



CHRIST IS BORN

For  
unto us  
a child  
is born...

ISAIAH 9:6, KJV

Zion & St. James Lutheran Churches of Martin County, Minnesota



*Pastor John Henry*

**Christmas Day**

*December 25, 2022*



**Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion:**

We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ's Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. ***Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.***

**Opening Hymn**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**379**

**Invocation, Confession & Absolution**

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** ... in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*from Isaiah 9*



*For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;\*  
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,  
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,\*  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.*

## Gloria Patri

LSB pg. 186

**C** *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

## Kyrie

LSB pg. 186

**C** *Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB pgs. 186-189*

**P** Glory be to God on high:  
**C** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Hymn

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

368

*1 Chronicles 17:7–12*

<sup>7</sup>Now, therefore, thus shall you say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be prince over my people Israel, <sup>8</sup>and I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>9</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall waste them no more, as formerly, <sup>10</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will subdue all your enemies. Moreover, I declare to you that the LORD will build you a house. <sup>11</sup>When your days are fulfilled to walk with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>12</sup>He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*from Psalm 8*



<sup>12</sup>“I, Wisdom, dwell with | prudence,\*

**and I find knowledge and discretion.**

<sup>14</sup>I have counsel and sound | wisdom;\*

**I have insight; I | have strength.**

<sup>22</sup>The LORD possessed me at the beginning | of his work,\*

the first of his | acts of old.

<sup>23</sup>Ages ago I was | set up,\*

at the first, before the beginning | of the earth.

<sup>24</sup>When there were no depths I was brought forth,\*

when there were no springs abounding | with water.

<sup>25</sup>Before the mountains had been shaped,\*

before the hills, I was | brought forth,

<sup>26</sup>before he had made the earth with its fields,\*

**or the first of the dust | of the world.**

<sup>27</sup>When he established the heavens, | I was there;\*

when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

<sup>28</sup>when he made firm the | skies above,\*

**when he established the fountains | of the deep,**

<sup>29</sup>when he assigned to the sea | its limit,\*

when he marked out the foundations | of the earth,

<sup>30</sup>then I was beside him, like a master | workman,\*

**and I was daily his | delight,**

<sup>31</sup>rejoicing in his inhabited | world\*

and delighting in the child- | ren of man.



## Second Lesson

*Titus 3:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia

*LSB pg. 190*

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:1–18*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

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

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

Sermon Hymn                      *Of the Father's Love Begotten*                      384

Sermon                      "The Light is Winning"

Nicene Creed                      *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Prayers

Offering

Offertory                      *LSB pgs. 192-193*

**C** *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy  
Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with  
Thy free spirit. Amen.*

The Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with your spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary [...] evermore praising You and  
saying:

Sanctus                      *LSB pg. 195*

**C** *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the  
name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

The Lord's Prayer                      *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Consecration

Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

**Agnus Dei**

LSB pg. 198

- C** *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*  
*O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*  
*O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

**Communion Hymns**

<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	<b>380</b>
<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	<b>376</b>
<i>Let Our Gladness Banish Sadness</i>	<b>371</b>

**Nunc Dimittis**

LSB pgs. 199-200

- C** *Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,*  
*for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,*  
*a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.*  
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;*  
*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**Thanksgiving & Benediction**

- P** Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

**Closing Hymn**

*Away in a Manger*

**364**

\* \* \*

**Larry & Annette Bremer** are sponsoring the broadcast for the month of December, in thanksgiving for God's healing hand & for all the support they received from our friends at SJL & Zion. God bless your on-going health.

**Larry & Linda Becker** are sponsoring bulletins and the broadcast in Glory to God for their 55 years of marriage on Dec. 30th. May God continue to bless your marriage.

Lutheran Schools in Martin County  
St James Lutheran School, Martin Luther High School  
All Schools and places of learning



**St James**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Lynn Petrowiak, Rachel Hansen, Britten Swanson,  
Jameson Wolter, Joseph Crissinger

*Sick & In Distress:* Mitchell Wagner, Marianne Hagen, Jeff Hagen,  
Rochelle Franzen, Berniece Schultz

*Homebound:* Bev Graplar, Carl Luhmann

**Zion**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Lili Bulfer, Brian Steuber, Evan Oberdieck

*Seminary Student:* Peter Preus

*Serving our Country:* Ben Peymann, Dalton Fette, Kory Brown,  
Jesse Peterson

*Sick & In Distress:* Greg Wallace, Lynn Schwieger, Caleb Roiger

*Homebound:* Dale Schwieger, Lenore Wendt, Norma Patsche

**LYF Egg fundraiser** will continue after many Sunday services at SJL. Lincoln & I have doubled the flock and we have EGGS, EGGS, & MORE EGGS! 100% of proceeds goes to LYF for expenses and future trips. In 10 months of sales, your generous donations have totaled over \$1,300 for LYF! Please keep returning cartons and just leave in the narthex. Can always call/text me at 230-2700 to get direct from the farm also — Lynn J Becker

**LYF** will once again be picking up live Christmas trees to raise funds for summer activities. Call/text Larissa Hillmer (236-2780) to schedule a pick-up time. They will be having a burning party on Jan 6th.

**SUPER BOWL PIZZA TIME!** Order forms are at the back of the church and must be turned in by January 8th.

**2023 Installation of Officers will be on Sunday, January 8th.**

**Offering Envelopes for 2023** are on the tables in the Narthex. Please do not use until next year, as some numbers have changed. Also, if you give exclusively online or do not want a box of envelopes in the future, please contact the office.

**Donations for Zion Church and Parsonage Repairs** are welcome. Zion voting members recently approved nearly \$10,000 of improvements to be completed on the church and parsonage. Areas of the church and parsonage recently received a fresh coat of paint at a cost of \$6,620. The parsonage garage doors and openers will also be replaced at a cost of approximately \$3,300. Please consider donating to help us reach our goal of \$10,000 to offset these costs. Designate donations to “Zion Repairs”. - Zion Trustees

**Benefit for Myron Kietzer**, from Willow Creek, will be held Saturday January 14th, 3-7pm at the Amboy Snowbirds Event Center, 224 Main Street, Amboy. They will be serving Pork Sandwiches, Chips, Pickles, Desserts and Beverages. Free-will donations to help with medical expenses. There also will be a Stretch Raffle with some great prizes. Snow date will be January 21st.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** can be turned in to the church office or emailed to sjlnorthrop@gmail.com. Please have them submitted before Wed 1/4 for Zion, and before Wed 1/11 for SJL **Thank you!**



**Weather Related Announcements** can be found on SJL Facebook page, or on KEYC (TV, website, Facebook page). If you are interested, KEYC has an option for notifications for any organization you chose. Download the **KEYC News Now** app on your phone, go to **Settings** and choose **Closings**, then scroll down to **St James Lutheran Church - Northrop or Zion/Fraser Lutheran - Fairmont**.

**Grocery Receipts for SJLS.**  
**HyVee \$75,000      Fareway \$53,000**  
**Receipts from HyVee can be grocery, gas or pharmacy**

*Remember to use Amazon Smile as you shop as another way to financially help the school. Talk to Heather if you have questions.*



## MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL

**MLHS is looking for Thrivent Members** who are willing to apply for the Thrivent \$250 Community Action dollars to help supplement the various activities. Each Thrivent member can do two events in a year. Contact the MLHS office and we will match you with a project! We have many of them all year long!

**Choice Dollars** charitable grant funds can make a world of difference to Concordia High School. By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members recommend where they feel Thrivent should distribute a portion of its charitable grant funds. Directing Choice Dollars is easy. Simply go to [www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice](http://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice".

**You can give to MLHS Ministry while you shop! Use HyVee Cards.** (Or give them as gifts!) Available in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100. Purchase **KWIK TRIP cards** through MLHS. MLHS earns 5% on each Gas and Gift Card. Available in \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200 and \$500 increments. Give them as gifts also! They can be used at KWIK TRIP and KWIK STAR. Special KWIK TRIP Grocery Only cards are available in \$100 and \$200 which provides 15% to MLHS on in-store grocery purchases ONLY. *\*\*\*Items not eligible to be purchased with Grocery Only include fuel, tobacco, alcohol, gift cards, lottery/lotto, and stamps. Both HyVee & KWIK TRIP cards can be purchased from the MLHS School Office during regular office hours. Please call 436-5249 and we will have them ready for you.*

**The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School Knights4Life** is sponsoring a trip to the capital in St. Paul for the 50th annual March for Life on Sunday, January 22. If we have enough people, we will take a bus. We will leave MLHS at 9:00 am and return around 7:00 pm. If you would like to go, please call the school office at 507-436-5249 by Friday, January 13th. There will be a cost for the bus, but that will depend on how many people sign up. Everyone is invited to participate. Even though Roe v Wade was overturned, the battle is in the individual states now and Minnesota sadly is a very pro-choice state. This is a chance to make your pro-life stance known! If you have any questions, contact Miss Rebecca Oerman, Knights4Life Advisor.

## Adult Bible Study Opportunities

### Sunday morning Adult Bible Class.

**Zion:** 8:45am, Narthex. Please join us as we study topics in The Lutheran Witness. Please bring your Lutheran Witness magazine if possible. Extra copies are available.

**SJL:** 9:45am, Fellowship Hall. We will begin a study entitled, *“Walking with God in the Desert....Are you going through a difficult period of life? The loss of a loved one? Unemployment? A crisis of faith? During these desert times, it’s easy to think God has disappeared. Instead, discover that it’s only when we are totally dependent on Him that we find Him closer than ever and can experience God’s amazing grace and provision.”*

**Friday Morning Bible Study** is held at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL. For the next few weeks we will be focusing on hymns of Advent and Christmas

**CREST is in need of volunteers for our long distance transportation services. The need for services is rising.** Gas cards are given to help off-set some of the cost. Please know that if we call & your busy, that’s ok. We’ll catch you next time.

We serve the aging population in Martin County. Please call 235.3833 or [crest@crestvolunteers.org](mailto:crest@crestvolunteers.org) for more info.

**CREST**  
Enhancing Quality of Life



Those Serving our Lord		
	Greeters	Acolyte
<b>SJL 12-25</b>	Tom & Jean Schultz	Ashley Burkey
<b>1-1-23</b>	Barb Schultze & Carole Lohmann	Joseph Crissinger
<b>Zion 1-1-23</b>	Jeff & Heather Moeller	John Henry IV

**THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: Dec 18 - 25, 2022**  
**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:00AM–Noon**  
**Office phone:** 436-5289 **Pastor phone:** 219-713-1604  
**Email:** sjlnorthrop@gmail.com **Website:** sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com

**Sunday Christmas Day**  
Joint Divine Worship (SJ) 10:00 AM  
**Wednesday NO** Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades)  
**NO** Confirmation Class (8th grade)  
**Thursday Eve Circle** (SJ) 7:00 PM  
**Friday NO** Morning Bible Study  
**Sunday New Years Day**  
Divine Worship (SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM  
Sunday School/Bible Class (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:30 AM

*Online giving is an easy and reliable method to contribute to your church while you are out of town, or if you are interested in eliminating the need to remember your envelope on Sunday morning. You can make a one time donation or save time and schedule recurring contributions. This option is available for either con-*

Wednesday Dec. 14, 2022	
Jt Attendance	250



Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Dec. 18, 2022
Attendance	90 (HC 57)	Home	\$2,575.00
Missions	\$375.00	Loose Plate	\$35.00
MLHS	\$1,565.00	Christmas Bags	\$40.00
Zion Repairs	\$300.00	Kitchen Remodel	\$20.00
Advent III/SJLS	\$578.00	SJL School	\$500.00

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Dec. 18, 2022
Attendance	91 (HC 75)	Home	\$3,680.00
Loose Plate	\$91.00	Missions	\$20.00
Online	\$546.37	Advent III/SJLS	\$498.00
MLHS	\$400.00	SJLC Misc	\$82.72
Bulletins	\$45.00	SJLS Misc	\$300.00