

November 30, 2025 8:00/9:30/10:45am

First Sunday in Advent

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

LSB 515

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

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The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that numbers the days of preparation for Christ's coming again. As we light the first candle on this wreath, fill us with the hope that comes from You so that we may be lights shining in the darkness of our world.

Give us the light of Your grace, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, our hearts may be prepared to welcome Him with joy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, whose coming is certain. Amen.

As we light our Advent wreath, we wait in hope for the One who comes - Jesus, the light of the world.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

SONG

"We Light the Advent Candle"

First candle is lit

1 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And wait for Christ to
come. With hope, we trust the prom - ise That
He will bring us home. Our hope is in our
Sav - ior Who wins for us God's fa - vor. We
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!

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BAPTISM (10:45)

Theodore (Teddy) William and Charlotte (Charley) Jane Engelhardt are the children of Garrett and Cortney Engelhardt.

Teddy and Charley's sponsors are Kaylan Engelhardt, Jeremy Bosch, and Caleb and Brittany Ross.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

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.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

KYRIE

LSB 152

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2:1–5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 13:11–14

Besides 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. The 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. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:34–44

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY**“The King Shall Come”****LSB 348, vv. 1-3**

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.

Text: Public domain

SERMON**“The Other Side of Advent”****Pastor Barry****SERMON RESPONSE HYMN****“The King Shall Come”****LSB 348, vv. 4-5**

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

Text: Public domain

OFFERING

OFFERTORY**"What Shall I Render"****LSB 159**

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

APOSTLES' CREED (8:00/9:30)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Once You came among us, Lord Jesus, and because of Your coming the darkness of our world shone with the brightness of Your saving glory. Help us to shine with Your light today as we wait for Your second coming. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for Teddy and Charley Engelhardt as they are welcomed into God's family through the waters of Holy Baptism, that in the forgiveness and new life granted to them, they may faithfully grow to lead a godly life. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the dying...May You give them grace and grant them healing in accordance with Your gracious will; Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB 357, vv. 1 and 6

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear. **Refrain**

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,

And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

And death's dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: Public domain

SENDING

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH ST. JOHN'S TODAY! If this is your first time at St. John's, we encourage you to fill out a CONNECTCard located on the Welcome Desk. We want an opportunity to get to know you.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes: 8:00 Winston King-Ellison/10:45 Kenley Sandvig

Elders: 8:00 Pete Siedelman/10:45 Michael Johnshoy

Usher Team: 8:00 Jeff Rasmussen/9:30 Mark Young/10:45 Craig Pauling

Welcome Team: 8:00 Gayle Degler, Gary Herber

Tech Crew: 8:00 Hunter Krueger/9:30 Bennett McGlothlin/10:45 Jason Eickhoff

Coffee Hour: 9:30 Messer Family

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UPCOMING WEEK	
Monday, December 1	No School – Teacher Workshop
	Men’s Bible Study 6:30am
	Mary Martha Committee Meeting 3:00pm
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, December 2	Sunday School Meeting 6:30pm
	Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, December 3	Moms in the Word 9:30am
	Midweek Advent Worship 4:15pm/6:30pm
	Confirmation (Public School) 6:00pm
	Advent Choral Vespers Rehearsal 7:00pm
Thursday, December 4	Ladies Aid Meeting 1:30pm
	Welcome Team Meeting 6:30pm
	Trail Life Troop Meeting 6:30pm
	Board of Education Meeting 6:30pm
Friday, December 5	AA 6:30pm
Saturday, December 6	Trail Life Leader’s Meeting 9:00am
Sunday, December 7	Worship with Communion 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am
	Pre-K/K Sunday School Service 10:45am
	Advent Choral Vespers 6:30pm

Celebrating Anniversaries

12/2 Ronald and Lynette Fiebelkorn

12/3 Jeff and Jacki Otterstatter

12/4 Jason and Heidi Anglin

12/4 Chance and Ann Carlson

12/4 James Richard and Melissa Jean Coddington

12/4 David and Karen Duff

12/4 Scott and Keri Lorenz

Celebrating Birthdays

11/30
Nyles Schwardt
Miranda Voigt
Ryan Koepsell
Nolan Marshall
12/1
Ted Beise
Mary Venckus
Raymond Johnson
Aiden Zabel

12/1
Angeline Syrette
12/2
Jeffrey Matzke
12/3
Steven Latzke
Taylor Robb
Elly Snow
Bella Buesgens

12/4
Linda Kloos
Marie Hovorka
Emma Schwardt
12/5
Brianna Brandmire
12/6
Michael John Carlson
Robert Swenson
Jason Simpson

Expectant Moms

Brenda Simpson
Izzy King
Nicole Stockey

Kourtney Vipond
Jessica Lewis
Nicole Thuente

Katelyn Olson
Amy Peterson

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Sandy Sprengeler
Bernie Gnan
Holly Walters
Donna Kloos

Norm Glock
Jen Angell
Marilyn Lenzen
Jolene Berg

Joann Mueller
Gary Anderson
Jack Boman

Ongoing Prayers

Carol Affeldt
John Barney
Merlin Bentz
Jimann Campbell
Julie Carver
Marguerite Craighead
Sunny Deis
Anita Doss

Sid & Merna Fjelstad
Dennis Gaarder
Bernie Gnan
Ruth Harms
Eugene Henke
Carol Jones
Len Kallsen
Gretchen Laubach

Melinda Meuwissen
Gina Niesche
Steve Pond
Austin Rannow
Val Schlefsky
Cliff Waller
Ruth Ziegler

In Sympathy

The family of Bill Noll, upon his passing.

The family of Hilde Grev, upon her passing.

Advent and Christmas at St. John's

Sundays in Advent

November 30, December 7, 14, & 21
8:00am, 9:30am, & 10:45am

December 7 (Advent Choral Vespers)
6:30pm

Midweek Advent Worship

December 3, 10, & 17
4:15pm & 6:30pm

No Advent meals due
to renovation

Christmas Services

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
Worship with Communion
2:00pm, 4:00pm, & 10:00pm (candlelight)

December 25 (Christmas Day)
Worship with Communion
9:30am

New Year's Eve Service

December 31
Worship with Communion
5:00pm

Sunday School & Day School Christmas Services & Programs

Kindergarten & Younger Sunday School Service
Sunday, December 7 at 10:45am

Time to Grow Christmas Program
Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm

1st – 6th Grade Sunday School Service
Sunday, December 14 at 11:00am

K – 8th Grade Christmas Service
Thursday, December 18 at 6:30pm

Advent Choral Vespers – Sunday, December 7, 6:30pm

Join church and school choirs for a special service featuring Advent and Christmas carols, scripture readings, and choral music.
A reception will follow the service.