

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



Pastor John Henry

First Sunday in Advent

December 1, 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.*

Happy New Year!

*Today the church calendar begins anew with Advent
as we celebrate Jesus' coming in the past, present and future.
Welcome to worship.*

Opening Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* **341**

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 Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

P ...I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Entrance Psalm

Psalm 25:1-2



¹To you, | O LORD, *
I lift | up my soul.
²O 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.**

Kyrie *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.

C 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.

First Lesson

Malachi 4

¹“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. ²But 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. ³And 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.

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

⁵“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And 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 24:7–10



⁷*Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.*
⁸*Who is this King of | glory?**
***The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in | battle!***
⁹*Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.*
¹⁰*Who is this King of | glory?**
***The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of | glory!***

Second Lesson

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The 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.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides 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. ¹²The 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. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But 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.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB pg. 205

C *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***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵"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.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And 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***334****Sermon****Nicene Creed***inside the back cover of the hymnal***The Prayers****Offering****Offertory for Advent**

C *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

- C** *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

Veni, Jesu

1 Corinthians 11:26, Revelation 22:20

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Agnus Dei

- C** *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

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

Nunc Dimittis

LSB pg. 211

- C** *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

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

The Advent of Our King

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Acknowledgments

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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, read

Isaiah 40:1-11

On Friday, read

2 Corinthians 5:17-6:2

On Saturday, read

Luke 3:1-20

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

Hymn: 346 When All the World Was Cursed

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



St James

Baptism Birthdays: Mike Steuber, Judi Polzin

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: Henry Murphy, Lucas Nelson

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

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

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.



Christmas Caroling Today, 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.



- **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.

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.

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.

St John's LWML of Sherburn invite you to their Guest Day on Wednesday December 11th at 2pm for a program with music and desert luncheon.



Join us for our 6th annual

Cookie Walk

Saturday December 14th 9-11am
St. James Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in Northrop.
Goods will be available for purchase by the pound!
An abundance of cookies, candies, etc. to choose from!
Containers will be provided, or bring your own if you wish.
Pre-boxed "giftable" cookie batches will be available as well.



ADVENT I
Wednesday December 4th @ SJL
Eve Circle will be serving supper from **6-6:45PM**
Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Assorted Salads,
Chips, Bars, Beverages
Advent Vespers Service @ 7:00pm

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.

If you wish to reserve the fellowship hall at Zion, please: 1. Contact one of the elders for permission, and 2. Contact Heather in the office to make sure the day and time you want are free. Both of these steps need to be done to complete a reservation. Thank you.

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.

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; sjlnorthop.com or zionfraser.com, or through the tithe.ly church app.



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.

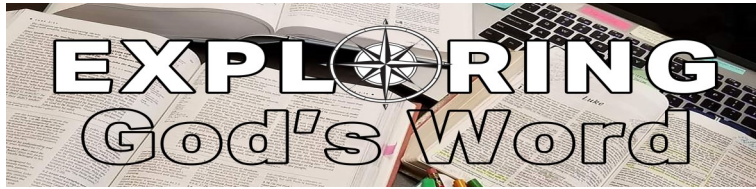
Everyone invited to a **Christmas Concert "Get a Handel on Christmas"** at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop on Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. Elementary and high school band students will be performing and the high school choir will sing. Students are under the direction of Mr. Phil Schult.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

Thursday Adult Bible Class at 7pm for Men & Women at Zion.

Friday Morning Bible Study at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL. Everyone is welcome to join us as we discuss Church & State.

 **Issues, Etc.**

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 9 am

- 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
- 12/15 The Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful - Pastor Will Weedon



THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"Will Everything Sad Come Untrue?" A mother and her young son trade a life of privilege for one of poverty, a story that is borderline unbelievable, yet nonetheless true. (Jeremiah 33:16)


Those Serving our Lord			
		Greeters	Acolyte
SJL	12-1	Mat & Leanna Mahoney	Oakley Bohlsen
	12-8	Jacob & Brooke Mortenson	Christian Drayer
ZION	12-1	Brandon & Marissa Poppe	Brooklyn Pittman
	12-8	Kristi Prafke & Mitchell	Gavin Schoen
SJL Ushers: Lee Baarts, Dereck Bartz, Paul Leimer, Joe Leimer			
Elders: Kevin (Z), Larry (SJ) SJL AG: Kay Vogt, Sandra Luhmann			

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: Dec 1 - 8, 2024

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

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

Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com Website: sjlnorthrop.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
CAROLING	Sunday School Practice	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 10:30 AM
	Christmas Caroling meet @ Zion	(Z) 3:00 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)	(SJ) 6:00 PM
	Advent I Vespers	(SJ) 7:00 PM
	Joint Elders Meeting	(SJ) 8:00 PM
	Choir Practice	(SJ) 8:00 PM
Thursday	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
	Adult Bible Class	(Z) 7:00 PM
Friday	Morning Bible Study	(SJ) 8:00 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
	NFL	(SJ) 7:00 PM

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Nov 24, 2024
Attendance	99 (HC 66)	Home	\$3,180.11
Loose Plate	\$69.00	Missions	\$300.00
SPL-Fmt	\$65.00	MLHS	\$200.00
Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$15,605.00			

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Nov 24, 2024
Attendance	119 (HC 96)	Home	\$2,820.00
Loose Plate	\$198.75	Missions	\$225.00
Online	\$578.83	SJLS Misc	\$1,608.79
Transportation	\$144.27	Tuition	\$4,810.00
Bulletins/Broadcast	\$90.00	MLHS	\$175.00
Average Monthly Fixed Expenses: \$47,046.00			
October Totals:	Given \$37,668.95	Shortage (\$9,377.05)	
November Totals:	Given \$31,169.23	Shortage (\$15,876.77)	