

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School

He
will be our
Peace
Micah 5:5

First Sunday after Christmas

December 26, 2021

WELCOME

God gives a priest to be the sacrifice

Opening Hymn: He Whose Praise the Shepherds Sounded
Christian Worship, Hymn # 351

Verse 1  **He whose praise the shepherds sounded—
Told, by angel hosts surrounded,
That their fears were all unfounded—
Now is born our glorious King!**

Verse 2  **Wise men—precious gifts preparing,
Myrrh and gold and incense bearing,
In true faith, their love declaring—
To the conqu’ring Lion cling.**

Verse 3  **Join in Mary’s jubilation!
Angels, in their heav’nly station,
Hail the birth that brings salvation.
Oh, how sweet their holy song.**

Verse 4  **Sing throughout the sanctuary:
Christ the King is born of Mary,
God and man, our sins to carry.
Thanks and praise to him belong!**

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

M In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

(Our hymn response is printed on the next page.)



Verse 1



**God rest You merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray:**

**Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.**



Verse 3



**“Fear not” then said the angel,
“Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior,
The true and radiant light
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's pow'r and might.”**

**Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy. (CW #356)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY



Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Amen.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says, *“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.”* ¹³ And again, *“I will put my trust in him.”* And again he says, *“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”*

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

☩ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

(Creed continues on the next page.)

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

⁴⁹ “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Hymn of the Day:

A Glory Fills the Midnight Sky

Christian Worship, Hymn # 357

G Verse 1 **♪ A glory fills the midnight sky
And splendors blaze abroad,
A herald sent from God on high,
The angel of the Lord;
The shepherds tremble at his voice
And terror-struck are dumb,
But at his news let earth rejoice,
Her promised King has come.**

G Verse 2 **♪ This homeless child to shepherds shown,
An infant king newborn,
Has come to make a cross his throne,
His crown a crown of thorn;
The Son of God to save us all,
To bear our earthly pains,
This child within the cattle stall
As king of glory reigns.**

Isaiah 50:4-9

“They Sure Raised a Good Kid”

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. ⁶I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. ⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me!

⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

☞ 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.

THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus on a night long ago, took on flesh so that He might offer it in our place to save his people from their sins. He comes to us offering that same body as we Commune with him. Therefore let us gather around the Lord's Table with the promise of God among us—Immanuel. This is the welcome table of the Lord where the Holy God meets his repentant children in grace and blessing. May Immanuel come and bless His people.

C **We remember a different night much later in Jesus' life. Jesus spoke of bread offered us much more; he said...**

M *"Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* (Matthew 26:26; 1 Corinthians 11:23)

C **On the same night, in the same way, and by the same authority, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said...**

M "Drink from it all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me." (Matthew 26:27; 1 Corinthians 11:24)

M These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are now ready! So we join to pray:

C **Immanuel, come and meet us in this sacrament. Graciously give us your body and blood and along with them your love and forgiveness. Amen.**

(Our hymn response is printed on the next page.)

C Verse 1 **♫** **Peace came to earth at last that chosen night
When angels clove the sky with song and light
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—
Who could but gasp: Im-man-u-el!
Who could but sing: Im-man-u-el!**

C Verse 3 **♫** **You show the Father none has ever seen,
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,
In bread and wine you visit us again—
Who could but see: Im-man-u-el!
Who could but thrill: Im-man-u-el!** *(CW # 330)*

A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, as a sinner, I desire to be spiritually refreshed and renewed by your Holy Supper. Strengthen my faith as I partake of your body and blood. May I experience the bond of faith and love that exists among us and my fellow believers in the faith we share. Move me to forgive, serve, and live my faith to your honor and glory. Graciously receive me as your guest. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration:)

M Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting. Be assured, your sins are forgiven.

C **Amen.**

M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C **And his mercy endures forever.**

M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **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:

I Stand beside Your Manger Here

Christian Worship, Hymn # 334

C Verse 1 **I stand beside your manger here,
O Jesus, life from heaven.
The gifts I bring as I draw near
Are what to me you've given:
My spirit, courage, mind, and heart—
Take all I am, take ev'ry part;
In mercy let it please you.**

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

G Verse 2 **♪** Before I ever came to be,
Or knew of you, my Savior,
You'd chosen me, been born for me,
That I might have your favor.
Before you formed me by your hand
In grace you had already planned
How I would learn to love you.

G Verse 3 **♪** Death held me in the deepest night
Till you, my sunshine beaming,
Brought joy and bliss and life and light,
In love my soul redeeming.
O Sun, your rays so warm and fair
Have made my darkness disappear—
Faith's precious light is shining.

G Verse 4 **♪** One thing I hope; my Savior hear;
Bestow on me this blessing,
That I may ever hold you near,
You as my own possessing.
So let my heart your manger be;
Come, holy Child, lie down in me
With all your joyful treasures.

Our Father's Business

Today

Preacher, Pastor Darin Aden

Organ Today—Charmaine Wagner

No Sunday School, CREW & Adult Bible Class at 9:15 am

Wed. 12/29

No Public School Confirmation Class at 3:30 pm

Sunday, December 26

SERVING YOU TODAY—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.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—8:00 am Ushers—Dale Barnard, Joe Hoyer, Chuck Kiehn, Bob Baribeau ■ **10:15 am Ushers**—Roger Hoida, Dave Hoida, Deven Krepline ■ **Church Cleaners**—Arlie/Pat Olp, Mary Fenlon ■ **Flower Committee**—Jenny Janke & Judy Mangin.

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—Offering envelopes are located in the West Church office. 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.

DIVINE CALL—We are happy to say that Mr. Stuebs has returned his 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 continues to use his God given talents and abilities here at St. John-St. James.

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—Raymond and Suzanne Bubolz gave a gift to the Building Fund in memory of Virginia Mott. The Grimm family gave an undesignated gift in memory of Victor Grimm. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts!

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.

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

CHRISTMAS BREAK CHURCH/SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS—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

SPECIAL DECEMBER SERVICES—*New Year's Eve Worship Service—Friday, December 31 at 1:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS—Thank you for all the lovely poinsettias donated by our congregation! Don’t forget to take along your poinsettia(s) after the worship service today, **please don’t forget to leave behind the trays that the poinsettias are placed in.** There are plastic bags and cardboard trays left in the West Church office to transport your plants home safely.

ENDOWMENT FUND DISBURSEMENTS—\$ 20,000.00 has been given to the General Fund from the Endowment Fund for the December disbursement.

THANK YOU– The Children’s Christmas Bag committee would like to give a huge “thank you” to all who have donated money to fill the Children’s Christmas candy bags!

NEWSLETTER INSERTS—Please have your newsletter inserts/reports to Cindy by Wednesday, January 5.

2022 USHER SCHEDULES—Usher schedules have been sent out to our ushers for this coming year. Please check your inbox or postal box, if you did not receive a schedule or misplaced it there are copies located in the West Church office.

THANK YOU—The SJSJ Lutheran Young Adults would like to thank everyone who came to their bake sale this past Sunday. Enjoy your goodies!

St. John – St. James Church Meeting Highlights - December 13, 2021

Membership Action:

Transfers out:

Brittany Malkowski (nee Sheahan)—communicant: Transfer out of membership to Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend, WI

Transfer to Church Triumphant:

Mary Zeller—communicant: Transfer to Church Triumphant (Death—November 12; Christian Burial—November 19, 2021)

Ronald Duescher—communicant: Transfer to Church Triumphant (Death—November 27; Christian Burial—November 30, 2021)

Jeff Doemel reported on income for the month of November was \$72,546 and expenses were \$70,326. Total debt balance at the end of November is \$5,410.

The Charities balance at the end of November was \$29,583.02. Total monies in the Building Project Fund are \$14,318.50.

Members of St. John-St. James,

Thank you for your recent support of the building campaign. Your partnership as a school is so important to the ministry of the Manitowoc area! Have a blessed Christmas Season.

Ryan Hulse

To all my Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Thank you for all your prayers, cards and well wishes during my open-heart surgery. It will be a long slow road back but I know Jesus will be with me every step of the way. So, until I can worship with you again in person, God Bless and Merry Christmas!

Joanne Fisher

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE—December 13–19

Sunday 8:00 am—104 , 10:15 am—81 , Total—185

- Total Offerings: General Fund—\$ 8,302.00, Synod—\$ 173.00, MLHS—\$ 88.00,
Total—\$ 8,563.00
- Special Offerings—Building Fund—\$ 10,728.36 (needed each week \$2,312)
 - Ministry Reserve Fund —\$ 2,100.00
 - Debt Retirement—\$ 100.00
 - Endowment Fund—20,000.00