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

Pastor John Henry



Last Sunday of the Church Year



November 24, 2024

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.

Today we celebrate Christ the King, who declared to Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). May we be open to his countercultural rule. Welcome to worship.

Opening Hymn Sing to the Lord of Harvest 893

The Holy Baptism of Hance Schock

SJL

Invocation, Confession & Absolution

Zion

- **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

Isaiah 35:10



The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with | singing;* everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,*

and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.

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.

Kyrie

LSB pgs. 152-153

Repeated 4 times:

 $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{1}}$...pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

This is the Feast

LSB pg. 155

(Refrain): This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. (Refrain)

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. (Refrain)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also you with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the re-

deemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Lesson Revelation 21:1–7

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 130



Out of the depths*

I cry to you, | O LORD!

O Lord, | hear my voice!*

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³If you, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,*
O Lord, | who could stand?

⁴But with you there is for- | giveness,*
that you | may be feared.

⁵I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*

and in his | word I hope; ⁶my soul waits for the Lord

my sout waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*

more than watchmen for the | morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.

8 And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:16–18; 5:1–10

¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB pg. 156

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And

the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying 516

Sermon

Nicene Creed inside the back cover of the hymnal

The Prayers

Offering

Offertory LSB 159

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

The Preface

- **P** *The Lord be with you.*
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** *Lift up your hearts.*
- **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. 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

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. 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying	597
Christ, the Life of All the Living	420
Lamb of God	550

Thank the Lord

LSB pg. 164

526

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanksgiving & Benediction

- **P** Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- 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 You Are the Way; through You Alone

Acknowledgments

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Lon & Marilyn Oelke are sponsoring the bulletins for the month of November, giving thanks to our Lord in remembrance of their birthdays and baptism birthdays for both of them in November. May God continue to bless your lives.

Greg & Lori Schock are sponsoring the bulletins and broadcast this week in celebration of the baptism of their grandson, Hance Shock.

A Guide for Daily Devotions

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, use this bulletin for daily devotions. One these days, pray the Collect of the Day each day, and reread the Lessons as follows: Monday, First Lesson; Tuesday, Second Lesson; Wednesday, Gospel Lesson. You may also want to pray or sing one of the hymns from the previous Sunday.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, follow this plan to prepare for the coming Sunday.

Each day, 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.

On Thursday, readMalachi 4:1-6On Friday, readRomans 13:8-14On Saturday, readMatthew 21:1-9

You may also want to pray or sing the Hymn of the Day for the coming Sunday:

Hymn: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



Today at SJL we welcome into our church family through Holy Baptism, Hance Troy Shock. He is the son of Garrett & Haley and brother to Hattie & Higgins. His sponsors are Dustin & Stephanie Zellmer. May God continue to bless the Schock family.

Large Print Hymnals are available at SJL above the bulletin rack, and at ZION on the back table by the communion cards.

The Joint **Zion / St. James Strategic Planning Committee** wants to thank all who donated to our Kiss A Pig fund raiser! Help from Hayley Luther and the SJL PTL were key to the success. We brought in over \$26,000 in donations. Special thanks to Lon Oelke and Larry Bremer for their good humor and devotion to our school!



Join us for the **6th Annual Cookie Walk** on Saturday, December 14th, 9-11am, at SJL. Goodies available to purchase by the pound. Containers will be provided, or bring your own if you wish. Please contact Linda Becker (236-1316) to sign up to help with donations of goodies or to help at the sale.

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



St James

Baptism Birthdays: Hance Schock, Andrea Wiederhoeft, Heidi Koeritz, Sutton Bohlsen, Higgins Schock

Serving our Country: Sean McCroskey

Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Tom Koeritz, Myla Roskop, Bryce Grefe, Jeff Roskop, Webb Quade

Homebound: Carl Luhmann

Zion

Baptism Birthdays: Brae Bulfer, Luke Brown, Jaxton Roberts, Klay Brown, Levi Nelson, Marilyn Oelke

Seminary Student: Timothy Schleusener

Serving our Country: Ben Peymann, Kory Brown, Jesse Peterson, Lili Bulfer

Sick & In Distress: Greg Wallace, Lynn Schwieger, Caleb Roiger, Marsha Peterson, Mike Sandersfeld

Homebound: Dale Schwieger, Norma Patsche, Violet Lueth, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz

Remembering those in need this Advent Season.

- * SJL will be collecting non-perishable food items and personal care items such as shampoo, soap, body wash, toothpaste, etc. for **Heaven's Table Food Shelf,** now through December 15th.
- * Zion will be collecting for Healing Hearts Housing in Sherburn until December 15th. They are requesting gifts for under the tree for the ladies since they may not be able to celebrate with their families. Ideas: Bath & Body Works items, meditation journals with nice covers, day planners, hair brushes, flat irons and curling irons, perfume, makeup (neutral colors), gift cards. There are 6 ladies, ages 31-44.

If you would like to contribute any of these items there are tables in the narthex to place your donations. Thank you.



Your help is needed to help beautify our churches for the Advent Season on Saturday Nov 30th. All are welcome to join the festivities. SJ Eve Circle will also have a short meeting afterwards. Zion will start at 8:30AM, SJL will start at 9:00AM.



- 2025 Offering envelopes are here. Please contact the church office by Dec 1st if you DO NOT want a box of envelopes. A number will still be assigned and contributions recorded for online giving.
- Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Cancelled your landline? Please contact the office with your updated contact information.

The windows in the parsonage need to be replaced. Donations toward the parsonage windows are welcome at this time and going forward, as the cost will be approximately \$42,000 with up to 50% required up front. Thank you.

The Ladies of St Paul's Lutheran Church of Wilbert invite you to their **Annual Christmas Social** on December 12 at 1:30 p.m. Join us for a program and salad luncheon. There also will be a table with baked goods and crafts. Help us celebrate the Reason for the Season, Christ's Birth.



Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 1st - 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 supper.

Sunday School Christmas Program Practice will start Sunday December 1st! Zion will practice during Sunday School hour starting at 8:45. SJL will practice after Sunday School until 11:30. Thank you.

Are you in need of help with meals? **St James Lutheran Stewardship Committee Meal-train** is 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.

The **Zion-Fraser LWML** thanks everyone for contributing to the needs in our area by contributing to the Heaven's Table Foodshelf. Donations included gifts of 105 pounds of non-perishables and \$25. Praise be to God!



MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL SJL & Zion are full association members

Give while you shop! You can support the Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School Ministry by purchasing **HyVee or KWIK Trip Gift Cards** from the school office. Just give us a call at 507-436-5249 and we can have them ready for you. MLHS receives a portion of every card used---at no cost to you!

Recycle your wireless phones, PDAs, iPods and printer ink cartridges (no toner). A dropbox is available in the SJL Fellowship Hall next to the greeting card rack. Or you may drop them off at MLHS.

Everyone invited to a **Christmas Concert "Get a Handel on Christmas"** at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop on Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. Elementary and high school band students will be performing and the high school choir will sing. Students are under the direction of Mr. Phil Schult. Admission is a free-will donation.

All families are invited to a **Family Winter Carnival** sponsored by the Student Council and National Honor Society students of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop on Sunday, January 26th from 1-3 p.m. in the gym. There will be a Bouncy House, lots of inside games, prizes, snacks and a parents' lounge. Cost is \$5/child or \$15/family (parents are free.)

The Parent/Teacher League of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop is sponsoring a history presentation entitled "The Great Northfield Bank Raid-Minnesotans Foil the James/Younger Gang" by historian Arn Kind on Tuesday, January 28. Presentations are grades 5-8 at 9:00-11:15 a.m. and grades 9-12 at noon-1:15 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School PTL is hosting a information seminar "Gen Z Mental Health Strategies for Parents, Adults and the Gen Z'er" lead by Kathleen von Kampen, MA, LMFT, LMHP, DCE Gracepoint Ministries Therapist & Professor of Psychology at Concordia University NE on Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Babysiting will be provided with prior reservation by calling 507-436-5249 by January 10th.

The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School Yearbook Staff is selling **RADA Cutlery** online. To order online go to www.martinlutherhs.com and click on the Special Events tab. Orders will be shipped directly to you. Manufactured in Waverly, Iowa; these products make great Christmas gifts.





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, Sanctuary. Bring your coffee and join us as we use the
 "That the World May Know" video series to discover how God guides
 His people to a specific place to impact the world, both in ancient times
 and today.

<u>Thursday Adult Bible Class</u> at 7pm for Men & Women at Zion. <u>Friday Morning Bible Study</u> at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL. Everyone is welcome to join us as we discuss Church & State.



Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 9 am

11/24 Encore: Psalm 67 for a Day of Thanksgiving – Dr. Timothy Saleska
12/01 The Hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" - Pastor Will Weedon
12/08 The Hymn: "Hark A Thrilling Voice is Sounding - Pastor Will Weedon



THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe

"Jesus Sees What's in the Heart" Jesus sees what's in our hearts. What's in His heart? God saw that we needed a Savior. (Mark 12:41-44)

Those Serving our Lord				
Greeters		Acolyte		
SJL 11-24	Paul & Hayley Luther	Kimi Hansen		
12-1	Mat & Leanna Mahoney	Oakley Bohlsen		
ZION 11-24	Lon & Marilyn Oelke	Alex Pittman		
11-27	Chuck & Wanda Patsche 7pm			
12-1	Brandon & Marissa Poppe	Brooklyn Pittman		

SJL Ushers: Greg Raabe, Paul Tomlinson, Jayden Garlick, Lonny Becker

Elders: Chuck (Z), Daryl (SJ) SJL AG: Sherri Roforth, Cindi Tomlinson

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: Nov 24 - Dec 1, 2024

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - Noon

Office phone: 436-5289 **Pastor phone:** 219-713-1604

Email: silnorthrop@gmail.com Website: silnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com

Sunday Divine Worship (SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM

Sunday School/Bible Class (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM

(SJ) 8:40 AM

(Z) 7:00 PM

Tuesday Chapel

Wednesday Thanksgiving Eve Div Service

Thursday Thanksgiving Day

NO Adult Bible Class

Friday NO Morning Bible Study

Saturday Church Decorating (Z) 8:30 AM, (SJ) 9:00 AM
Sunday Divine Worship (SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
Sunday School/Bible Class (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM

Sunday School Practice (Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 10:30 AM

Christmas Caroling meet @ Zion (Z) 3:00 PM

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 zionfra-ser.com, or through the tithe.ly church app.

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Nov 17, 2024	
Attendance	96 (HC 62)	Home	\$3,515.00	
Loose Plate	\$132.00	Missions	\$875.00	
Windows	\$800.00	MLHS	\$65.00	
Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$15.605.00				

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Nov 17, 2024		
Attendance	76 (HC 61)	Home	\$3,810.00		
Loose Plate	\$195.00	Missions	\$15.00		
Online	\$2,086.70	SJLS Misc	\$3,440.29		
Transportation	\$195.52	Tuition Angel	\$50.00		
Average Monthly Fixed Expenses: \$47,046.00					
October To	tals: Given \$37,0	668.95 Shortage	e (\$9,377.05)		
November T	otals: Given \$20,	918.59 Shortag	e (\$26,127.41)		