

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025
8^{AM} AND 10:30^{AM}



*Prepare the
Way of the
Lord*

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
824 FREDONIA AVENUE, FREDONIA, WISCONSIN 53021
262-692-2734

Special Welcome To Those With Young Children

We are very happy that you are here today! At St. John we want you to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at St. John.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily watch the pastor, note the colors, hear the bells, see the fire, and wonder about the stained-glass windows of the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- As we go, softly explain the Liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And with your spirit! I believe! Our Father!* All of that belongs to them too.
- Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you stand and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.

If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. We want your children here so much that we didn't build a nursery. Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out.

- If you need a little help, just ask. There are lots of good folks here who would love to lend you a hand!

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help and bless you all. Welcome to St. John!



HYMN: “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

LSB 345

Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

LSB 185

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of

you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Remain Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

P In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

C **Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!**

P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

C **O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

P He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

C **He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

ALL **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Kyrie

LSB 186



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



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

- ¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
- ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the
peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be
glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem “Have You Not Known?” by K. Lee Scott

Adult Vocal Choir

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction,
that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures
we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement
grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ
Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has
welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show
God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the
patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.
As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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.

Sit

HYMN: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

LSB 344

Sermon “*Prepare the Way of the Lord*” (based off the Gospel reading)

The Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols

Stand

Following the Sermon, the Pastor Prays:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts
and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Our Offerings to God

The Offering is a part of our Worship life together as God's children gathered here at St. John. This historical practice is more than "helping pay the electric bill". Having received His absolution and cleansing of our sin, the Offering, then, is a part of our worship posture (Psalm 51). As we move from the Service of the Word to the Service of the Sacrament we bring before God, in a communal fashion (Acts 2:42-47), the toils of our hands, the bread of the earth (Gen. 3:19) and give it to God. This, He transforms and provides back to us the Bread of Life

in the Sacrament of the Altar! Together, placing our offerings in the plate, the Lord sees and treats all giving hearts the same, whether they can provide much or little (Luke 21:1-4). All of this, then, furthers God's mission and ministry in our flock and into the lives of our community members. May the Lord bless your lives as you entrust your possessions to Him (Phil. 4:10-20)!

Text: Pastor Frisque

(Please place your offering envelope in the collection plates at the entrance to the Sanctuary, thank you!)

Offertory

LSB 192-193

C 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

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

- P** ... one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Our Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to

strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor or see an usher to assist in speaking with Pastor or an Elder. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing from Pastor by placing your arms in an "X" across your chest.

If you intend to receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please place the empty cup in the gold bowls following your table's dismissal. If you intend to receive from the common cup, please raise your hand forward, signaling your preference, and then feel free to guide the chalice to your lips by holding on to the bottom of the chalice.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to 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



C 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it

is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;

and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who

tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to

temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197



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



G 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.

Sit

Distribution

HYMN: "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

LSB 356

HYMN: "Lord of All Hopefulness"

LSB 738

HYMN: "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied"

LSB 342

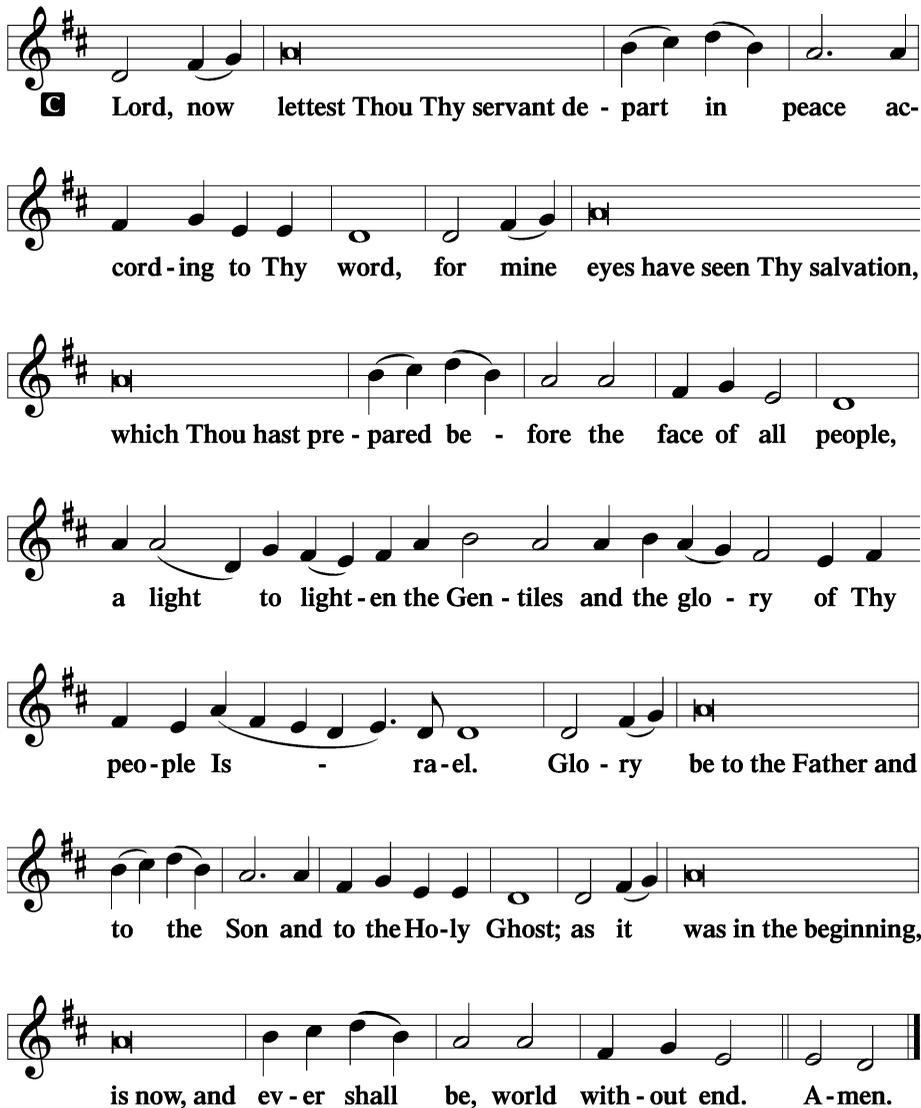
HYMN: "Let All Together Praise Our God"

LSB 389

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

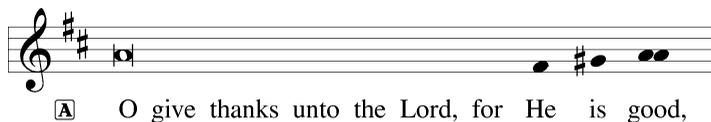
LSB 199



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



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



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray....



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus

LSB 201 -202



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



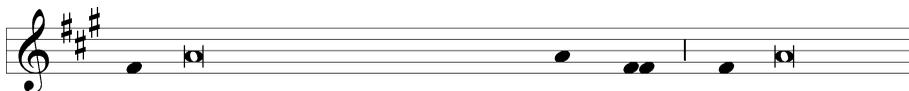
A Bless we the Lord.



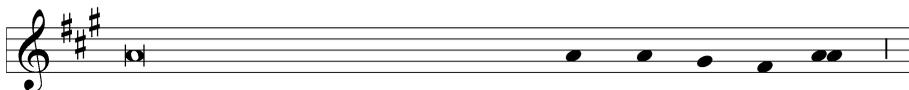
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

HYMN: “Once He Came in Blessing”

LSB 333

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

- | | |
|---|---|
| † Rose Bottesi | † Pam Anschuetz (Renae Roos’s friend) |
| † Jane Kultgen (Eric Kultgen’s mother) | † Paul Voight (Sandy Jacque’s father) |
| † Yoke Tanko | † Amelia (Mass family friend) |
| † Tim Monahan (Debbie Paape’s brother) | † Joni Heilgendorf (Rose Bottesi’s sister-in-law) |
| † Judy Fischer | † John Diehl (Mike Czysh’s uncle) |
| † Keith Johnson | † Alvin Czysh (Mike Czysh’s father) |
| † Susan Kloppmann (Alisyn Bell’s aunt) | † Mike Czysh |
| † Randy Fairbert (Betty Fairbert’s son) | † Jeff Ader |
| † Lou Anne (Grace Bonjean’s friend) | † Don Dohrwardt |
| † Linda Nordby (Mike Berry’s friend) | |
| † Mildred Rosso | |
| † Nico Lawver (Lisa McGuire’s cousin’s son) | |

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Serving Us this Week

Elders (8 AM): Aaron Viets

10:30AM: Ben Ross

Finance Team: Klass & Schueller

Altar Committee: Melissa Lareau & Cindy Scheunemann

Usher Team (#1): Ben Hedrick, Captain

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun (12/7/25)

☩^{2nd} Sunday in Advent

- **Divine Service 8am**
- Bible Study Hour 9:15-10:15am;
New Member Class
- **Divine Service 10:30am**

Mon 12/8/25

- Elders 6pm
- Council Meeting 7pm

Wed (12/10/25)

- Matins Service 10am
- Advent Dinner 5pm -615pm
- Vespers Service 630pm
- Choir Practice after service

Thurs (12/11/25)

- Men's Bible Study 615am
- No Chime Practice

Sun (12/14/25)

☩^{3rd} Sunday in Advent

- **Divine Service 8am**
- Bible Study Hour 9:15-10:15am;
New Member Class
- **Divine Service 10:30am**
- Voter's Meeting after 2nd service – potluck meal
 - Please bring a dish to pass
- Preschool Christmas Program – 3pm



NEW Member Class to end December 14th

Sunday, December 14th will be the last new member class. The new members will be confirmed on Sunday, December 21st during the second service, which begins at 10:30am. New member packets will be available in the fellowship hall on the 14th. Please be sure to pick yours up and let the church office know if you will be attending the service on the 21st.

Thank you, new members, and welcome to St. John Lutheran Church!

The NEWLY located Port Washington Food Pantry is OPEN!

1777 W Grand Ave, Port Washington, WI

The food pantry is open for food and clothing distribution on:

Tuesday 9:30am-12pm; 4pm-6pm

Saturday 9am-11am

No appointment needed.

Monetary and food donations accepted.

Food donations accepted during these hours:

Tuesdays 10:30 -11:30AM and 4 - 5:30PM.

Saturdays 9-10:45AM

Needed items for pantry for children as of 11/26/2025:

Pajamas, Underwear, Socks, Shirts, Pants, Dresses, Jackets, Mittens, Hats

ADVENT DINNERS

Please join us at the 630pm Vespers Service following the meal.

Wednesday, December 3rd

5pm-615pm

Taco Bar Night



Wednesday, December 10th

5pm-615pm

Youth Group - Soup Supper

Wednesday, December 17th

5pm-615pm

Comfort Food Night



Macaroni and Cheese and Hot Ham

We are always in need of preparers, desserts to share and clean up assistance. Please let the office know if you can assist.

* Freewill offering a available each night to help off-set costs.

Advent Meal Sign-Ups

Please sign-up to attend and volunteer desserts or time for the upcoming Advent Dinners.

Signing up helps the organizers ensure adequate meal preparations are made.

Thanks!



Join Us For Fellowship and Services!

Advent Worship Times

Wednesday, December 3rd - 10am Matins Service

Wednesday, December 3rd - 630pm Vespers Service

Wednesday, December 10th - 10am Matins Service

Wednesday, December 10th - 630pm Vespers Service

Wednesday, December 17th - 10am Matins Service

Wednesday, December 17th - 630pm Vespers Service

Christmas and New Year's Worship Times

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24th - 4pm & 6pm
(no communion)

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th - 9am

First Sunday after Christmas, December 28th - 9am

New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31st - 6pm



The new 2026 Altar Flower sign-up is hanging up on the bulletin board near the mailboxes. If you desire to help with December 2025 yet, prior to the poinsettia delivery, please let the church office know. THANKS!

2025 – 2026 Worship Schedules Now Available!

Pick up your Worship Schedule from the Welcome Center. They will be available each week until Christmas.

SPECIAL VOTER'S Meeting – Mark your calendar!

On Sunday, December 14th, a special voter's meeting will be held following the second service. The meeting is tentatively set to begin at 11:45am in the fellowship hall. If attending, please bring a dish to pass.

The Church hopes to have handouts for the meeting by Wednesday, December 10th. Please check the Welcome Center for the materials in preparation for the meeting. See you there!

Council Minutes Update

The Welcome Center has a stack of October Council Minutes which were approved at the November Council meeting. Per the Voters' request at the October Voters' meeting, the minutes will be made available to the congregation going forward. You can also call the office if we run out and you would like the minutes made available to you.

**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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