

WELCOME

To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Mike Burdick	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp	Visitation Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Esker	Preschool Director
Mrs. Dana Keller	Organist
Mrs. Melissa Goldstein	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band	10:30AM
Mr. Jim Schroeder	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Katie & Camille Zeigler	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jake Wendling	8AM Elder on Duty
Makenna Duckwitz	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Janis	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Elena Niebrugge	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Jake Wendling 217-246-8667	Elder on Duty for Dec. 9 – Dec. 13, 2019
Sister Congregation	in Blidene, Latvia
Adopted Chatelain School	Haiti
Mrs. Julie Scott	(343-3047) Prayer Chain Coordinator
State, National & International Missions	through our District and Synod

CHRIST is important to us
in our worship
· in our study
in our fellowship
· in our lives.

YOU are important to us
in our worship
· in our study
in our fellowship
· in our lives.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John's will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God's children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John's, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER

Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with the living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES

Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

AS WE GATHER

The Advent season has an expectation not only of the coming Christmas celebration, but of the end of this fallen world and the remaking of creation. What do you hope will happen then? According to Paul, in today's Epistle, when the Messiah returns, the world will live without conflict. God certainly helps us in the Church to live in harmony with one another, but we must, as John the Baptist cried, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." But by ourselves we cannot do that, we cannot hope for any change. Our only hope is in Jesus Christ, who is glorified in the Church with one voice. Hope in Him!

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

BELLS – CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #344 "ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY"

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

Pastor Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Congregation who made heaven and earth.

Pastor If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Congregation But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Pastor Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Congregation Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

#357 "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain

Text: Public domain

Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.
Congregation And also with you.

Pastor 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.

Congregation Amen.

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 72:1–7

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!
- ²May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!
- ³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!
- ⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
**give deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor!**
- ⁵May they fear you while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- ⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth!
- ⁷In his days may the righteous flourish,
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA & VERSE

LSB 205

Pastor Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Congregation These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1–12

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

Congregation Glory to You, 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.”

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

Congregation 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.

Hymn #342 “WHAT HOPE! AN EDEN PROPHESED”

SERMON

“Hope Is Real”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Bring to remembrance, O Lord, all of Your saving acts but most especially the gift of Your only-begotten Son, that we be brought to repentance and faith by the proclamation of Christ and trust in Him for the forgiveness of our sins and for everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Receive our thanks, O Lord, for establishing Your Church and giving to her faithful pastors who preach Jesus Christ and faithful church workers who aid the cause of Your kingdom in their vocations on our behalf, and raise up those who will heed Your call to service in the next generation. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Lord, bestow Your blessing upon our own land and all the nations and those who lead the peoples, that they pursue the causes of peace and justice, punish the evildoer, and honor those who do good, especially for the sake of those least able to defend themselves. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Strengthen our life together, O Lord, that we who have been baptized into Christ be united in doctrine and witness and that we who come today to receive the body and blood of Jesus commune worthily, in repentance and faith, and so be equipped by Your grace to live upright, holy, and godly lives to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Lord, You are the strength of the weak, the peace of the troubled, the comfort of the grieving, and the hope of the dying. Hear us on behalf of the sick and those in any need, [*especially . . .*], that You deliver them according to Your gracious will, strengthen them to endure their afflictions, and sustain them to the day of the resurrection, when all pain and suffering shall cease. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Build within us, O Lord, generous hearts, that we act on behalf of the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the unemployed, the aged, and the infirm, that the riches with which You have supplied us be used to their aid and for the work of Your kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O gracious Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **People: Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: #781 "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN"

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. | 2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give! <small>Text Public domain</small> |
|---|---|

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 208

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Congregation **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

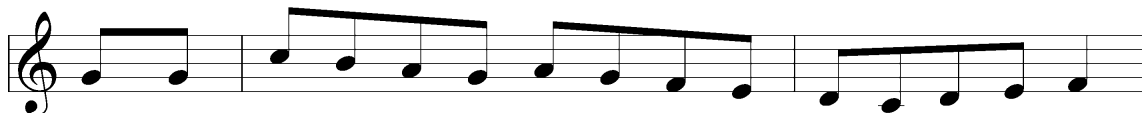
LSB 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near. With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Congregation 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor 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

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation Amen!

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION

Hymn #618 "I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE"

HYMN #738 "LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS"

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

Let us bless the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Congregation Amen.

HYMN "346 "WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS CURSED"

RECESSIONAL

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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