

December 7th & 10th, 2017



**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Juneau, Wisconsin**

Order of Worship for Advent

Opening Hymn 24

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Invocation

- P: In the name of God the Father, who promised to send a Redeemer to crush the power of the devil and restore us to the joy of his presence:
- C: Father, we praise and worship you.**
- P: In the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whose birth was announced by angels, and whose life and death restored us to the Father:
- C: Lord Jesus, we praise and worship you.**
- P: In the name of the Holy Spirit, who brings us to faith and nourishes us through Word and Sacrament to keep us in that faith:
- C: Holy Spirit, we praise and worship you. Amen.**

The Confession of Sins

- P: Even as John preached a baptism for repentance to the people of Judea, so we are daily called to acknowledge before the Lord our sins and sinfulness. In his love for us, God gives us the power to repent and to become the sons of God.
- C: Father, I confess my sinfulness. Not all my crooked places have been made straight, nor all my rough places plain. With my life, my thoughts, my heart, I have many times said "No" to you. I have gone my own way. I have turned my back on you and on those around me. I am not worthy of your love. I am not prepared to receive you. And yet you come to me. You sent your only Son to die for me. In his resurrection you have given me life. In him I trust.**

- P: For the sake of your great mercy, O Lord, forgive us. Spare us the just punishment our sins deserve according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
- C: **And grant that for his sake, we may live sober, upright and godly lives to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

(Melody from CW 16, "On Jordan's Bank")

**Far off I stand with tearful eyes
Nor dare to lift them to the skies.
But you can all my anguish see—
O God, be merciful to me!**

The Announcement of Forgiveness

- P: How great is the love of our God! What great joy is ours — to know that in Christ, through his cross and empty tomb, we are freely and fully forgiven. We have seen and know the salvation of our God. And so as the Lord's spokesman, I proclaim to you that your sins have been forgiven. Though they are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. The Lord has done great things for us, of which we are glad!
- P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

(Melody from CW 16, "On Jordan's Bank")

**Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
Forever and eternally!**

**And when, redeemed from sin and hell,
With all the ransomed souls I dwell,
My joyous song shall ever be:
God has been merciful to me!**

Prayer of the Day

- P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his Coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Special Singing

8:00am Service

Adult Choir

“Air for Advent”

10:30am Service

Junior Choir

“Call to Advent”

The Celebration Of The Light Of Christ

The Bethlehem Candle

P: Today we celebrate the coming of Christ, the Light of the world. The candles of our Advent wreath bear witness to that light, and brighten this time of celebration. The first candle, the Light of Prophecy, reminds us of the marvelous promises fulfilled in Christ our Savior.

The Bethlehem candle takes us to the place where God gave the world His greatest Gift. Over that little town a bright star would shine, guiding some very wise men to their Savior. That light still beckons us to follow.

C: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient times. (Micah 5:2)

New Testament Lesson

Luke 1:26-38 (EHV)

²⁶In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin pledged in marriage to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women."

²⁹But she was greatly troubled by the statement and was wondering what kind of greeting this could be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found favor with God. ³¹Listen, you will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end."

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Listen, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age even though she was called barren, and this is her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible for God.”

³⁸ Then Mary said, “See, I am the Lord’s servant. May it happen to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

Hymn 65

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Sermon

Micah 5:2-5 (NIV)

“Bethlehem - Small but Chosen”

2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

3 Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

4 He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

5 And he will be our peace.

Confession of Faith

(melody from CW 65 "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. In God the Father we believe,
The Lord of hosts his name.
All things from him their form receive;
By his strong Word they came.
By him was all created
In earth and heav'n above.
He made them all, things great and small,
By his great pow'r and love. | 2. In God's Son Jesus we believe,
Who came at God's own hour,
Whom virgin Mary did conceive
All by the Spirit's pow'r.
He suffered, died, was buried,
Was raised at God's own call
To reign on high, and to draw nigh
At last as Judge of all. |
| 3. In God the Spirit we believe
And in Christ's church on earth.
The saints, united, faith receive,
A gift of precious worth.
He sanctifies and keeps us
By his empow'ring love.
Forgiven, from the grave we'll rise
To live with God above. | |

Offering

Offering Hymn

CW 83 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

(please stand and sing as the ushers bring the offering plates forward)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore your followers be. | 3 As they offered gifts most rare
At your cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heav'nly King. |
|---|--|

Prayer for Advent

P: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

P: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

P: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

P: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 Sacrament

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

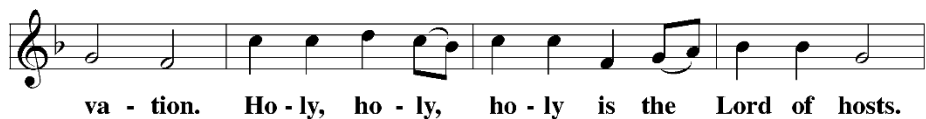


C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

At St. John's we practice closed Communion, to which only congregational members are invited, in obedience to Scripture's teaching that the Lord's Supper is an expression of our complete unity in faith. This has been the historic practice of the Christian church for nearly 2,000 years. If you are our guest today, we respectfully ask that you speak with one of the pastors before approaching the altar for Communion.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

Distribution

Just a reminder that Nursery help is available this Sunday for your little ones during communion. If you'd like to use this free service, please come to the back of church during distribution to drop off your child(ren). Of course, all parents are welcome to bring their children to the front with them while they commune – if they so choose.

Nursery

Hymns	32	“When Sinners See Their Lost Condition”
	26	“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”
	19	“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

Thanksgiving

STAND

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news 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!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

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 on you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen. (*spoken*)

Closing Hymn

(Melody from CW 21, "Hosanna to the Coming Lord")

**Lord, let your servant now depart.
Your joy and peace are in my heart.
Your saving pow'r my eyes have known.
Your love through all the earth is shown.**

**Lord, let us show the world your light.
Let us declare your glory bright.
Proclaim your death until you come
To take your ransomed servants home.**

Pastor: David Brandt
Organist: Matthew Lober

Benediction Source: 10th Century manuscript, from *The New Ancient Collects*, #575, (Bright's *Ancient Collects*, p. 193.3) * Songs are reprinted under Onelicense.net A-720071 * The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. www.wartburgproject.org * The Holy Bible: New International Version. (1984). (Is 41:1–16). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

St. Johns Weekly Schedule December 10-16

Sunday	Worship 8:00 & 10:30am Teen Class, Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15am Evangelism 11:30am Church Cleaning 11:30am
Monday	Pastors Circuit Meeting 9:30am No Church Council St. John's Christmas Concert 1:30 & 7pm
Tuesday	Church Caroling 5:30pm (all invited!!!)
Wednesday	Confirmation 5pm Faith & Fitness 6pm Choir 7pm
Thursday	Worship 6:30pm

St. John's Announcements

Pastor Schupmann received a call: Pastor Schupmann received a divine call to serve as an Associate Pastor at Emanuel First Lutheran Church in Lansing, Michigan. Please keep Pastor Schupmann and his family in your prayers as they prayerfully consider where best to serve our Lord either at St. John's in Juneau or Emanuel First Lutheran.

Church Cleaning: We will have a massive church cleaning this Sunday, December 10th after the 10:30am service. Please bring any of the following: rags, polish, window cleaners and vacuums with hose attachments. We want to clean the church before our new church janitor starts. Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias are coming! Would you like to purchase a Christmas poinsettia to display in the front of church on Christmas Day? If so, please sign-up in the narthex. Poinsettias are \$14 each. We have 35 pre-ordered from Robin's Countryside Gardens. Please make checks payable to St. John's. Thank you!

Christmas Cards & Cookbooks: Our Ladies Aid is selling our St. John's Cookbooks and Christmas cards in the church basement. Why go to the store when you can get your Christ-centered Christmas cards here? There is a table with the cookbooks and cards in the church basement. Please place money (checks payable to St. John's Ladies Aid) in the card lock box. Thank you!

The NEW 2018 St. John's Photo Directory: Please sign up in the narthex to have a family picture taken for our new 2018 Church Directory. When you come for your family picture, you will receive a free digital picture of your family! Times: Sundays 10:30am-1:00pm and Thursdays 6:00-8:00pm (some other times are available-please see the sign up board). Please arrive in the church basement 10 minutes before appointment time. There is no cost for these pictures, but free-will donations are accepted for the organ and debt funds. Directories will be available for purchase at a later date.



Church Caroling

On Tuesday, December 12th, we will have church-wide caroling. Our Junior Choir, Adult Choir, **along with any members of our congregation who can join us**, will leave from school at 5:30 and return around 7:15. We will be traveling by school bus. Upon our return, there will be pizza and goodies provided at school. Cost is \$3 for pizza. Any congregation members wishing to participate should contact Carol at school by 8am Monday morning, December 11 at 920-386-4644.

Christmas Dates to Remember

December 10	3pm	Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Christmas Concert
December 10	7pm	Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Christmas Concert
December 11	1:30pm	St. John's Christmas Concert
December 11	7pm	St. John's Christmas Concert
December 12	5:30pm	Church Caroling
December 17	7pm	Lakeside Lutheran High School Christmas Concert
December 17	3pm	Luther Preparatory School Christmas Concert
December 21	10am	Luther Preparatory School Christmas Concert
December 22	1:30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service
December 24	6:30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service
December 25	9am	Christmas Day Worship Service

Statistics for 12/3

Attendance: 477 (142, 221, 114)

Offerings given to the Lord:

General	\$13,939.34
Missions	\$1,520.50
Improvement	\$97.00
Debt	\$917.00
Lakeside	\$87.50
Organ	\$330.00
Total	\$16,891.34

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

We are so glad you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today. St. John's is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership in our congregation. Please join us again soon!

INFORMATION

- Our ushers are here to point you in the right direction and assist you in any way. Please ask.
- Restrooms: our first restroom is located inside the comfort station/children's room by turning right outside the sanctuary doors. A second restroom is located left in the narthex, across from the elevator. Additional restrooms are located in the basement.
- We have two comfort stations/children's rooms if your little ones need a moment. Proceed left out of the sanctuary doors and turn either right or left.
- Children's activity bags are available and are located in the comfort station/children's room. Proceed out of the sanctuary doors and turn right. We also have Children's Bulletins. Please ask an usher for assistance.

PERSONAL PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, I have come to worship you. Draw near to me in your gracious Word, and assure me of your loving kindness. Curb my wandering thoughts, that with undivided attention I may hear your voice and sing your praise. Amen.



Pastors:

David Brandt

Paul Schupmann

Principal:

Richard Cody

Services:

Thursday 6:30pm

Sunday 8 & 10:30am

Bible Class:

Sunday 9:15am

Sunday School:

9:15am

Church Office:

920-386-3313

400 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

School Office:

920-386-4644

402 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

www.stjohnsjuneau.org