

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (LCMS)

Est. 1864



Pastors:

Matthew V. Moss      and      Matthew P. Johnson

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Corcoran, MN 55340

# Important Announcements

## For those who watch services on Live-Stream during the Coronavirus Pandemic

**Stay Home when Sick:** If you are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 please stay home. If you start to experience symptoms while in attendance at a service or out anywhere else, please go home immediately. If at a service, notify a Safety Team member on your way out so we may direct our cleaning and communication efforts.

**Singing (updated):** MDH has gone from requiring no congregational singing to “not recommended” but does say that if a congregation sings masks and distancing are required. Please tune in early and stay late for the preludes, postludes, and sing with us the hymns that will be provided in the online bulletins.

**Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home:** The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing during our temporary suspension of Divine Services

# The Second Sunday in Advent

December 6, 2020

**Preacher:** Pr. Matthew Moss

**Liturgist:** Pr. Matthew Johnson

**Kantor:** Dr. Crystal Rossow

*Special Note for the Live Stream: Because the Absolution and Communion are sacramental acts that require the in-person interaction of penitent & pastor and communicant & pastor, we will not Live Stream those portions of the Divine Service. If you desire a more detailed explanation of the status of the controversies in Christianity and the LCMS around these acts that have led us to this decision on this practice, your pastors are more than willing to discuss it with you.*

## Populus Zion

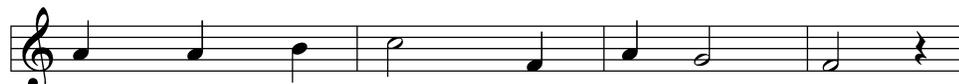
### The Second Sunday in Advent

#### Service of the Word

##### 355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;  
2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;  
3 O earth, in flow'r - ing bud be seen;  
4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?



Come down, come down with might - y stride;  
As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.  
Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.  
When will You come with com - fort strong?



Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;  
Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring:  
Bring forth, O earth, a blos - som rare,  
O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.  
To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.  
Our Sav - ior, sprung from mead - ow fair.  
Con - sole us in our vale of woe.

- 5 O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,  
When will our hearts behold Your dawn?  
O Sun, arise; without Your light  
We grope in gloom and dark of night.

6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;  
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.  
 O come, lead us with mighty hand  
 From exile to our promised land.

7 There shall we all our praises bring  
 And sing to You, our Savior King;  
 There shall we laud You and adore  
 Forever and forevermore.

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**Introit**

*Psalm 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Isaiah 62:11b; 30:30, 29*

Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*  
 “Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”  
 The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,\*  
 and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.  
**Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!\***  
**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.**  
**Restore us, | O God;\***  
**let your face shine, that we | may be saved!**  
**Turn again, O | God of hosts!\***  
**Look down from | heaven, and see.**  
**But let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,\***  
**the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!**  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
 Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*  
 “Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”  
 The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,\*  
 and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

**Kyrie**

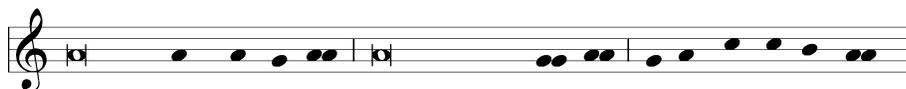
*LSB 168*



**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.



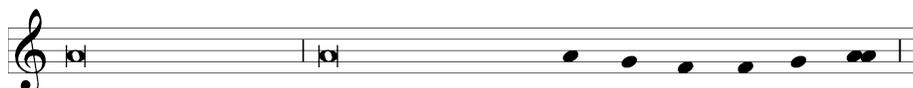
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



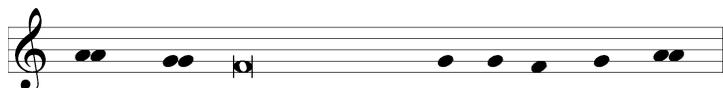
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



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.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

Sit

### Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

<sup>1</sup> "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves

from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>4</sup>“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup>“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup>And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 50:2–3a, 5*

**Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God | shines forth.\***

**Our God comes; he does not keep | silence;**

**“Gather to me my | faithful ones,\*  
who made a covenant with me by | sacrifice!”**

## Epistle

*Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For 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, <sup>9</sup>and 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.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May 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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 173*



## Holy Gospel

*Luke 21:25–36*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>25</sup>[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

### 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.  
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon: The Daughter of Zion Rises and Rejoices to See Her Redeemer

*Stand*

### 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

*Following the prayers, the Live Stream ends and the Service of the Sacrament begins.*

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Members who are sick and in need of healing and comfort**— Rick Bymark (wife Jackie, son Hank), Lynn Slauson, Pam Linton (daughter of LaVerne & Arlene Bagne), Ilene Shepherd, Brigitte Ritter, Dr. Crystal Rossow, Charice McDowell, Mavis Kalk, Joyce O'Hern, Melvin Haag, Patrick Oberle, Ramona Von Ende, Bruce Hansen, Marlys Johnson, Justin Brynjulfson, Pat Ellinger, Doris Gangelhoff, Harold & Barb Grambart, Dick Rau, and Randy Goerke. Our Lord Jesus, who reached out to heal and comfort the sick and dying, continues to reach out with His healing Word through us. Cards, phone calls, and prayers are always appreciated. If you know of someone who is sick or hospitalized, please inform your pastors.

**Our homebound members** are John and Arleen Barrett, Sue Erickson, Marlys Johnson, Inez Koehler, Steve Orbin, Mark Pruhs, Amy Schalo, and Ilene Shepherd.

**All those serving in our Armed Forces**— Agena Christophersen (Belgium), Kevin Mazurowski (Arizona), Nathan Mazurowski (Arizona), Isak Preus (Florida), Brian Pruhs (Germany), Joseph Radintz (home), Emily Sawyer (Florida), and Danny Schilling (home).

**Those who have lost loved ones during the past year**— the family of Betty Schmiede, Justin Bermel & family (at the loss of his father Douglas, and his brother Jeffrey), Rob Borcharding & family (at the loss of his mother Carol), the family of Rev. Greg Tyler (Pastor at St. Paul Lutheran in Osseo), Lisa Kolander & family (at the loss of her mother Lucy Fairchild), Jan Stadler & family (at the loss of her sister, JoAnne Hackbarth), John Meyer & family (at the loss of his brother Jeff), the family of Larry Jobes, Dan Kappel & family (at the loss of his father Francis), Joellyn Wicht & family (at the loss of her mother Frances Spielman), Larissa Alvarez & family (at the loss of her grandmother Luci Correa), the family of Fred Hunt, the family of Diane Lawrence, Gerald Anderson & family (at the loss of his father Dale), Joyce O'Hern & family (at the loss of her father-in-law Marland), Arlene Rogge & family (at the loss of her father George Hackler), Lois Foggia & family (at the loss of her brother-in-law Tom Hooker), the family of Vivian Kuns, Stephanie Haver & family (at the loss of her brother Brandon), and Char Abraham & family (at the loss of her brother Russell).

**And we remember those who have recently lost loved ones**— the family of Linda Bredenberg, the family of Tracey Rosso, Cindy Cook & family (at the loss of her brother, Daniel Anderson), the family of Gerald Oswald, Kyle Gaffaney & family (at the loss of his grandfather Bill Reese), and Jim Day & family (at the loss of his sister).

**All expecting families and their unborn children**— especially Brittany & Adam Strohschein, Stephanie & Noah Heidorn, and Martha & Aaron Reseburg. If you would like to announce your pregnancy to the Church that we might pray for you, please contact one of our pastors.

**THIS WEEK:** The congregations in our circuit are praying for Rev. Matthew Harrison, our Synod President and all our elected officers and board members in the LCMS.

**PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL:** This week we pray for the BOE Deacons and the Board Members, and also for our Middle School Teacher Kyle Peterman.

## † Announcements †

**COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, Phased-Reopening:** *All St. John's events and activities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice, however, we now are able to hold Divine Services, weddings, and funerals that adhere to our protocols, as published in the pastoral letter of May 24, and available in our church's "Covid-19 Preparedness Plan". Please visit our website for the link to these documents and to stay informed as updates can happen quickly.*

**SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Please keep in mind your social distancing awareness and hygiene when entering the building and encountering other individuals; you are required to wear a mask as you enter, exit, or at any time when not social distancing. Our Custodial Staff has been working diligently maintaining disinfection measures throughout the building to help keep our limited staff & visitors safe.

**SPECIAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:** *no special feast days this week.*

**BAPTISED** on *Saturday* was Evelyn Mae Klatt, daughter of Jordan and Taya Klatt born on October 11<sup>th</sup> 2020. May our gracious Lord Jesus keep Evelyn safe in the holy Ark of the Church until she reaches her new home in heaven. "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Matthew 19:14

**VIDEO BIBLE STUDY:** We continue to study The Book of Daniel. A video recording will be uploaded to the YouTube Channel "Matthew Moss" and shared on Facebook and our website. Enjoy!

December 6: Daniel 11- Post-Babylonian Kingdoms and the Antichrist and the Time of the End

December 13: Daniel 12- The Resurrection and Conclusion

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** has resumed as we take up again the Book of Acts. We meet via Facebook Live at 9:45 am each Tuesday. This format will allow any questions you might have, simply post a comment and if it is seen it will be answered. We will begin a two-week study of Psalm 110, quoted by Peter in his Pentecost sermon to publicize God's vindication of His Servant and Son, Jesus.

**POINSETTIAS:** The Altar Guild is providing an opportunity for members of St. John's to purchase a festive poinsettia for the holiday season. The poinsettia will be used to decorate the Church during the Christmas services, and then can be picked-up and enjoyed by you at your home. Poinsettia order forms are available in the narthex and the front office. Please complete and return the form if you wish to purchase a poinsettia. The deadline is Sunday, December 13. We are also seeking donations for the two evergreen trees. Thank you for helping to beautify the church for our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

**THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** is available this month by appointment only. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear God's Word of forgiveness spoken to you individually in Jesus' Name. "If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

|   | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-date</u>   |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <i>11/29/20</i>  | <i>since 07/01/20</i> |
| <b>FINANCIAL UPDATE</b>                 |                  |                       |
| Total General Fund Receipts-All Sources | \$ 15,444        | \$ 677,742            |
| Amount Needed                           | \$ 24,266        | \$ 714,640            |
| Amount Ahead (Behind)                   | \$ (8,822)       | \$ (36,898)           |
| % Ahead (-Behind)                       |                  | -5%                   |

Current Building Mortgage Balance (November 30, 2020): \$228,057

Amount Needed above includes all budgeted revenues, including offerings, school tuition and third-source income, for the current budget year beginning July 1, 2020. There was no cumulative deficit as of July 1. Questions can be directed to Church Treasurer Mike Gaffer (mtgaff@comcast.net)

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK... Thanksgiving Services:** Total 90  
**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>:** Total 121 CM 87  
**Advent Midweek Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Total 54

*Note: The pastors and kantor are only counted once in both figures above, but take up three of the 150 slots at each service. Also, Safety Team members are positioned in the halls, and do not count against the 150 available spots in the sanctuary, however they are included in the numbers of those present for worship and communing if they communed.*

**MUSICIANS NEEDED:** Singers and instrumentalists are wanted for our Advent and Christmas services. Soloists and small groups work best under our COVID-19 protection. Family groups work great, too. It can be as simple as singing or playing a hymn. If you are willing and able, contact Kantor Rossow or the church office.

**MANY THANKS** to my St. John's family for your prayers, dedication to music, and care. It is a blessing to have served you as Kantor for fifteen years, and I hope to do so for many more.  
~Dr. Crystal Rossow

**PLEASE CALL FIRST:** In order to better protect you, our students and staff, we are limiting foot traffic through the building during the day. Please make an appointment with one of our secretaries to pick up any church items. Your materials can be placed in a holding bin located in the vestibule, between the double doorway for pick up at your designated appointment.

**SCHEDULING CHURCH AND SCHOOL EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S:** We are not scheduling member events at this time. Please direct any questions to 763-420-2426.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Items received by *noon* on Wednesday are considered for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin; kindly please submit your request timely to ensure your announcement gets published as needed.

**EMAIL ADDRESS REQUESTED:** If you are not already getting weekly emails from church, please submit your email address so we can communicate notices such as upcoming church services, funerals, weather closures, etc. Please provide your email address to secretary@stjlutheran.org.

**MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL** is hosting open houses Jan 19 and Feb 9, 6:30-8pm. Student/parent panel, presentation, campus tour, refreshments. Mask & distancing required. mayerlutheran.org/952-657-2251

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** (December 6 – December 12) *Sunday*- Adelyn Holovnia/Isaiah Kliche/Joellyn Wicht, *Monday*- Sophie Glock/Lois Trebesch, *Tuesday*- Diane Lawrence, *Wednesday*- John Priyatel, *Thursday*- Nathan Eversman/Amanda Pulju/Erika Rossow, *Friday*- Jordyn Stromback, *Saturday*- Bridger Swanson

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** The boxes of envelopes for the 2021 calendar year are ready for distribution. We have a new housed area near the parking lot entryway that will allow us to have your box available for convenient pickup without entering the building. The distribution will be done in stages in groups by last name over the next several weeks in attempt to accommodate members using the following pickup schedule:

Families with LAST NAMES beginning with letters~

**H-N** can find their envelopes in the station during stage 2: **Dec 2 through Dec 8.**

**O-Z** can find their envelopes in the station during stage 3: **Dec 9 through Dec 15.**

Please kindly note that avoiding the start of the school day (morning drop off 7:00-8:00 am) and dismissal times (2:45-3:30 pm) will be greatly appreciated.

After the appointed dates, any unclaimed boxes will be placed in the church mailboxes. Members will have the option of contacting the church office to make an appointment to pick them up on their own schedule.

Please also remember not to use the new boxes until Jan 1<sup>st</sup>; and discard your old ones after Dec 31<sup>st</sup> as your assigned number will likely change during the re-numbering process, and you will want your offerings assigned correctly to you.

**HOLIDAY SERVICES & PROGRAMS:**

|   |                        |          |
|---|------------------------|----------|
| Advent Midweek*   | Wednesday, December 9  | 7:00 pm  |
| Advent Midweek*   | Wednesday, December 16 | 7:00 pm  |
| Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols | Dec 24                 | 3:00 pm  |
| Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols | Dec 24                 | 5:00 pm  |
| Christmas Midnight Divine Service                       | Thursday, December 24  | 11:00 pm |
| Christmas Day Divine Service                            | Friday, December 25    | 10:00 am |
| Epiphany Divine Service                                 | Wednesday, January 06  | 7:00 pm  |

**Keep an eye on our website and sign-up genius for changes to the schedule due to attendance maximums and Covid-19 restrictions.**

\*no sign up required