

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19, 2021

WELCOME

When the Lord comes near, He lifts up the humbled.

Opening Hymn:

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

Christian Worship, Hymn # 315 (old CW# 28)

Verse 1 ♪ **Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept his word
And at last to us did send
Christ, the sinner's help and friend.**

Verse 4 ♪ **Welcome, O my Savior, now!
Joyful, Lord, to you I bow.
Come into my heart, I pray;
Oh, prepare yourself a way.**

Verse 5 ♪ **Crush for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to you in faith,
Safely kept through life and death,**

Verse 6 ♪ **And, when you shall come again
As a glorious king to reign,
I with joy may see your face,
Freely ransomed by your grace.**

INVOCATION

M The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

(Hymn response printed on next page.)

C Verse 1  **“Comfort, comfort all my people;
Speak of peace,” so says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Groaning from their sorrows’ load.
Speak to all Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell them that their sins I cover,
That their warfare now is over.”**

C Verse 2  **All their sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserve his anger
He no more will see or heed.
They have suffered many a day;
Now their griefs have passed away.
God will change their aching sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.**

(CW# 312 (old CW# 11))

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” ³Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. ⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he will be our peace.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

☩ I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

⁵Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: “*Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ⁷Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, my God.’*”

⁸First he said, “*Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them*”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹Then he said, “*Here I am, I have come to do your will.*” He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hymn of the Day:

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Christian Worship, Hymn # 327 (old CW# 23)

Verse 1 **♫ Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

Verse 2 **♫ Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free
Your own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
And bring them vict’ry o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

C Verse 3 ♪ Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

C Verse 4 ♪ Oh, come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

emmanuel

G O D W I T H U S

Luke 1:39-55

“Let’s Have a Blessed Holiday”

1. Humbly coming into God’s presence
2. Humbly carrying forth God’s praises

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!

⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

⁴⁶ And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M In the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

C **I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me through this day also from sin and every evil that all my doings and life may please you. I commend my body and soul and all things into your hands. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the devil may have no power over me.**

M Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, *(Special intercessions may be offered here.)* Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

C **Keep them in your love and tender care. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

When All the World Was Cursed

Christian Worship, Hymn # 317 (old CW# 20)

Verse 2  **Before Saint John was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan's rolling stream, A new Elijah bold,
He testified of him
Whom prophets had foretold.**

Verse 3  **Behold the Lamb of God,
Who bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.**

Verse 4  **Oh, grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with him In his eternal day.**

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP



Children's Christmas Service

December 24—5:30 PM

Christmas Candlelight Service

December 24—7:00 PM

Christmas Day Service

December 25—9:00 AM

We're starting a new Bible study called

GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

Thursdays at 1:00 pm OR 6:30 pm.

The study starts on January 13, 2022.

We'll learn more about the Bible and what we believe and teach at St. John-St. James.

Since many of those planning to attend the evening study have younger children, we plan to offer childcare for the 6:30 class.

Please let me know if you plan to attend the class. I'm still looking for more help with childcare as well.

All are welcome! Bring a friend!

(email: daden@stjohnstjames.com or text: 920-277-0101)

Our Father's Business

Today

Preacher, Pastor Darin Aden

Organ Today—Judy Mangin

Sunday School, CREW & Adult Bible Class at 9:15 am

Tue. 12/21

Praise Choir Practice at 6:30 pm

Wed. 12/22

Public School Confirmation Class at 3:30 pm

Sunday, December 19

SERVING YOU TODAY—Sunday—8:00 am Ushers—Mel Mangin, Tim Mangin, Jamie Mangin, Gary Waack ■ **Sunday—10:15 am Ushers—**Terry/Karen Prochnow, Fred Busse, Erwin Waack, Jon Waack, Randy/Sandy Waack, Dereck Waack and Todd Hickmann ■ **Church Cleaners—**Adam/Melissa Bubolz, Andy/Bekah Bubolz, Nick/Amanda Schrubbe, Ray/Suzanne Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee—**Joan Sheahan & Val Jean Link.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—Thursday, December 23 (Children's Christmas Service)—8:30 am Ushers—**Volunteers Needed** ■ **Friday, December 24** (Children's Christmas Service)—5:30 pm Ushers—**Volunteers Needed** ■ **Friday, December 24** (Christmas Candlelight Service)—7:00 pm Ushers—Scott Bubolz, Brian/Susie Bubolz, Bill Voeltz ■ **Saturday, December 25** (Christmas Day Service)—9:00 am Ushers—Jeff/Jellane Schneider, Arlie Olp ■ **Sunday, December 26** (First Sunday of Christmas)—9:00 am Ushers—Dale Barnard, Joe Hoyer, Chuck Kiehn, Bob Baribeau ■ Church Cleaners—Adam/Melissa Bubolz, Andy/Bekah Bubolz, Nick/Amanda Schrubbe, Ray/Suzanne Bubolz ■ Communion Set-Up/Take-Down—Karla Aden, Chantel Bastian, Joan Sheahan ■ **Friday, December 31** (New Year's Eve Service)—1:00 pm Ushers—Gary Bernhardt, Dave Hoepfner ■ Church Cleaners—Arlie/Pat Olp, Mary Fenlon ■ Flower Committee—Joan Sheahan & Val Jean Link ■ Communion Set-Up/Take-Down—Karla Aden, Chantel Bastian, Joan Sheahan.

KAY & KAYLA'S CREATIONS—SJSJ apparel is available for purchase at Kay & Kayla's Creations, 215 Main Street, Reedsville. Find them on Facebook or call (920) 754-1127 for store hours. Kay & Kayla's also offers scrip @ 10% available in the SJSJ scrip office.

HOME BOUND LIST—If you would like to send cards or letters to our home bound members there is an updated list for December provided for you in the West Church Office. Our home-bound members would love to hear from you!

OFFERING ENVELOPES—Just a little reminder to pick up your offering envelopes in the West Church office. Please pick them up as soon as you can, so we are cleaned up

and ready for the Christmas Eve services. We also have some Jr. Offering envelopes out if you would like to take one for your child/children.

MINISTRY RESERVE FUND—We have started a fund for our Second Pastor to help defray costs involved in adding another Pastor. If you wish to give to the Ministry Reserve Fund please place your offering in an envelope and clearly mark it as **Ministry Reserve Fund or 2nd Pastor Fund** and place it in the offering plate. A letter and commitment form has been sent to all members, please put your commitment form in the offering plate or in the “Church” in the West Church office.

BAKE SALE—The SJSJ Lutheran Young Adults will be hosting a Bake Sale (Free Will Donation) on **today, December 19th** between services and following the late service in the SJSJ Commons Area. Come and get some Christmas goodies!

DIVINE CALL—Mr. Stuebs has received a divine call to serve as Staff Minister & Music Coordinator at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Tucson, AZ. Please keep Mr. Stuebs and his family in your prayers as he deliberates where the Lord can best use his talents and abilities.

CREATION MUSEUM—Trinity Lutheran, Brillion is hosting an Ark Encounter & Creation Museum tour April 25-29, 2022. The tour will be through Tom’s Christian Tours and you will be traveling by Lamers Motorcoach. For more information or to sign up for the tour please contact Marcia Wendt—920-646-0063 or m.wendt@trinitybrillion.org. there is also some literature and registration sheets located on the table in the West Church office. Registration end date is March 1, 2022.

MEMORIALS GIVEN—Terry & Karen Prochnow and Gene & Charmaine Wagner gave gifts to the Building Fund in memory of Bert Zarnoth. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts!

DECEMBER 26TH SERVICE—There is a typo in the newsletter on Sunday, December 26th. We will only be having one Worship Service at 9:00am on Sunday, December 26 and there will be no 8:00 am or 10:15 am Worship Services. Sorry for the mix-up!

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SET-UP—We will be setting up the gym **today Sunday, December 19th** following the 10:15am worship service for our upcoming Christmas Eve services. Please arrive in the gym around 11:15am. Any help would be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Stuebs.

USHER TEAMS—There is a signup sheet on the Usher’s podium to fill our needs for the Children’s Christmas Services listed below. We could really use your help at these services. Thank you!

MISSIONARY CHILDREN—A list of missionary children that are away from their parents and going to school in the United States can be picked up from the west office today. They would greatly appreciate being thought of if anyone would like to send a card of encouragement (or gift card) especially at this time of year.

THANK YOU!—As our home basketball games come to an end, many thanks goes out to everyone who volunteered to help make our home games a success! Food donations, serving concessions, book & clock—we appreciate everyone that helped!

CHRISTMAS BREAK CHURCH/SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Friday, December 24—CLOSED

Monday, December 27—CLOSED

Tuesday, December 28—8:00am-12:00pm

Wednesday, December 29—8:00am-12:00pm

Thursday, December 30—CLOSED

Friday, December 31—CLOSED

JUNIOR LANCER SPORTS—Registration is OPEN for the following Jr. Lancer Sports (Basketball, Baseball & Wrestling). Please register today! Go to: www.mlhslancers.org/juniorlancers.

SPECIAL DECEMBER SERVICES

- ***Children's Christmas Services**—Thursday, December 23 at 8:30 am & Friday, December 24 at 5:30 pm (In the Gym)
- ***Candlelight Christmas Service**—Friday, December 24 at 7:00 pm
- ***Christmas Day Worship Service**—Saturday, December 25 at 9:00 am
- ***Sunday, December 26**— 9:00am Worship Service
- ***New Year's Eve Worship Service**—Friday, December 31 at 1:00 pm.



**Church Office Information: Darin Aden, Pastor, Cell Phone: 920-277-0101,
Email: daden@stjohnstjames.com**

**School Office Information: Rick Zimmerman, Principal, Cell Phone: 608-350-6646,
Email: rzimmerman@stjohnstjames.com**

Church Office Phone: 920-754-4568 Church Office Hours: 7:30 am—12:30 pm M-F

School Office Phone: 920-754-4432 School Office Hours: 7:30 am—3:30 pm, M-F

Website: stjohnstjames.com Times of Worship: Sunday—8:00 am & 10:15 am

Send Bulletin Information to cbubolz@stjohnstjames.com—Thursday Deadline

SJSJ Building Fund Account**November 2021**

11/01/2021		\$16,388.50
<u>Deposits</u>		
In Honor Of/Memorials	\$55.00	
11/2/2021	\$2,155.00	
11/9/2021	\$1,470.00	
11/16/2021	\$1,495.00	
11/23/2021	\$1,045.00	
11/30/21	\$1,495.00	
Electronic Offerings	\$1,010.00	
School Choice	\$8,176.00	
Total Deposits	\$16,901.00	
<u>Withdrawals</u>		
Member Loan Interest Payments	\$1,425.00	
Transfer to Loan (November Payment)	\$4,685.00	
Transfer to Loan (November Payment)	\$4,685.00	
School Choice (Principal Payment)	\$8,176.00	
Total Withdrawals	\$18,971.00	
Ending Balance		\$14,318.50

Outstanding DSB Loan Balance for Building Project**\$916,209.98****Outstanding MEMBER Loan Balance for Building Project****\$380,000.00**