

**St. John Lutheran Church
and Preschool**

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

**Divine Service Setting Three
DECEMBER 25, 2024**



St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool
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Facebook: St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool

Holy Communion The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.

As we prepare for worship together please remember to set your phone to silent mode. Thank You!

Mission Statement: Growing a Christian Community rooted in Faith, Fellowship, and Service

Cover: *The Nativity*, from a 14th-century Missal, East Anglia.

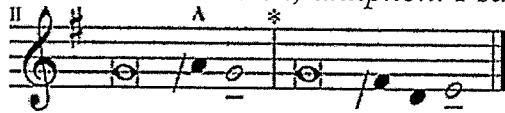
December 25, 2024 *As we gather for this service let us take time to lay aside our thoughts of other things as we prayerfully prepare for the worship of our Lord. Inside the front covers of your hymnal are Prayers For Worship. Additionally inside the back cover of your hymnal are the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds as well as the Lord's Prayer.*

Bell tones and Prelude – *(We reflect in silent prayer during the time of the prelude)*

Hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* **380**
(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Confession and Absolution **p. 184**

Introit: *Isaiah 9: 6a; antiphon: Psalm 98: 1a (Mode II)*



Antiphon: Oh, sing unto the LORD / a new song;
for He hath done / marvelous things.

A: Unto us a / Child is born,
unto us a / Son is given:
and the government shall be upon / His shoulder:
and His name shall be called Wonder-/ful, Counselor.

C: Glory be to the Father and / to the Son*
and to the Ho-/ly Spirit;
as it was in the be-/ginning,*
is now, and will be forev-/er. Amen.

Antiphon: Oh, sing unto the LORD / a new song;
for He hath done / marvelous things.

Kyrie - Lord Have Mercy

* Come to
after bells

p. 186

Gloria in Excelsis

p. 187

Altar bells are sounded as we sing our Hymn of Praise

Salutation and Collect of the Day

*

Bells

p. 189

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 6-10

down

afterward

Read
Thus says the LORD God: "My people shall know My name; therefore they shall know in that day that I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I.' " How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, with their voices they shall sing together; for they shall see eye to eye when the LORD brings back Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

A: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Epistle: *Hebrews 1: 1-12*

Brethren: God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son"? But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire." But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions." And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

P: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *Psalm 98: 2, 3b-4a (Mode II)*

A: The LORD hath made known His / salvation:

His righteousness hath He openly showed in the sight / of
the heathen

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation / of our
God.

Make a joyful noise unto the / LORD, all the earth.

Alleluia

p. 190

(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Holy Gospel: *John 1: 1: 1-14*

P: The Lord be with You.

C: And with your Spirit. *(Spoken)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His

own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day: *Of the Father's Love Begotten* 384

Δ - Please rise for the final Doxological verse

Sermon

Offertory *Create in Me A Clean Heart* p. 192

(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Prayer of the Church

Preface p. 194

Sanctus - Holy, Holy, Holy p. 195

Prayer of Thanksgiving 1

The Words of Our Lord p. 197

Lord's Prayer p. 196

Pax Domini – *The Peace of the Lord* p. 197

Agnus Dei - *Lamb of God* p. 198

Distribution p. 199

The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.

Communion Prayers *Prayers are provided for before and after communing inside the front cover of the hymnal under "Prayers for Worship". Please make use of these prayers or your own prayers during the time before, during and after communion.*

Post Communion Collect p. 201

¹ *The Prayer of Thanksgiving III – adapted from Apostolic Tradition, Worship Supplement, CPH 1969*

Salutation and Benedicamus	P. 201
Benediction	p. 202
Closing Hymn: <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	368

(We reflect in silent prayer following the closing hymn)

Postlude *Gloria – K. Hildebrand*
 ++++++

Offerings for God The offering box continues to be available in the narthex for our giving.

Church Attendance

Saturday16
 Sunday54

Assisting with our service: Assistant: Nathan Moran; Lead Deacon: Cissy Kulakowski; Reader: Nathan Moran Altar Guild: Faith Twining.

Offerings for God The offering box is available in the narthex for our giving.

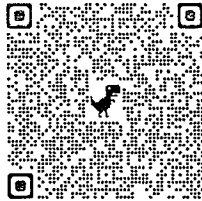
Welcome Guests! Please take a moment to fill out the form in the red Record of Fellowship pads at the end of your pew. This will help us to get to know you as you share worship among us!

Midweek Sanctuary services: Midweek services will continue in the sanctuary through January the 8th. On New Year's Day there will be a special Wednesday service at 7pm commemorating the Circumcision and Naming of Christ. We begin our New Year with his saving name! Also again this year we will share a special Epiphany evening, Vespers service on Wednesday January the 8th at 7pm. This will be a full service with organ and hymns. Incense will be offered as a reminder of the prayer and worship afforded to our King! We will be using pure frankincense known from biblical times for its mild and gentle aroma. Join us in the presence of our Lord!

Exploring the Epistles!

Beginning the new year our adult Bible class will be exploring the appointed Epistle of the day. These texts have been shared by the faithful each Sunday for over a millennium. These readings often match the Gospel and so carry the theme of the day. Join us as we share together beginning at *9:00 AM* each Sunday in the new year. All welcome!

Support Our Preschool: The preschool has set up a wishlist for supplies and other teaching items on Amazon. Use your cell phone's app to scan this QR code to link directly to the wishlist. You can order and have items shipped directly to the preschool. Thank you for your support.



News At St. John Church

Coat Drive: We will again be collecting clean and gently used coats for Meriden social services. Please leave in the narthex through Sunday 12/29.

One for You and One for Me: We are excited to announce our Food Drive Challenge. Between November 8th through January 5th, we are challenging the congregation to collect 500 food products for the Food Pantry. Let's make a positive impact on the lives of those facing food insecurity. Items needed are Tuna, Pasta and Sauce, Canned Foods, Rice, and Paper Goods.

Online Giving: We recently set up a secure giving option through the Joyful Response program, already in use for our direct deposit for offerings. "You may set up a one-time donation or recurring offering to St. John through this link." Credit/Debit card payments and bank ACH are accepted through this program. Credit card fees are deducted from the amount unless otherwise selected.



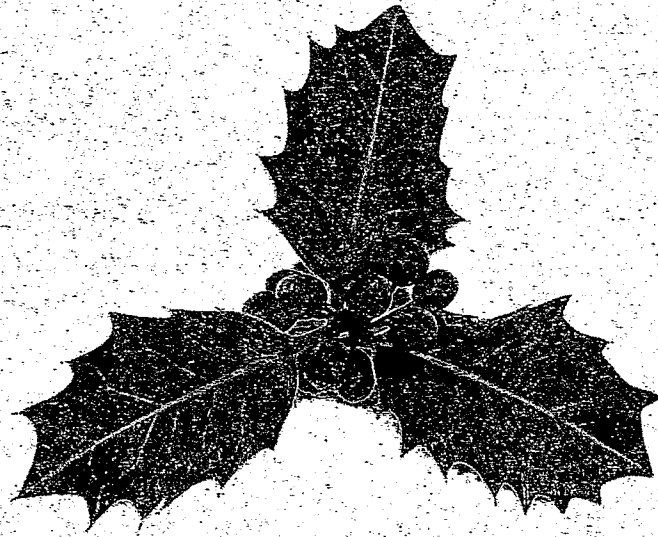
CHRISTMAS DAY

The Living and Life-Giving Word of God Dwells among Us in the Flesh

In the beginning God created all things through His Word, His Son. But man fell into sin, and with man all creation was cursed. Therefore, God spoke His Word again, this time into the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary. The glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle of our human nature (Ex. 40:17–21, 34–38). “*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us*” (John 1:1–14). The Son of God took on our flesh and blood and died on the cross in order that we might receive the right to become the children of God through faith. Baptized into Christ’s body, we are made partakers of a new Genesis, “*the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit*” (Titus 3:4–7). In Christ, the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man has truly appeared.
Lcms.org/worship

Christmas Memorials

2024



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY:
Frank & Doris Simas	Joe & Nancy Albino
Vincent Barillaro and departed loved ones	Pat & Lisa Barillaro
Jack Benigni	Gail Benigni
Departed Loved Ones	Bill Borriello
Ann Collette, Starr Sarrazin, and Edward Lynch	Kathryn Chester
Joseph and Althea Gostkowski, and LeRoy Cloutier	Bill, Pam, Nolan, and Cadén Cloutier
Departed Family and Friends	Bob & Donna Dlugos
Starr Sarrazin	Chris Dougan
Loved Ones	Diane Foell
Carl Gade, Peter Rommel, and Steven Rommel	Carlene and Kyle Fox
Zygmunt, Georgina, Thomas and Edward Gura	Marcia Gregory
Departed Loved Ones	Klaus & Ginny Gumz
Lewis and Elvis Hall (Parents)	Janice Hall
Loved Ones	Tom & Laura Hintz
Tom and Joan Martowski, Bill and Teresa Johnson	Beth and Bob Johnson
Vincent Kaminski, Margaret Carter & Ruth Harrison	Susan Kaminski
Emil and Amy Hermann	Cynthia Kreminski
Shirly Szeto, Oncheung Szeto, Fred Kulakowski Sr., and Alan Yung	The Kulakowski Family
Leon Family	Bill Leon
Margaret Carter – Mother, Ruth Harrison – Grandmother, Vinny Kaminski – Brother-in-Law	Janet Marsh

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY:
Don and Edna McCutcheon, Hugh and Carol McCutcheon, Ellen Glasner	Lois McCutcheon
Mathew Morin, Elvira Nehring, Ewald Nehring	Rosemary Morin
Our Loved Ones, Family and Friends	Ron and Ellen Ness
James V. Papotto - Father	Joanne Oulaw
Kurt Piantek	Bill and Beryl Piantek
Starr Sarrazin, Herman "Whitey" & Eva Sarrazin	Chuck Sarrazin
My dear parents, Herman "Whitey" and Eva Sarrazin	Denise Sarrazin
Starr Sarrazin, godparents Elsie Rochette and Larry Groobert	Denise Sarrazin
My grandparents Ida and John Wruck, Herman C. Sarrazin, Jennie Sarrazin-Fairchild	Denise Sarrazin
Herman "Whitey" & Eva Sarrazin, and Starr Sarrazin	Matthew and Jennifer Sarrazin
Starr Sarrazin and Allen Schott	Tim, Roberta, & Kyle Sarrazin
Parents and Grandparents Herman "Whitey" and Eva Sarrazin, Tom and Audrey Dowling	Tim, Roberta, & Kyle Sarrazin
Mother, Father, Sister, Family & Friends	Brian Shea
Judith L. Speckhart, Eric L. Speckhart	Ron Speckhart
The Mauri & Hass Families	Sue & Michael Toomey
David and Marie Twining, Margaret and Al Mancarella, Dearly Departed Family and Friends	The Twining Family
Don and Trudy Vensel, Jim and Ann Laspino	Carl and Vicky Vensel

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY:
Sarah Vensel	Carl and Vicky Vensel
Vincent Brinich, George and Virginia Dillow, and Roy and Barbara Viens	Sandra Viens
Memory of Beloved Father & Husband and Dear Uncle: Peter A. Wasilewski, and David Warren	Charles, Lindsay; Peter John, Colton & Karen Wasilewski
Memory of Grandparents and Nonnie: Anthony and Inez Wasilewski, and Augusta Malentacchi	Charles, Lindsay & Peter John Wasilewski
Memory of Beloved Mother and Stepmother: Caren Wollenberg, and Nancy Wollenberg	Charles Lindsay & Colton Wasilewski
Memory of Beloved Parents and Sister-in-Laws; Niece: Charles and Frieda Burkhardt, Lillian Burkhardt, Cheryl Burkhardt, and Jacqueline Burkhardt	Karen Wasilewski
Beloved Parents: Herman "Whitey" & Eva Sarrazin; William & Louise Wheeler	Dave & Chris Wheeler
Starr Sarrazin - Beloved Sister-in-Law	Dave & Chris Wheeler
Sarah Weaver - beloved niece, Allen Schott - beloved brother-in-law	Dave & Chris Wheeler
Thomas Zagorski - our guardian angel	Sam, Jason, Brittnie, Camden, and Caleb Zagorski
John Arndt - our dear friend	Sam, Jason, Brittnie, Camden, Caleb, and Kuma Zagorski
Departed Family and Friends	Les Zimmerman
Sandy Zimmerman	Les Zimmerman