

St. John Lutheran Church



“ The King Comes to
Bring Hope ”

First Sunday in Advent

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP @ 8:00 AND 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASSES @ 9:15 A.M.

HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATED EVERY SUNDAY AT BOTH SERVICES

December 2, 2018

St. John Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Ms. Elizabeth Kulick, *Bookkeeper, Payroll Manager*
Mr. Dennis Brown, Sr., *Custodian*
All Members of St. John's, Ministers and Disciples of Christ

St. John Lutheran Church



“One in the Spirit: United in Christ and with Each Other”

‘... that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God’s mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.’
(Colossians 2:2-3)

First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018 - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

"The King Comes to Bring Hope!"

AS WE GATHER

While the secular calendar won't switch to 2019 for another month, the Church Year begins anew today. Advent is a season of waiting and preparation. One Advent tradition is to mark the four Sundays in Advent with four words that encompass what Jesus brings as He comes into the world to be our Immanuel — God with us. These four words are hope, peace, joy, and love. Today we focus on hope. There is a lot of suffering in the world, but hope exists in Christ's incarnation, death, resurrection, and return.

+ DIVINE SERVICE +

Setting Two, LSB (pp. 167 ff.)

In the Name of Jesus

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

OPENING VOLUNTARY: *"Now Come, Savior of the Heathen"*

— C. W. Ore

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: *"The Advent of Our King"*

LSB # 331

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!

People: **He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: God came to Adam and Eve after they had sinned.

People: **He clothed them, hiding their shame.**

Pastor: God came to Israel when they were enslaved in Egypt.

People: **He delivered them out of the house of slavery.**

Pastor: Christ was born into our world.

People: **He cast out demons, healed our diseases, and preached good news to the poor.**

Pastor: Christ came into Jerusalem on a donkey.

People: **And He died and rose again for us and for our salvation.**

Pastor: Christ promised He will come again.

People: **We wait for His return and the resurrection of the dead.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!

People: **He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Luke 19:38

Pastor: In the season of Advent, we prepare for Jesus to come. We await the celebration of His birth at Christmas. We remember His arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We long for His glorious return. As we wait, we consider how unworthy we are to have Jesus in our presence.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: **we confess that our faith has been lacking. We have not abounded in love for one another or for You. Our hearts are filled with blame and shame, with corruption and conceit. Forgive us, strengthen our faith, and purify our hearts.**

Pastor: Jesus not only comes as an infant at Christmas and in glory at His return, but He also comes to you in words of forgiveness and life. Hear these words of forgiveness, for they are from Christ Himself: 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.

People: **Amen. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

(The people greet one another with Christ's peace.)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

ENTRANCE PSALM FOR ADVENT 1

(sung)

Pastor: **Behold, your King draws near to you,
With righteousness in clearest view;**

All: **He brings salvation from above
According to His steadfast love.**

Men: **To You, O Lord, I lift my soul,
In You I trust; You make me whole.**

Women: **Do not let me be put to shame,
I crush my foes with Your great name.**

Men: My all-time hope is placed in You;
I know Your promises are true.

Women: So those who leave the faith have shame,
For they have no one else to blame.

All: Praise to the Father and the Son
And to the Spirit, Three-in-One.
Just as it was, is now, and then
It will forever be, Amen.

(Words by John L. Telloni, @ 2000, based on Zech. 9:9b; Ps. 25:1-3.
Tune: Von Himmel Hoch.)

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

(pp. 168-169, LSB)

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



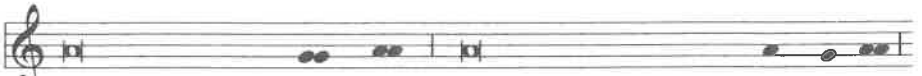
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

ADVENT CANTICLE: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

Oh, come, oh, come Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.

(Veni, Emmanuel, French processional, 15th cent.)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY (p. 172, LSB)



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al - so with you.

Pastor: Let us pray: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (*A righteous branch shall spring up for David.*)

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (*May the Lord make you increase and abound in love.*)

For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

(10:30 a.m. only)

ANTHEM: "O Jesus, Bless Us with Your Coming" - Johann Franck
(Adult Choir, Dr. Lewis P. Porter, Choirmaster)

ALLELUIA and VERSE

Common

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40 (*Jesus' triumphal entry*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. the 19th chapter.



And when [Jesus] he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY: "*Savior of the Nations, Come*" LSB # 332

SERMON: "A Full and Fulfilling Word"

(Jer. 33:14-16; Luke 19:28-40)

NICENE CREED

(p. 174 LSB)

**All: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Luke 19:38

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

Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who do not know You, those who have rejected You, and those who are straying from You. Unite them to Your glorious throne and dwell in their hearts. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are lonely and in need of Your presence. Come to the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed, the homebound, the mentally ill, those who are in transition, and anyone else who experiences the pain of loneliness. Remind them of Your incarnation and lead them to Your Church, where we bear one another's burdens. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are oppressed and at the mercy of others. Rescue those who are suffering, abused, neglected, and hated. Comfort them with Your tender presence and love. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Strengthen them with Your healing hand and with Your unwavering presence. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. [*Today we remember the families and friends of . . .*] Comfort them with the hope of resurrection life that is ours in Christ Jesus. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who rejoice and direct their praise and thanksgiving to You. [*Today we rejoice with . . .*] Grant that their rejoicing lead us all to praise Your name. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, come to Your broken Church with the gifts of reconciliation and restoration. Unite Your people once again so that we enjoy fellowship rather than fractured division. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

Pastor: Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your ever-present mercy.

People: **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Voluntary at the Offertory: "*Once He Came in Blessing*"

— *M. Burkhardt*

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE & PROPER PREFACE (p. 177)

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy* (p. 178)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (p. 178)

LORD'S PRAYER (p. 179)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (pp. 179-180)

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

(p. 180)

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

(p. 180)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

"Once He Came in Blessing"

LSB # 333

"Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB # 349

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

LSB # 343

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *Thank the Lord*

(p. 181)

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith as we wait for the day of His coming, that we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

(p. 183)

Numbers 6:24-26



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.



CLOSING HYMN: *"Jesus Came, the Heav'ns Adoring"* LSB # 353

SILENT PRAYER

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY: *"Voluntary for Advent I"*
— A..Chauvet

To God Alone the Glory!

WELCOME to all worshipers, especially visiting friends. If you have come seeking blessings, this is the place, where God's Word is proclaimed and sung on the Lord's Day as we celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection that delivers forgiveness, life, and salvation! If you are a visiting friend, please sign the guest register in the narthex. If you have no church home, we invite you to worship with us again and find out more about our Family of Faith.

THE LORD'S SUPPER is celebrated here 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 the pastor or an elder.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PROCEDURE: *The Pastor will distribute the Host (bread) by placing it in the open, cupped hands of the communicant. A Lay Server will then offer the individual cups, and an Elder will immediately follow with the common cup. People who receive the individual cups should keep theirs visible so that the Elder can tell whether they have communed.*

SPECIAL COMMUNION NOTICE: Do you need assistance in walking to the communion rail or desire to commune at your pew? Please ask an usher who will be happy to provide assistance.

LARGE-PRINT HYMNALS are available at the west end of the narthex. They come in 7-volume sets. Ask an usher for a copy.

NURSERY (*Family Room*) is available in **Room # 104** in the main hallway for family needs (*nursery or private area*).

“BUSY BAGS FOR TOTS” are available in the narthex for parents with young children for use in the sanctuary during the worship service. After the service, please return the Busy Bag to the basket! (Note: We kindly request that parents use these items and refrain from allowing children to write on the offering envelopes and Communion cards in the pew racks. Thank you!)

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET, "*The Coming King*," courtesy of Lutheran Hour Ministries, will be handed out **TODAY**, the First Sunday in Advent. See the information page on the back cover. May the devotions of Word and prayer enrich your personal and family life in the upcoming holiday season!

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR HEALING will be offered this morning for the following: Mark Sturm, recovering after a fall at Mercy Medical Center in Canton; Jon McFarren, now at home; Richard Bednar and Tricia Parker, at Altercare of Navarre; Jeff Houston; Betty Minch; Russ Halco; David and Karen Fisher; Rebecca Floom, granddaughter of Kim and Luther Russert; and Steve and Debbie Marker. Also we pray for Betty Slinger and her family, who are awaiting word about Betty's missing daughter, Christine Slinger. Please remember these folks with your prayers and cards!

FIRST MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE will be held on **Wednesday, December 5th, at 12:00 Noon and 7 :00 p.m.** The sermon series to be presented is entitled, "*Who Is Jesus?*", based on Matthew 1:1-17. This week's sermon is entitled, "*Jesus Is the Son of David*" (Matthew 1:1, 6, 17). We look forward to our fellowship around the Word and Prayer as we prepare for celebration of Christ's Coming on Christmas! Other midweek services will be held on December 12th and 19th. Please make plans to attend!

COOKIES are requested for the Midweek Advent Services on the 5th, 12th, and 19th before the noon service. Please mark them for "*Advent*" and place them in the kitchen freezer. Thank you for your contributions!

LATE SERVICE GREETERS NEEDED! Please contact Judy Mantyla or the office if you would be willing to greet all who arrive, especially visiting friends, for worship on Sunday mornings. Thank you and God bless!

YOUTH ACOLYTES: Kids in the 4th grade and up who would like to serve as acolytes in our worship services are encouraged to sign up now! An Instruction Booklet will be handed out, and a training session conducted by Mike Krnach will be scheduled in the near future. This is a wonderful opportunity for service!

CALL FOR USHERS: Additional ushers are needed for the late service! We would encourage you to consider serving on one of the usher teams so that fill-ins are less frequent and the current three month rotation period can be preserved. If willing to serve, please contact Keith Graber, Gene Stocker, Richard Leffler, Dennis Lillich (late service) or Mike Krnach (early service). This service to the Lord is a valued and vital part of our worship life. Thank you!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS If you would like to purchase a poinsettia(s) to decorate the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, please place your information on the sign up sheet on the front bulletin board. Cost: \$7.00 per plant.

Spiritual Growth ...

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS! Beginning today, Pastor Telloni will lead a study and conversation of the ADVENT GOSPELS – all Lessons from St. Luke’s Gospel! – appointed for the Sunday’s in Advent, with a look at the real people, places, and events and their connection to the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. If you would like to become familiar with the truths surrounding and supporting our faith in the Christ of Christmas, please feel free – and get into the spirit of the season! – to join the group as we search the Scriptures and consider the truth and history of God’s action in our world to rescue sinful mankind from sin, death, and the devil. The session begins around 9:15 and ends at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is available for kids of all ages at 9:15 a.m. Please go to Room 109 for an hour-long Bible lesson – it’s all about Jesus! We have two teachers ready to lead: Mary Kay Pershing, for preschool and primary grades; and Janet Graber, for intermediate grades. Questions? Please see Superintendent Rosemary Sedjo.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS will be held on **Sunday, December 16th**, after the late service in the Fellowship Hall. Any party planners interested in helping, please see Rose Sedjo.

LIFE WITH GOD is a brief program led by Pastor Telloni to assist those who would like to participate more in the worship and service life of our congregation. Resources used are the Scriptures and Luther’s Small Catechism. A new group of get-together’s is planned if there is enough interest. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the front bulletin board. Please include a phone number in addition to your name! Thank you!

CATECHISM CLASS will be held this month on **Saturdays, December 8 and 15** at 10:00 a.m.

PARENTS OF 5TH AND 6TH GRADERS! If you have not picked up the curriculum materials for the Pre-Confirmation Parent/Child Program, please see Pastor Telloni! Lutheranism 101 for Kids; Luther’s Small Catechism; and a gift Study Bible. Get started now!

PRAYER GROUP continues to meet each **Thursday at 10:00 a.m.** in Room 104. Please feel free to come and participate in their sessions. Join Mickie, Debbie, Bonnie, Janet, and Marchaela.

Parish News . . .

FELLOWSHIP: As a sign of our Christian hospitality, refreshments are served in the "Gathering Place" all morning. Please stay and enjoy the fellowship!

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS 2 people to clean up following communion after late service. It takes 15 minutes. Please see or call Mickie Krnach 330-837-9915.

THE MOBILE SNACK COMMITTEE met Wednesday, November 28th and delivered 24 desserts. Thank you, Beth Davis, for the pear bundt cake. Drivers included Gloria Pavelzik, Jerry Roseman, Rosemary Sedjo, Deb Stocker, Dennis Lillich and Gene Stocker. We will mobilize again after Christmas Day, December 26th, at 11:00 am. If you would like to help in the kitchen or make home deliveries, please see Debbie Stocker or Rosemary Sedjo.

PICK-UP FOR SLOVAK CRESCENT COOKIE ORDERS will be on Saturday, **December 8th** from 10 am to Noon. Cost is \$5.50 per dozen. To place your order call 330-837-1982. Make checks payable to the "**Martha Society.**"

BAKING OF SLOVAK COOKIES for the Bake Sale will take place on **Tuesday, December 4th to Friday, December 7th, starting at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon each day.** Many helping hands are needed. If you can help in any way, please call Jeanette Tennant at 1-419-606-8809. Join us for fun, laughter and fellowship in a long tradition of the Martha's!

PRAYER CHAIN: For prayer requests, please call the church office or Gloria Pavelzik (832-7379). For those who face hospitalization or in emergencies, please call the Church Office (837-4645) or Pastor Telloni's home (830-2179).

MARTHA SOCIETY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON will be on **Sunday, December 16th, at 12:30 pm,** at the Canal Grill in Canal Fulton. A sign-up sheet for those attending is located on the front bulletin board.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING will take place in the sanctuary on **Saturday, December 8th,** beginning at **9:00 a.m.** Catechism students will decorate the Gathering Place tree after class. You are invited to come and help beautify the church for the holy-day season!

NO MEETINGS of the Board of Elders and Board of Directors will be held in December.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS: Pick up your contribution cards today in the Gathering Place. Food items will be needed for 7 families. Please return to the church by **December 19th**. The food deliveries will be handled by the Elders on Sunday, December 23rd. Thank you and blessings in Christ for your kindness and generosity.

Today is the Last Day - CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE REQUEST for the students and their families at **Concordia Theological Seminary at Fort Wayne:** Please consider donating gift cards in increments of \$10, \$20 or \$25 for national chain stores and restaurants. Service and gas station cards in increments of \$25 or even cash gifts to purchase dining hall lunch tickets would be gladly received. Check out our display on the Project Central table for specifics and **turn in your gifts no later than TODAY (or early Monday morning)**. Have questions? Call the church office. Thank you!



40-MONTH NOTE AT 4%

Over the last 40 years, our investors have made it possible for Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to support the work of tens of thousands of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod individuals and ministries through loans and ministry support services.

When you invest with Lutheran Church Extension Fund, you'll join over 60,000 investors who have discovered the joy of helping and supporting ministry work.

To meet future loan demand and help support growing ministry opportunities, we need to raise an additional \$100 million. Which is why we invite you to a special, limited-time investment opportunity: our 40-month 40th anniversary note at 4%.

**Visit lcef.org/40month or call
800-843-5233 to learn more.**

Application Forms are available in the narthex.

This Week at St. John's ...

Today	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Service Education Hour Divine Service
Monday	9:30 am 6:00 pm	Circuit Pastors ("Pleasant Valley Boys"), here Cub Scouts
Tuesday	9:00 am 7:00 pm	Cookie Baking Boy Scouts
Wednesday	9:00 am 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm	Cookie Baking Advent Services
Thursday	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 7:00 pm	Cookie Baking Prayer Group AARP Bd. Mtg. Sr. Men's Fellowship @ Varieties Adult Choir
Friday	9:00 am	Cookie Baking
Saturday	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am - Noon 8:00 pm	Altar Guild @ Church Catechism Class Cookie Pick Up AA Group
Sunday	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Service Education Hour Divine Service

Consecration Sunday was observed last Sunday. Thank you to all who turned in Commitment Forms! Your 2019 commitment to the Lord of your time, talents, and treasures will assist in our congregation's mission and ministry. Your generosity will further our service to children, youth, older adults, the sick, the shut-ins, our staff, our facilities, and our outreach to the community and world around us.

If you have not turned in a Commitment Form, there is still time to do so. Forms are on the table in the narthex. Just place your completed forms in the offering plate or return them to the Church Office.

Commitments thus far: \$86,804.00 from 14 Giving Units ...

Other Notes of Interest ...

ISSUES, ETC., is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

LUTHERAN HOUR: "Reality Therapy" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The book of Ruth deals with unimportant people and unimportant matters, but deals with them in such a way as to show that God is active in ordinary lives-like yours and mine. Ruth's story became an important part of the story of Jesus. Listening to God's work in her life can rescue us from dead end delusions and bring us into what is most real—a Jesus-centered reality. (Ruth 1-2)

The Lutheran Hour is available on the following stations:

WTAM Cleveland, OH 106.9 FM Sun 6:30 AM

WTAM Cleveland, OH 1100 AM Sun 6:30 AM

WBTC Uhrichsville, OH 1540 AM Sun 6:04 AM

"WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS" has a new name - **"WORSHIP ANEW"** is broadcast on TCT Network on MCTV channel 13 and TWC channel 13 every Sunday from 11:30 to 12 noon and also on their website Page 24 hours a day.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE: "Advent is about Return—the Lord's Second Coming, our return to Him, which is another way of saying 'repentance.' Repentance requires memory, for return requires memory. The Prodigal did some mental research and remembered the facts about his father's house from his personal history. Informed by a paternal history, he struck a new course, which was to return. And the Homecoming was sweet, like the marriage supper in paradise, when all history will be fulfilled, and the guests live happily ever after. Advent reminds us, based on history that we know, that He is coming, which should remind us, Repent!" James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

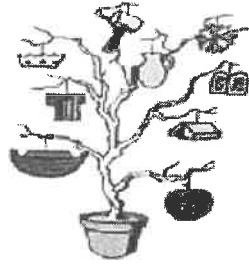
DEBT REDUCTION FUND

Goal: \$ 50,000.00

Special Gifts Received to Date: \$27,930.00

(Note: This fund was established by the Board of Directors to retire the balance due for the Credit Line provided by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.) Thank you for your prayers and gifts! You are invited to participate by giving a gift so that, without a deficit, our congregation may move forward in the mission and ministry of Christ! Deadline for Gifts was November 30th (although gifts will still be happily received!). Thank you!

THE JESSE TREE



*O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

What is a Jesse Tree? It is a small, leafless tree decorated with symbols portraying Jesus' spiritual heritage. It is a kind of family tree which was suggested by Isaiah's prophecy: "there shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

Jesse was the father of King David. King David is one of Jesus' ancestors. The prophet Samuel established a royal family anointed David King. A thousand years later Jesus was born in this royal line of David in Bethlehem, the ancient City of David. The Jesse Tree is composed of ornaments which remind us of the promise of salvation made by God at the fall of Adam and Eve and the ancestors of Jesus from Adam to Mary and events in salvation history. They also remind us of the Jewish symbols and types of Christ and the Church.

The Jesse Tree represents the 4000 years of salvation history when God prepared His people, the Jews, for the coming of the Savior. This is the theme of the 4 weeks of Advent.

Because Jesus had not yet died on the cross, the branch for the Jesse Tree is a dead one without any green leaves. This symbolizes especially well for children, the fact that the soul is dead without God's sanctifying grace. The Jews could only be saved by believing in the Redeemer to come.

The Jesse Tree is located in the chancel to the right of the pulpit.

PARENTS: Take your children up to the Jesse Tree after services, share the information above with them, and have fun checking out all the biblical characters and objects on the tree.