
that brought into this world the God made man.  
Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum

## GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:67-80

**P:** A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

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

<sup>67</sup> Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

<sup>68</sup> "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a mighty savior for us  
in the house of his child David,

<sup>70</sup> as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

<sup>71</sup> that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

<sup>72</sup> Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors

and has remembered his holy covenant;  
<sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,  
 to grant us  
<sup>74</sup> that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,  
 might serve him without fear,  
<sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness  
 in his presence all our days.  
<sup>76</sup> And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,  
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
<sup>77</sup> to give his people knowledge of salvation  
 by the forgiveness of their sins.  
<sup>78</sup> Because of the tender mercy of our God,  
 the dawn from on high will break upon us,  
<sup>79</sup> to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
 to guide our feet into the way of peace.”  
<sup>80</sup> The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the  
 day he appeared publicly to Israel.

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *“Song of Zechariah”*..... Nettleton  
 Stanza 1, Chancel Choir, Stanzas 2 & 3, All

Anthem Text

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Blest be God, the Lord of Israel; He has come to set us free. And a horn of full salvation He has raised from David's seed. God has visited His people to redeem them as foretold. In the promise He had spoken thro' his prophets from of old.</p> | <p>promised in His cove'nant to our fathers whom He chose. He will keep his oath to Abr'am to release us from our woes.</p>  |
| <p>2. God has come in might to save us from the hatred of our foes. From their cruel hand He frees us, and His tender mercy shows. Mercy</p>  | <p>3. Bring the knowledge of salvation to God's people in their sin. Preach that God is tenderhearted, and by Him are sins forgiv'n. His great mercy, like the sunrise, brightly shines in deepest night. Guiding those who sit in darkness to the way of peace and light.</p> |

**VOCAL SOLO:** *"How Far is it to Bethlehem?"* ..... Trad. Czech Carol, arr. Maddox  
Nikki Walsh, soloist

Anthem Text

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far.<br>May we find the stable room lit by a star?<br>Can we see the little child? Is he within?<br>If we lift the wooden latch may we go in? | If we touch his tiny hand will he awake?<br>Will he know we've come so far just for his sake?  |
| 2. May we stroke the creatures there, ox, ass, or<br>sheep?<br>May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?  | 3. Great Kings have precious gifts and we have<br>naught,<br>Little smiles and little tears are all we've brought.<br>For all weary children Mary must weep,<br>here on his bed of straw, sleep children, sleep. |

**READING:** *"Advent"* ..... Susan Paulo Cherwien  
Pastor Nathan Lyke

**READING:** *"Three Parts to the Season"* ..... Susan Paulo Cherwien  
Pastor Kim Kylo

**OFFERING MUSIC:** *"Once He Came in Blessing"* ..... Sedio  
Chancel Choir

Anthem Text

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Once he came in blessing, all our sins<br>redressing; Came in likeness lowly, Son of God<br>most holy; Bore the cross to save us; hope and free-<br>dom gave us.      | 3. Thus if we have known him, not ashamed to own<br>him, nor have spurned him coldly, but will trust him<br>boldly, He will then receive you, heal you, and for-<br>give you. |
| 2. Still he comes within us; still his voice would win<br>us from the sins that hurt us; would to truth convert<br>us, From our foolish error ere he<br>comes in terror. | 4. Those who then are loyal find a welcome royal.<br>Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us;<br>let us here confess you, till in heav'n we bless you.             |

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or text "give" to 218-210-7853 and click the link



Pink Envelopes in December are for The Open Door

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

## PETITION RESPONSE:

P: In hope we pray....

C:

1 The Lord is my joy, the Lord is my  
joy, the Lord is my joy,

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## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

P: Come to the table, for it is God's table and it is God who beckons you here. Come to the table, for it is God who provides this meal, and God who gladly makes room at this table *for you*. Come to the table, for even when the world declares there is not enough room for you, our God delights in extending the table to ensure there is more than enough space, more than enough food, more than enough faith, and more than enough hope for each and every one of us. In sharing this meal together, may we proclaim the abundance of God's goodness for us and for the whole world. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "*Lamb of God*".....ELW 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.

**FLUTE SOLO:** "*O Come, O Come, Immanuel*" .....Anne Krentz  
Cynthia Johannessen, Flute

"*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*" ..... Rebecca R. Kramer (American, 20th Century)

## BENEDICTION

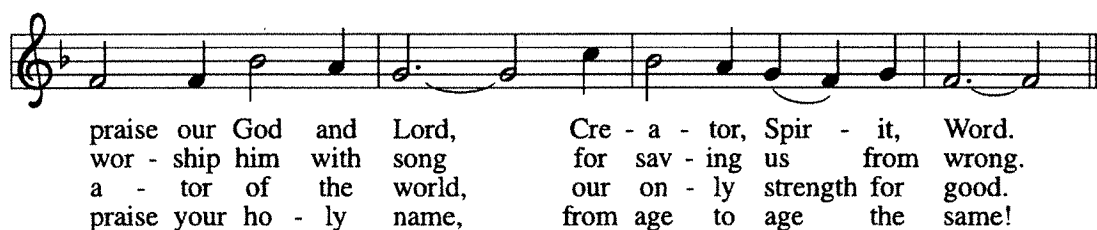
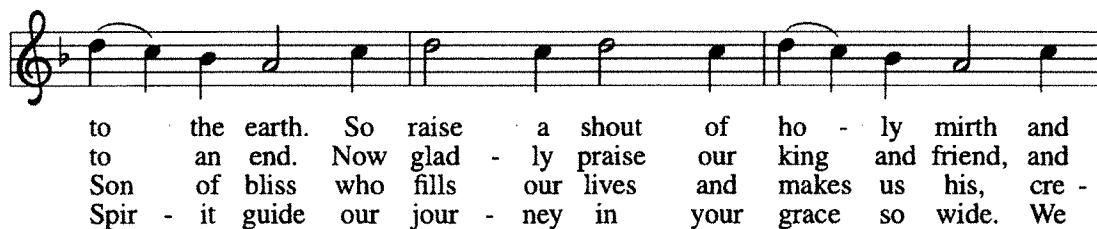
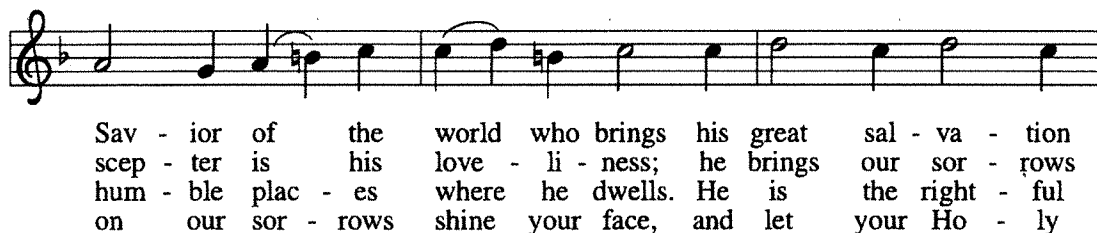
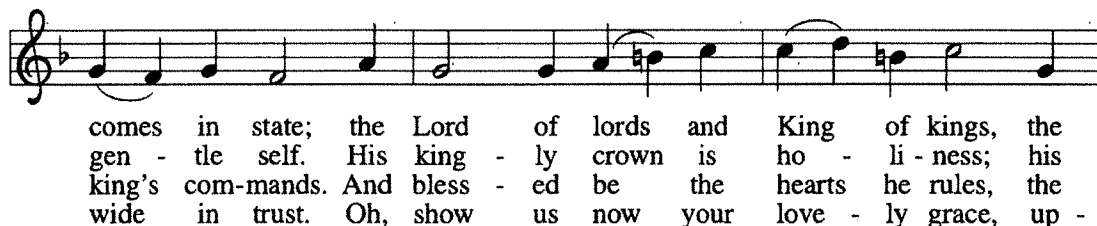
P: The Joy of God,  
which surpasses all understanding,  
keep your hearts and your minds  
in ✠ Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen**

**SENDING SONG:** "*Fling Wide the Door*".....ELW 258  
Stanzas 1, 3 & 4

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





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

## 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:** "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" .....David Thorne (British, b. 1950)

## THE 10:30 SERVICE CONTINUES

OFFERING "Away in a Manger".....ELW 278

Addie Tacheny, Piano Solo

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High".....ELW 289



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
Music: GLORIA, French carol

**Manger Tales – From Children's Ministry Curriculum**  
edited for St. John's by Malynda Riehle

**The Manger Tales** will create a morning of joyful worship, playful presentation, and fresh examination into the story of Jesus' birth. We've all heard the stories of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the wise men, but what about the others who were there when Jesus was born? Manger tales will introduce you to the animals that were there, from the residents of the stable to visitors from afar. As each animal pays a visit to a TV talk show, we will see the Christmas story through their eyes and get a fresh perspective on the wonder of Christmas. No matter how dark our world may be, there is still a star shining bright to light our way back to Christ.

**SCENE:** Morning TV Talk Show Dialogue

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 1:18-25

**SONG:** "What Child is This?" ..... ELW 296  
Stanzas 1 & 2, Fourth Grade Singers, Stanza 3, Congregation



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

**SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-7**

**SONG: "Silent Night, Holy Night".....ELW 281**  
Stanzas 1 & 2, First Grade Singers, Stanza 3, Congregation

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885  
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

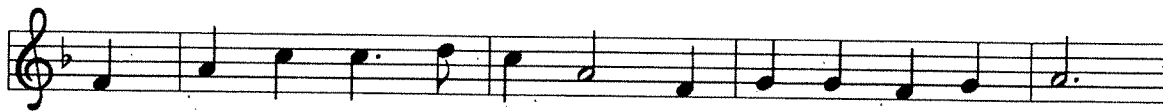
**SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:8-20**

**SONG: "Go Tell it on the Mountain".....ELW 290**  
Stanzas 1, 2, Second & Third Grade Singers, Stanza 3, Congregation

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

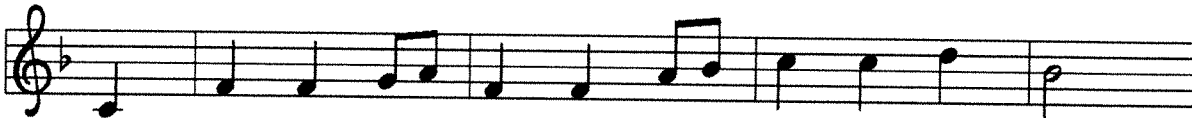
**SONG: "Away in a Manger".....ELW 278**  
Stanzas 1 & 2, Pre-K & Kindergarten Singers, Stanza 3, Congregation



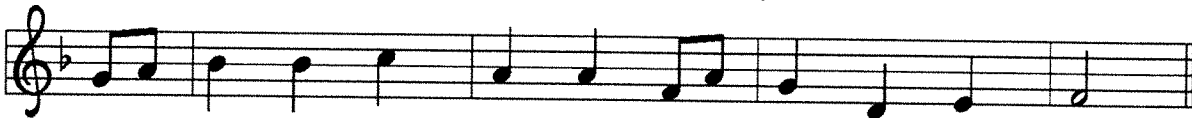
- 1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
- 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
- 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.  
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.  
Music: CRADLE SONG, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921

## SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12

SONG: "Joy to the World" ..... ELW 267  
Stanzas 1 & 2, Sunday School Singers, Stanzas 3 & 4, Congregation



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

## CLOSING DIALOG

**SONG: "Do You Want to Meet a Savior?".....** Music by K. Bell, A. L. Bonn & K Lopez  
Lyrics by Malynda Riehle

**JAM Choir**

**Anthem Text**

Do you want to meet the Savior?  
Come on, let's go and see!  
There's a manger in a stable there,  
The baby fair,  
Was born for you and me!  
The angels told the shepherds,  
"Do not be afraid"  
It's such a holy sight...  
Do you want to meet the Savior?  
Come on let's meet the Savior

Do you want to meet the Savior?  
The King who came for everyone?  
He left His throne in heaven bright,  
To bring us light,

And make us all His own!  
He's more than just a baby,  
He's God's gift of love—  
Our hearts will sing His praise,

Do you want to meet the Savior?  
You can invite Him in today!  
He's waiting now with arms of love,  
From heaven above,  
To wash your sins away!  
He came to bring us joy and peace,  
Always we proclaim—  
Do you want to meet the Savior?  
Jesus Christ, He is OUR Savior!

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**SENDING SONG: "Fling Wide the Door".....** ELW 258

**Stanzas 1, 3 & 4**



- 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 TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## 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:** “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” ..... David Thorne (British, b. 1950)

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## Sunday School Christmas Program

We want to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this program a success.

**Costumes!** Thank you to our costume and set crew! We appreciate your help to make this program extra special with your extraordinary efforts to make all of our costumes and set up our backdrop! Amy Kurtz, Kim Grove, Christy Bertsch, Nicole Winslow, Eva Welsh, Elisa Brown, Dan Brown

**Supplies!** A special thank you to Jeanne Hartwig, Mary Sizer and Kareena Tange who assist in our supply room to equip all of our students with everything they need to make everything go smoothly!

**Music!** Thank you to Malynda Riehle and Roxanne Litchfield for your dedication and love you pour into our students!

**Families and congregation!** Thank you for your ongoing support of our children's program to make everything possible and all your help to create a wonderful experience for the children so that they can share the love and joy of Jesus with us today!



## Cast—By Order of Appearance

**Anna:** Hazel Kurtz

**Elsa:** Savannah Halvorson

**Olaf:** Grace Sorenson

**Director:** Izzy Schmidt

**Camera Man:** Liam Henning

**Audience Prompters:** Macie Olson, Isaac Schmidt

**Donkeys:** Roland Borchardt (Doug), Liam Kusel (Dan), Brantley Grove (David)

**Cows:** Ainsley Berge (Clara), Payson Berge (Carrie), Hazel Halvorson (Karen)

**Sheep:** Molly Ristie (Sue), Weston Whiting (Sam), Rhett Whiting (Shawn)

**Camels:** Brody Baur (Cody), Luca Dunekacke (Toby)

**Narrators:** Grace Reynolds, Maren Olson, Ella Caster, Addie Tachney, Emma Banken

**Scripture Readers:** Marissa Stoddard, Asher Withers, Lane Withers, Aubrey Winslow

## JAM Choir

Adeline Tieri

Ella Caster

Will Beukelman

Annika Tieri

Savannah Halvorson

Hazel Kurtz

Grace Reynolds

Izzy Schmidt

Marissa Stoddard

Brody Baur

Grace Sorensen

## Sunday School Singers

Zoey Ackman

Kinsley Anderson

Emma Banken

Brody Baur

Ainsley Berge

Payson Berge

William Beukelman

Roland Borchardt

Charlie Burbank

Ella Caster

Blake Clemence

Emery Clemence

Claire Covert

Drew Covert

Weston Dirksen

Reese Dunekacke

Luca Dunekacke

Britta Erickson

Max Erickson

Myles Fenske

Taylor Fenske

Genma Gilles

Jace Gilles

Brantley Grove

Hazel Halvorson

Savannah Halvorson

Easton Henning

Liam Henning

Calvin Jacobsen

Gilbert Jacobsen

Margaret Jacobsen

Anders Kurtz

Hazel Kurtz

Liam Kusel

Owen Kylo

Amelia Lange

Miles Lange

Sarah Lawler

Violet Mann

Alex Marso

Nora McCutcheon

Elise McLaen

Lincoln Nobach

Riley Nurmela

Macie Olson

Maren Olson

Henry Pelletier

Jarrett Polk

Jaylah Polk

Andrew Potter

Thomas Potter

Grace Reynolds

Noah Riste

William Riste

Brynn Schiebout

Isaac Schmidt

Isabelle Schmidt

Camden Sevcik

Grady Sevcik

Eve Sjobeck

Grace Sorensen

Grady Spencer

Lauren Spencer

Marissa Stoddard

Addie Tacheny

Claire Tacheny

Carolyn Tatarniuk

Maryn Tatarniuk

Adeline Tieri

Annika Tieri

Matteo Tillman

Maya Tresselt-Warren

Beckett Vanderwerf

Vivian Vonderharr

Conrad Wells

Rhett Whiting

Carter Wilke

Jackson Winslow

Asher Withers

Esmee Wohlhuter

Jaxon Wolney

Weston Whiting

Madison Wilke

Aubrey Winslow

Lane Withers

## Announcements:

1. No ACE today.
2. **Please note that there are no More than Just Lunch outings planned until February.**
3. **TODAY, Sunday, December 14 *Laura Pettis Piano Students Recital* – St. John's** will host the piano recital for the students of Laura Pettis. The group is split into three times, 3pm, 4pm and 5:30pm. You are welcome to attend one or all three.
4. **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
5. **Mary Breakfast Bunch Small Group**  
**Facilitator:** Jackie Knauff  
**Meets:** 1st Tuesday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next January 6**  
**Where:** Cracker Barrel, Lakeville
6. **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.
7. **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 & Colleen Dupre (of Highview Hills)  
**Meets:** Once/month, 10:00-11:00am on the 2nd Thursday of the month we **meet next on January 8.**  
**Where:** Highview Hills
8. 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!
9. **Muhanga, Tanzania Medical Clinic Appeal: November 23 - December 21, 2025**  
During Advent, St. John's will be collecting a special offering to complete the next phase of the medical clinic we've been supporting with our longtime partner-parish. Our goal is

to raise enough money to complete the walls and install a support beam and room. With your help, we may even be able to go beyond that goal! Look for specially marked envelopes or the dropdown on Tithe.ly during Advent to contribute.  
<https://sjlcl.org/pages/give>

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

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

Meets: 3rd Monday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next December 15.**

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. Are you looking for community, encouragement, and a place to exhale? MomCo at St. John's is a welcoming space for **ALL moms** — whether you're parenting littles, tweens or teens, — to connect, grow, and be refreshed. We meet on the **second and fourth Sundays of each month from 3:00–5:00 PM**, and **childcare is provided**. Each gathering includes meaningful conversation, practical tools for everyday life, and a chance to build friendships with other moms who understand both the joy and the challenge of the journey. We would love for you to join us! **Upcoming Meetings**

- **December 14** – *The Awkward First Christmas*
- **December 28** – *Rest & Renewal*
- **January 11** – *Kindness for Your Body*
- **January 25** – *Building Resourcefulness in Kids*
- **February 8** – *Prioritizing Your Marriage*
- **February 22** – *Awkward Friendships*

To learn more about MomCo and what we're about, visit [themom.co/home](http://themom.co/home). We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting — there's a place for you here.



**MAKE  
IT  
AWKWARD**

13. Messiah Food Shelf is asking for supplies for **Emergency Bags** for our neighbors in need.

- Boxes of cold cereal
- Cans of tuna or other canned meat
- Jars of peanut butter
- Cans of ready - to - eat and condensed soup
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Cans of vegetables
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Boxes of spaghetti or other pasta shapes
- Cans of sloppy joe mix, chili or beef stew
- Boxes of raisins
- Bottles of juice
- Packages of toilet paper
- Packages of paper towels
- Boxes of tissues
- Packages of diapers and baby wipes



Cash donations are also appreciated and accepted. Make checks out to St. John's and put "Messiah Food Shelf" in the memo line.

Please donate what you can, the food shelf will assemble the bags

14. Save the date! **Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study:** Begins Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 7-8 am, St. John's Conference Room  
"It's back!" for some and "It's new!" for others. Pastor Nathan will be leading a weekly Tuesday morning Bible Study with men in mind as we enter the new year. Topics will vary throughout the year, but you can mark your calendars for Tuesdays from 7-8 a.m. beginning January 13!
15. We have had two departures from our sound tech team. This dedicated group of volunteers run the audio equipment during worship. If you would like to join the team, we would be happy to have you. Training is provided. Talk to one of the team members in the sound booth today or contact the church office for details. Check out all of the volunteer opportunities on the "Ways to Serve" page on our website.

## **December Worship Schedule**

**Sunday, December 14** - Advent 3 *"Room in the Inn, Joy"* Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30am and the Sunday School Christmas Program at 10:30am

**Wednesday, December 17** - Restorative Worship at 6:30pm

**Sunday, December 21** - Advent 4 *"Room in the Inn: Love"* Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30am and Worship with Holy Baptism at 10:30am

**Wednesday, December 24** - *"Away in a Manger"* Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion and candlelight at 2:00, 4:00 & 6:00 pm. Childcare available in the nursery for all three services.

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

**Sunday, December 28** - 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship at 10:00 am, with Carols You Love to Sing and Holy Baptism

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

- Jerry & Leann Bright in honor of our seven grandchildren
- Bring Family in memory of Grandpa Curtis & Grandma Louise
- Don Cross in memory of Mary Cross
- Nancy Cross the Cross family
- The Dunekackes in memory of Grandma Joey
- Doreen Enggren in memory of loved ones
- Jay & Bonnie Fredrickson in memory of Art & Norma Fredrickson, Joe & Ceil Malecha
- Perry & Cindy Fuerniss in memory of Garrett Fuerniss
- Katee Gilmer in memory of Roger Gilmer and in honor of Wesley Gilmer & family, Walter Finn & family
- Alan & Mary Gregersen in memory of our parents and grandparents
- Grove Family in memory of baby Crew & Grandma GG
- John & Jan Hack in memory of Tony, Bergette & Brett Hack
- Paul Hammer & family in memory of Diane Hammer
- Kathy Harter in memory of Phil
- John & Jeanne Hartwig in memory of our departed St. John's friends
- Orpah Johnson in memory of Dick & Lee Johnson
- John & Debra Kwasek in memory of Jackson Kwasek
- Thomas & Brenda Lardy in memory of Tom's mother, Pat and in honor of our children, Justin & Kate
- Jeff & Kim Larson in memory of Arlys & Ken Larson and Terry Zweber
- Marvin Larson in memory of Darlene Larson
- Doug, Erin, Adam & Sarah Lawler in memory of Nat Svela
- Phyllis Luckman in memory of Robert & Verna Luckman & Mae Barnes
- Jeanne Lygre in memory of John Lygre
- Corey & Nancy Martin in honor of Kathy Harter
- Don & Jan Matson in memory of our son, Brad
- John & Judy Miller in memory of our parents & siblings that have passed and in honor of our children
- Dan & Kris Nelson in honor of Erica
- Marilyn Oxley in honor of family and friends

- Ruth Raible in memory of Joe
- Mark & Teri Renze in memory of our son, Chris
- Bob Rustvold in memory of my father, mother & son and in honor of my children & grandchildren
- Randy & Nancy Schmitz in memory of Joe & Norma Betlach, Nancy's parents and Louie & Jean Schmitz, Randy's parents
- Steve & Laurie Simonsen in memory of Delores & LeRoy Pederson & Joanne & Robert Simonsen
- Gary & Judy Stinar in memory of our parents
- Theel Family in memory of our heavenly family
- Char Torgrimson in memory of my husband, parents & in-laws, two grand kids & brother-in-law
- Nikki Walsh
- Larry & Liz Westfield
- Bertsch Family in memory of LaVonne Johnson
- Ed & Tammy Zahratke in memory of Lester & Donna Fredrickson
- Kathy Ziller in honor of my children & grandchildren

### Those serving today:

Organist..... Karen Olson  
Lector .....Marvin Larson (8:30) N/A Sunday School Christmas Program (10:30)  
Usher team leader..... Perry Fuerniss (8:30), Lowell Grimm (10:30)  
Crucifer..... Brody Fitzke (10:30)  
Communion Set Up and Clean Up..... Kathy Ziller  
Communion Servers.....Kathy Ziller, Marvin Larson, Liz Westfield, Amanda Boe,  
Elisa Brown, Dan Brown (8:30)  
N/A Sunday School Christmas Program (10:30)  
Sound Tech ..... Todd Kylo (8:30), Brandon Wright (10:30)  
Clicker Team ..... Christie Wright (8:30), (10:30)  
Livestream Team..... Francine Capasso  
Worship Coordinator ..... Dan Nelson (8:30), (10:30)  
Coffee Servers .....Dan & Kris Nelson

### Those serving Next Week:

Organist..... Priscilla Thoreen  
Lector .....(8:30), Kay Halvorson (10:30)  
Usher team leader..... Lisa Horn (8:30), Andy Schultz (10:30)  
Communion Set Up and Clean Up..... Kathy Comer  
Communion Servers..... Dan Nelson, Jim Buckley, Tricia Murphy (8:30)  
N/A Baptism  
Sound Tech .....Danny Barth (8:30), Francine Capasso (10:30)  
Clicker Team .....Nancy Martin (8:30), (10:30)  
Livestream Team..... Francine Capasso  
Worship Coordinator ..... (8:30), (10:30)  
Coffee Servers .....Mark & Jo Knutson

### 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