

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



*Pastor John Henry*



**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

*January 26, 2025*

**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, dear family in Christ.  
May you sense the care and guidance of Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit during worship,  
faith education and Christian fellowship today.*

**Opening Hymn**    *Only-Begotten, Word of God Eternal*                      **916**

**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 97:6, 9



<sup>6</sup>*The heavens proclaim his | righteousness,\*  
and all the peoples see his | glory.*

<sup>9</sup>*For you, O LORD, are most high over | all the earth,\*  
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.*

*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:

**P** ...pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB pg. 154

**P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-4

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
 and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
 the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
 the Spirit of counsel and might,  
 the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
 or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
 and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 18:25-30



<sup>25</sup>*With the merciful you show yourself | merciful; \**  
**with the blameless man you show yourself | blameless;**  
<sup>26</sup>*with the purified you show your- | self pure; \**  
**and with the crooked you make yourself seem | tortuous.**  
<sup>27</sup>*For you save a humble | people; \**  
**but the haughty eyes | you bring down.**  
<sup>28</sup>*For it is you who | light my lamp; \**  
**the LORD my God lightens my | darkness.**  
<sup>29</sup>*For by you I can run a- | gainst a troop; \**  
**and by my God I can leap o- | ver a wall.**  
<sup>30</sup>*This God—his way is | perfect; \**  
**the word of the LORD proves true;**  
**he is a shield for all those who take ref- | uge in him.**

Second Lesson

Romans 15:8-13

<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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Alleluia & Verse**

*LSB pg. 156*

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

#### **Holy Gospel**

*John 4:46–54*

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

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

<sup>46</sup>[Jesus] came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill.

<sup>47</sup>When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. <sup>48</sup>So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” <sup>49</sup>The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. <sup>51</sup>As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. <sup>52</sup>So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” <sup>53</sup>The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household. <sup>54</sup>This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

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

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

**Sermon Hymn**     *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*     **545**

**Sermon**

**Apostles' Creed**     *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

**The Prayers**

**Offering**

**Offertory for Epiphany**     *LSB pg. 537*

**C** *Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.*

*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!*

**The Preface**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** *And also with you.*

**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. 161*

**C** *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*

**C** *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**

*I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*      **618**  
*Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing*      **421**  
*What Wondrous Love Is This*      **543**

### **Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB pg. 165*

**C** *Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:  
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. 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 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**

*Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing*

**691**

#### **Acknowledgments**

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**Tom & Heidi Koeritz** are sponsoring bulletins and broadcast for the month of January in thankfulness for each new day.

**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.

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



**St James**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Cam Dressen, Craig Carrigan

*Serving our Country:* Sean McCroskey

*Sick & In Distress:* Rochelle Franzen, Tom Koeritz, Myla Roskop,  
Bryce Grefe, Jeff Roskop, Webb Quade, Ronald Schultz,  
Dennis Hagen

*Homebound:* Carl Luhmann

**Zion**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Reegan Moeller, Jady Montgomery, Lily Steuber,  
Bob Traetow

*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:* Norma Patsche, Violet Lueth, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz

**Large Print Hymnals** are available at SJL on the right side of the bulletin boxes, and at ZION on the back table by the communion cards.

**Large print bulletins** are also available by contacting the office.

**College students** please submit your addresses to the office by **January 31st**. Thank you.

**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.



**Pancake Breakfast to celebrate Lutheran Schools**

**Week.** Please join us after church at SJL **TODAY**, Sunday January 26th (10-Noon) for Pancakes (Gluten-free available), sausage, applesauce & beverages. Free-will donations will support curriculum needs.

**All Zion Ladies** are invited to lunch at the Bean Town Grill, Wednesday, February 12, 11:30am. Please RSVP to Lori Behrens by February 8th, 507-995-6692.

### A Guide for Daily Devotions

*On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, use this bulletin for daily devotions. On 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:**

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**On Thursday, read**

*Isaiah 55:1-7*

**On Friday, read**

*1 John 5:13-21*

**On Saturday, read**

*John 5:2-18*

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

**Hymn: 726 Evening and Morning**

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, or are willing to help by furnishing a meal for a meal-train family when it works with your schedule, please let Jody know.



**Weather Related Announcements** will again be available 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.**





- **Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Cancelled your landline?** Please review the information in the annual report and contact the office with your updated information.
- **2025 Contribution Envelopes and 2024 Annual Reports** are available in the Narthex.
- **Strategic Financial Planning Committee reports** are available in the office.

**TUITON ANGEL EGG FUNDRAISER:** the NEW LB Chickens are finally laying eggs (pullet eggs so “smaller” for a little while but still tasty!). Look for eggs in the Narthex at SJL after most Sunday’s moving forward! The previous flock “raised” over \$3,000 over 2.5 years of your generous contributions and helped fund LYF Higher Things trips and expenses...LYF funds are in pretty good shape now so switching to TUITON ANGEL...Call/Text Lynn Becker 507-230-2700 if want direct from the farm...Thanks!



**The Joint Strategic Planning Financial Committee** is interested in your ideas for fundraisers or ways to increase donations/contributions to help support SJL School. You can talk to one of the committee members, (Alan Wille, Gary Peymann, Isaac Wallace, Bart Johnson, Lynn J Becker, and Jennifer Luhmann) or place your idea in the suggestion box found in the Narthex. ~Thank you!

*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](http://sjlnorthop.com) or [zionfraser.com](http://zionfraser.com), or through the [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) church app.*

Those Serving our Lord		
	Greeters	Acolyte
<b>SJL 1-26</b>	Tom & Jean Schultz	Oakley Bohlsen
<b>2-2</b>	Larry & Linda Becker	Christian Drayer
<b>ZION 1-26</b>	Dylan & Kristeena Thisius	Gavin Schoen
<b>2-2</b>	Bob & Viv Traetow	Max Wirth
<b>SJL Ushers:</b> Greg Schock, Jordan Luhmann, Jeff & Joey Crissinger		
<b>Elders:</b> Lon (Z), Jason (SJ) <b>SJL AG:</b> Linda Becker, Dru Egeness		



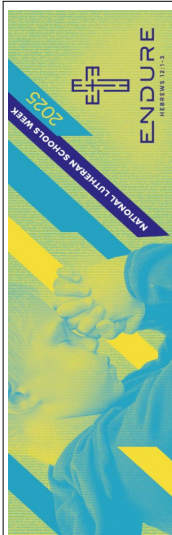
**MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL**  
SJL & Zion are full association members

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.

In celebration of Lutheran Schools Week January 26-February 1st, Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School will be offering **early bird enrollment discounts for new and returning students for the 2025-2026 school year**. Interested families are invited to visit the school at any time. Go to [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com) for more information or call 507-436-5249 to speak with Principal David Stuckwisch.

**Enrollment** for students in grades 7-12 for 2025-2026 at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School opens during Lutheran Schools Week on January 26. **Early bird discounts** apply until March 1st. Principal David Stuckwisch is available for a Meet & Greet on Sunday, January 26 at 3:00 p.m. or any time by appointment. Call 507-436-5249.

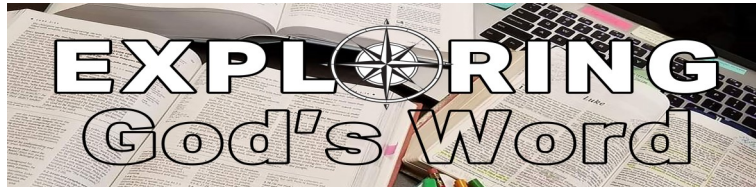


National Lutheran Schools Week provides more than 1,800 preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families.

National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve.

Our schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God's love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike.



### 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 in the church basement at Zion

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

#### **Issues, Etc.**

**Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 9 am**

- 1/26 Encore Christianity in a Positive Neutral and Negative World - Aaron Renn
- 2/2 Listener Email and the Issues Etc Comment Line
- 2/9 Your Unanswered Bible Questions - Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller and Pastor Brian Kachelmeier
- 2/16 The Creation Account and Lutheran Theologian Hermann Sasse - Dr. Ben Mayer
- 2/23 The Ash Wednesday Hymn of The Day “From Depths of Woe I Cry To Thee” - Dr. Arthur Just



#### **THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY**

**Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am**

**Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez**

**"An Overture to the Greatest Story Ever Told"** Like an overture that introduces a great musical work, John the Baptizer is the living voice sent by God to bear witness to Jesus' lordship and salvation. (John 3:26-36)

“Babies are born into the world wrapped in surprising packaging like disabilities or poverty, but even so, God has a perfect plan for each one of them. Abortion is a tragic end to the countless blessings in store for those who would have surrounded these children.” *Brad Mattes, Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

<b>THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD:</b>		<b>Jan 26-Feb 2, 2025</b>
<b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - Noon</b>		
<b>Office phone: 436-5289 Pastor phone: 219-713-1604</b>		
<b>Email: <a href="mailto:sjlnorthrop@gmail.com">sjlnorthrop@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://sjlnorthrop.com">sjlnorthrop.com</a> or <a href="http://zionfraser.com">zionfraser.com</a></b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>National Lutheran Schools Week</b>	
	Divine Worship	<b>(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM</b>
	Sunday School/Bible Class	<b>(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM</b>
	Pancake Breakfast	<b>(SJ) 9:45 AM- Noon</b>
	Winter Carnival @ MLHS	<b>1:00 - 3:00 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Chapel	<b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Chapel	<b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>
	Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades)	<b>(SJ) 4:00 PM</b>
	Confirmation Class (8th grade)	<b>(SJ) 5:00 PM</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	Chapel	<b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>
	Adult Bible Class	<b>(Z) 7:00 PM</b>
	Eve Circle	<b>(SJ) 7:00 PM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	Morning Bible Study	<b>(SJ) 8:00 AM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	Divine Worship	<b>(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM</b>
	Sunday School/Bible Class	<b>(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM</b>

# PRAY

FOR SCHOOLS, TEACHERS & STUDENTS

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Jan 19, 2025
Attendance	61 (HC 47)	Home	\$2,910.00
Loose Plate	\$3.00	Missions	\$100.00
Windows	\$2,00.00	SJL School	\$200.00
MLHS	\$65.00	Memorials	\$100.00
Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$27,170.00			

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Jan 19, 2025
Attendance	77 (HC 67)	Home	\$6,710.00
Loose Plate	\$143.75	Missions	\$50.00
Online	\$598.25	MLHS	\$1,500.00
Bulletins	\$35.00	Tuition Angel	\$50.00
Memorials	\$215.00	Tuition	\$2,237.50
Transportation	\$190.58		
<b>Annual Operating Expense: \$580,000.00</b>			
Giving to date: \$32,619.47		Projected Shortfall: (\$14,595.85)	