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



# Pastor John Henry

## First Sunday in Advent



341

December 3, 2023

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.

# Welcome to worship! "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:3).

**Opening Hymn** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

# **Invocation, Confession & Absolution**

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- ...I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **Entrance Psalm**

Psalm 25:1-2



<sup>1</sup>To you, | O Lord,\* I lift | up my soul. <sup>2</sup>O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be | put to shame;\*

let not my enemies exult over me.

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.

Kvrie

sung; repeated five times. LSB pg. 204

- **P** ...let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

# Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And with your spirit.
- **P** 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.

C Amen.

#### **Zion Sunday School Sing**

Zion Only

First Lesson Malachi 4

<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 right-eousness 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.

says the LORD of hosts.

4"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."

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

C Thanks be to God.

**Psalm** *Psalm 24:1–7* 



<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD's and the full- | ness thereof,\*

the world and those who | dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup>for he has founded it up- | on the seas\*

and established it upon the | rivers.

3Who shall ascend the hill | of the LORD?\*

And who shall stand in his | holy place?

4He who has clean hands and a | pure heart,\*

who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear de- | ceitfully.

5He will receive blessing | from the LORD\*
and righteousness from the God of his sal- | vation.

6Such is the generation of those who | seek him,\*

who seek the face of the God of | Jacob.

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,\*
that the King of glory | may come in.

**Second Lesson** Romans 13:8–14

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>17</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB pg. 205

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Holy Gospel** 

*Matthew 21:1–9* 

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>"Say to the daughter of Zion,

'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. <sup>7</sup>They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

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

C Praise to You, O Christ.

**Sermon Hymn** O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

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Sermon

Nicene Creed

inside the back cover of the hymnal

The Prayers

**Offering** 

# **Offertory for Advent**

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

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;

To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

### 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. 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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. 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray. O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

# Communion Hymns

Savior of the Nations, Come	332
Of the Father's Love Begotten	384
O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright	395

**Nunc Dimittis** LSB pg. 211

O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One; For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

### Thanksgiving & Benediction

- Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- $\mathbf{C}$ Amen
- P The Lord be with you.
- $\mathbf{C}$ And with your spirit.
- Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.
- 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.
- $\mathbf{C}$ Amen.

# **Closing Hymn**

The Advent of Our King

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You can sponsor the bulletins (\$10 per congregation) or online broadcast (\$25) anytime throughout the year, in honor of a special event or giving thanks to God. Call the church office with your request.

Paul & Cindy Wolter are sponsoring the bulletins for the month of December, giving thanks to our Lord in as they celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on December 3rd. May God continue to bless your marriage.

**Bulletins are emailed weekly.** If you are not on the list and would like to be, please contact the office. Bulletins can also be found on the website silnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com. Contact the office if you have questions.

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

### **St James**

Baptism Birthdays: Judi Polzin, Tyler Wiederhoeft

Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Marilyn Borkenhagen,

Marianne Hagen, Tom Koeritz, Sandy Kurseth

Homebound: Carl Luhmann

### Zion

Baptism Birthdays: Henry Murphy, Lucas Nelson, Carol Bartz,

Dorie Schwieger

Seminary Student: Peter Preus

Serving our Country: Ben Peymann, Dalton Fette, Kory Brown,

Jesse Peterson, Lili Bulfer

Sick & In Distress: Greg Wallace, Lynn Schwieger, Caleb Roiger Homebound: Dale Schwieger, Lenore Wendt, Norma Patsche,

Violet Lueth, Yonsey Karasek



Christmas Caroling TODAY - everyone is invited to share Christmas joy with our homebound members and others in assisted living and nursing homes in the area. We will meet at Zion at 3pm. Following our singing fun, Bob & Viv Traetow have graciously invited everyone over to their home for soups and bars.

LYF Egg fundraiser continues. Eggs will be available at SJL after most services or you can call/text Lynn Becker at 230-2700 to arrange a pick up from the farm. 100% of proceeds goes to LYF for expenses and future trips. Please keep returning cartons and leave in the SJL narthex.



Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Cancelled your landline? Please contact the office with your updated contact information.

Are you in need of help with meals? **St James Lutheran Stewardship Committee** is starting a meal-train for SJL members who wish to have some help with meals for a short time. This could be due to an illness, a hospital stay, a birth of a child, a death in the family, or for any other reason. Contact Jody Uttech (507-236-6456) if you wish to have a meal-train started for you and/or your family. Also, if you are willing to help by furnishing a meal for a meal-train family when it works with your schedule, please let Jody know.



- Heaven's Table Food Shelf collection of nonperishable food items and personal care items such as shampoo, soap, body wash, toothpaste, etc., now through December 17th. If you would like to contribute any of these items there is a table in the narthex at both churches for your donations. Thank you.
- **Zion LWML is also collecting NEW SOCKS** for Orphan Grain Train, now through December 17th. All sizes, styles, colors welcomed. There is a basket at the back of church for your donations. Thank you.

St John's Antrim Church will be having their 8<sup>th</sup> annual Beef Commercial Meal, Sunday Dec. 3<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We will be serving the meal in the church basement from 11:15am-12:30 pm. To go orders will be available. This is a free will donation event.

**St. Paul's Wilbert LWML** invite you to their annual Christmas Social on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. There will be a salad luncheon, program and a Bake and Craft Sale Table available.

**St John's LWML of Sherburn** invite you to their Guest Day on Wednesday December 13th at 2pm for a program with music and dessert luncheon.

Sunday School Christmas Program Practice starts TODAY, Sunday December 3rd! SJL will practice after Sunday School until 11:30. Zion will practice for one hour after church. Thank you.

**The MLHS Music Department** will present "The Joy of Christmas in Concert" on Sat, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m. in the high school gymnasium in Northrop. The band will give a debut performance of a special piece commissioned exclusively for MLHS written by Kurt Heinecke, Veggie Tales composer. Heinecke will be the guest speaker at the concert and will give insight to the design of the piece. Elementary and high school musicians in band and choir will be under the direction of Mr. Phil Schult. Admission is a free will donation.



ADVENT I: Wednesday December 6th @ Zion Eve Circle will be serving supper from 6-6:45PM Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Salads, Bars and Beverages 7:00pm Advent Vespers Worship



DECEMBER	02	Decorate Churches	8:30AM (Z); 9:00AM (SJ)
	03	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)
	06	Advent Vespers Service I	7:00PM (Z) (Offerings: MLHS)
	10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)
	13	SJLS Children's Program Chapel	9:00AM (SJ)
		SJLS Children's Program/Advent Vespers II	7:00PM (SJ) (Offerings: SJL School)
	17	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)
	20	Advent Vespers Service III	7:00PM (Z) (Offerings: Options Preg Center)
	24	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)
		Christmas Eve Children's SS Program	4:00PM (Z) (Offerings: Day Schools)
			7:00PM (SJ) (Offerings: Birthday Offerings)
		Candlelight Joint Divine Service	10:00PM (Z)
	25	Christmas Day Joint Divine Service	8:30AM (SJ)
	31	1st Sunday after Christmas Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)
JANUARY	01	NO New Years Day Service	
	05	Epiphany Joint Divine Service	6:00PM (Z) (Bonfire to follow)
	07	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas Divine Services	8:30AM (SJ); 10:00AM (Z)

# \*\*All Divine Services will have Holy Communion\*\*

# Serving Advent Suppers 12/6: Eve Circle

12/6: Eve Circle 12/13: PTL 12/20: LYF



# Wednesdays in Advent

6-6:45PM Supper 7:00PM Worship Please contact Linda Becker (236-1316) to sign up to help with donations of goodies or to help at the sale.

Join us for our 5th annual (Ookie Walk

Saturday, December 9th 9am - 11 am

St. James Lutheran (hurch Fellowship Hall in Northrop Goods will be available for purchase by the pound!

lots of cookies, candies, etc. to choose from.

(ontainers will be provided, or bring your own if you wish!

(offee and cider offered

for a free will donation to enjoy your cookies with!

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 congregation through the website; silnorthop.com or zionfraser.com, or through the tithe.ly church app.



SJL Online Giving



# **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 are using the Focus on the Family video series "That the World May Know".

Friday Morning Bible Study at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL.

# **Issues**,Etc.

# Sundays on KSUM 1370AM - 9 am

- Dec 3 Your Unanswered Bible Questions Pastor Bryan Wolfmuller and Pastor Brian Kachelmeier
- Dec 10 "On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry" Dr. Arthur Just
- Dec 17 The Christmas Hymn "O Come All Ye Faithful" Pastor Will Weedon
- Dec 24 The First Christmas Dr. Paul Maier
- Dec 31 The Christmas Hymn: "O Little Town Of Bethlehem" Dr. Arthur Just



# THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY: Sundays on KSUM 1370AM- 11 am

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"Before They Call" SOS and Mayday are distress signals that cry out for rescue.
So is "Lord, have mercy!" (Isaiah 64:4)

Those Serving our Lord			
Greeters		Acolyte	
SJL 12-3	Mat & Leanna Mahoney	Hailey Simpson	
12-10	Dan & Lynn Petrowiak		
12-13	Ken & Rhonda Petrowiak 7pm		
Zion12-3	Dion & Teresa Montgomery	Alex Pittman	
12-6	Austin & Amanda Morris 7pm		
12-10	Tyler & Mikaela Morris	Gavin Schoen	

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: Dec 3 - 10, 2023 **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - Noon Pastor phone: 219-713-1604 **Office phone:** 436-5289 Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com Website: sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com Sunday Divine Worship (SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM Sunday School (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM SS Program Practice (SJ) 10:30-11:30, (Z) 11:15-12:15 PM Tuesday Chapel (SJ) 8:40 AM Wednesday Chapel (SJ) 8:40 AM Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades) (SJ) 4:00 PM Confirmation Class (8th grade) (SJ) 5:00 PM Supper (Eve Circle) (Z) 6:00 PM Advent I Vespers (Z) 7:00 PM Thursday Chapel (SJ) 8:40 AM Morning Bible Study Friday (SJ) 8:00 AM SJL Cookie Walk Saturday (SJ) 9:00-11:00 AM Divine Worship Sunday (SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM Sunday School (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM SS Program Practice (SJ) 10:30-11:30, (Z) 11:15-12:15 PM

Reflec	Nov 22, 2023		
Attendance	JT 55 (Z HC 29)	Thanksgiving	\$1,065.00
Loose Plate	\$19.00	Zion Repairs	\$100.00

Reflecti	ng our Stewards	hip – Zion	Nov 26, 2023
Attendance	122 (HC 74)	Home	\$3,467.20
Loose Plate	\$87.93	Missions	\$425.00
SJLS	\$50.00		

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			
Attendance 11/22	JT 55 (SJ HC 16)	Home	\$11,390.00
Attendance 11/26	102 (HC 84)	Missions	\$125.00
Online	\$588.88	Tuition	\$500.00
MLHS	\$350.00	Loose Plate	\$238.00
Bulletins	\$145.00	Memorials	\$10.00
SJLS	\$300.00	Thanksgiving	\$733.00