

Welcome!

**St. John's
Lutheran
Church**

(LCMS)

901 W Jefferson
Effingham, IL
62401

Office Hours

8:00 - 11:30

12:30 – 4:00

217-342-4334

office@stjohnsLCMS.net

stjohnsLCMS.net

Preschool

Website

eaglesnestpreschool.com

Preschool

E-mail

carrie.collier@stjohnsLCMS.net

Christian

Education

Sun. 9:15 am

Services

Sat. 5:30 pm

Sun. 8:00 am

Sun. 10:30 am

***Proclaim the
Christ.***

***Grow the
Family.***

***Love the
Neighbor.***

Pastors

Mike Burdick

Trey Dille

Dec 21, 2025

4th Sunday

in Advent

5:30 - 8:00

Welcome

We welcome you to God's Service in worship at St. John's, and extend a special welcome to all guests and visitors with us.

- Offerings are placed in the boxes at the doors, before or after worship.
- Little Children's Worship bags are available by the elevator door.
- Restrooms are located on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th floors. Those on the 2nd and 5th floors include diaper-changing stations.
- Visitors are not expected to bring an offering. Our members do so in free response to the Gospel and to finance the extension of God's Kingdom.
- **All worshipers are requested to complete an attendance card. They will be collected by the acolyte after the sermon. Thank you!**
- Share prayer requests using the yellow cards in the pews.

Those Who Serve Us

Each Member of St. John's	The Body of Christ
Rev. Mike Burdick	Pastor
Rev. Trey Dille	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp	Visitation Pastor
Mrs. Carrie Collier	Preschool Director
Ms. Jerry Starner	Organist
Landen Lynch, Paisley & Findley Bloemer, & Jenna Bohnhoff	Acolytes
Mr. Ray Hartman	5:30pm Elder on Duty
Mr. Todd Zeigler	8:00am Elder on Duty
Mr. Gayland Bourland	10:30am Elder on Duty
Mr. Fred Bray (217-663-3916)	Elder on Duty for December 21 - 27



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John's in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives us 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. Jesus 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 the pastor or an elder. Those needing a gluten-free host should notify the pastor before the Service, or can request it as you approach him at the Table. Thank you

DIVINE SERVICE FOUR



Prelude

Call to Worship

Welcome

Hymn #341

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Confession and Absolution

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

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P 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.

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

P 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted in Advent, as we wait until Christmas
for the fullness of its joy.**



**The Advent Wreath is lighted while we reflect on the prayerful hymn
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

- ¹The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
- ²for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.
- ³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
- ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.
- ⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- ⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.
- ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- ⁸Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- ¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Epistle

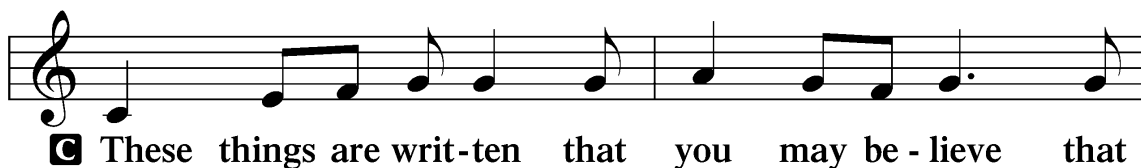
Romans 1:1–7

- ¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,
²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
- ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

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

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

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, 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.

Hymn #374

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Sermon

"He Did It"

Matthew 1:18-25

Prayer of the Church

Offering Presentation & Card Collection

Service of the Sacrament



Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

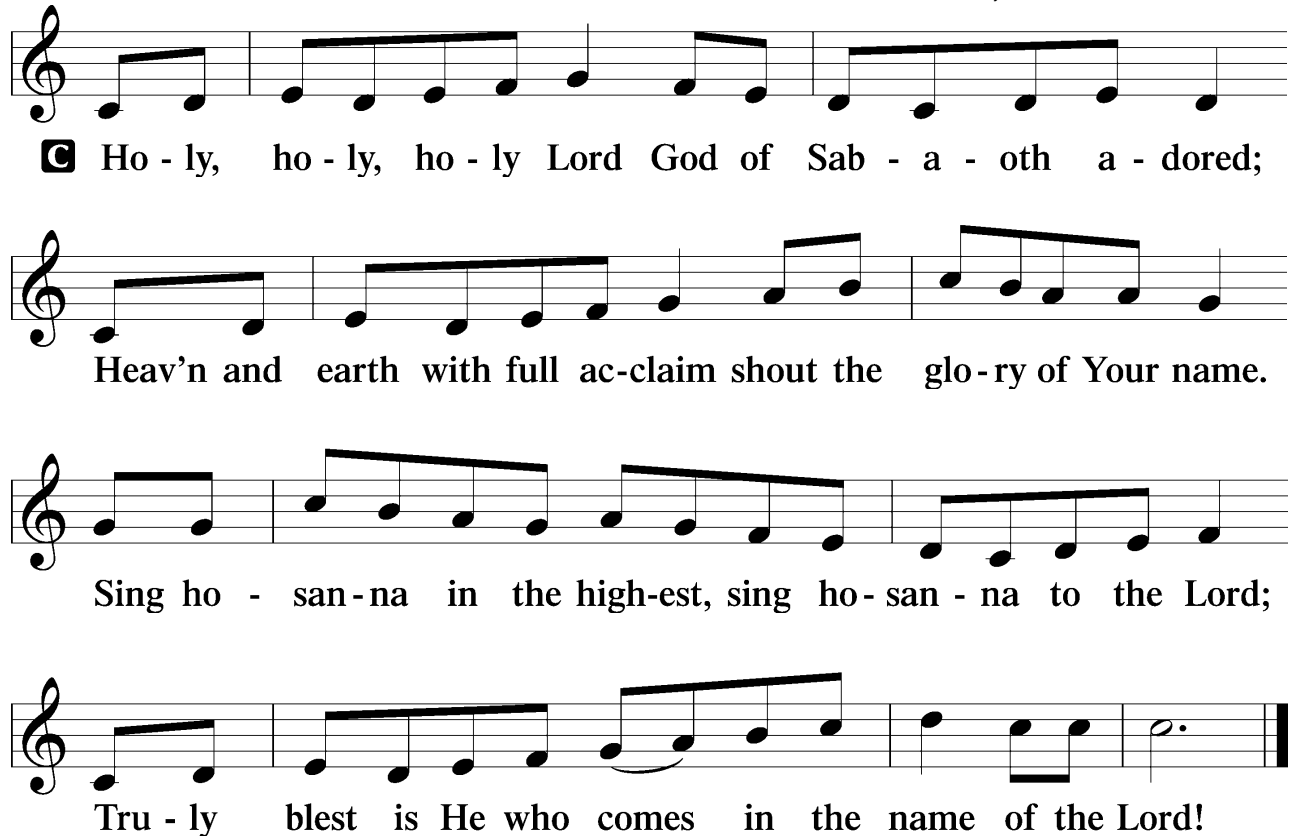
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208



C 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!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P 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:

Lord's Prayer

C 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

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

Hymn #357

Hymn #349

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hark the Glad Sound

Blessing

Post-Communion Collect

P 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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

Hymn #386

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Postlude

Christmas at St. John's

Sunday School Christmas Program:

Sun, Dec. 21 10:30am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Christmas Day Service: 9:00am

No Saturday Service: Dec. 27

First Sunday of Christmas: Dec. 28 9:00am Service

New Years Eve Service

Wed. Dec. 31 6:30pm

Acknowledgments

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Poinsettias Were Placed on the Altar by these Family & Friends



- ✿ In loving memory of Lois Jean Schlechte by Warren Schlechte
- ✿ In loving memory of Bob & Dick Wendling by Norma, and family
- ✿ In loving memory of Lowell (Crow) & Joyce Miller by their children & grandchildren
- ✿ In loving memory of Clyde & Becky Janis by their, children, & grandchildren
- ✿ In loving memory of Roger & Wyvonne Winter, Loretta & Jim Rushing, & Tom Stevenson by Danny & Karen Stevenson & family
- ✿ In loving memory of Rev. Ted Gall by Ruth, Tim, & Tara
- ✿ In loving memory of Kurt & Ethel Ziegler & Mardell Carter by Judy Ziegler, Vicki Cook and Courtney Cook-Helregel
- ✿ In loving memory of Lois Schlechte by Gary & Cathy Norris, Justin, Jenna, Carter, & Carson
- ✿ In loving memory of Tyler Walker by Todd & Julie Zeigler & family
- ✿ In loving memory of Onda Wendte by Irvin, Carolyn, Donetta, Derek, Coralin, & Cailin
- ✿ In loving memory of Larry Milleville by Pat, Brian, Sara, & family
- ✿ In loving memory of Ray & Rande Habbe by Sue Habbe & family
- ✿ In loving memory of Abby by Pastor & Kathy Burdick
- ✿ In loving memory of Kale Mueller by Ervin & Brooke Mueller and family and Ronnie & Duckie Johnson.
- ✿ To the Glory of God in honor of our 50th Wedding Anniversary by Rev. Earl & Liz Brown
- ✿ In loving memory of Rolan & Lois Moeller by John & Marla Jackson
- ✿ In loving memory of Leroy Ziegler by Beulah Ziegler & Family



Poinsettias Were Placed on the Altar by these Family & Friends



- ✿ In loving memory of our grandson, Cameron Scott & rejoicing in the birth of Jesus by Marcy & Julie Scott Family
- ✿ In loving memory of Paul Wendling by Sara Sandifer and family
- ✿ In loving memory of Clarence & Marie March and Ferd & Angie Gall by Ruth, Tim, & Tara
- ✿ Thanking God for all our blessings by Howard and Marlene Haake
- ✿ In loving memory of Glen Miller by his wife, children, & grandchildren
- ✿ In loving memory of Lorri Mayberry by Chuck, children Dawn & Amy (& Rob & Keith); grandchildren: Leandra, Joshua, Makara, Dakota, Lucas, Ryan (& Drew); great-grandchildren: Madilyn, Jaxon, Tyler, Aubriella, Novah & Landon
- ✿ In loving memory of Aaron Umbach by Pastor Trey, Katie, & Kaleb Dille
- ✿ Thanksgiving for our many blessings and in memory of those that have gone before us by Roger and Nancy Ohnesorge
- ✿ In memory of Henrietta, John, and Dennis Lindsey by Jerry Lindsey
- ✿ In loving memory of Jack & Joan Klay and Lambert & Mary Flach by Robert & Karla Flach
- ✿ In loving memory of Stan Bahrns & Kristen Pryor by Alyene & Family
- ✿ For all the Saints who from their labors rest by Charlie Braasch
- ✿ In loving memory of Paul Wendling by Judy Wendling, Sara, & Steve Family
- ✿ In loving memory of Russ Wieneke by Sandy Wieneke