

JANUARY 4, 2026

# THE WEEKLY WORD

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



## MEDITATION

Matthew 2:1-12

Epiphany means “appearing” or “revealing”, and so it makes sense that during the Season of Epiphany, we celebrate the Gift of Light that has been revealed to the world. As the Wise Men looked at the night sky, they saw a light they’d never seen before. It was a light that they couldn’t ignore, and so they gathered their things and packed their gifts. They didn’t know how long they would be gone or where the light would lead them, but they had to find out for themselves. We’re told that they had only one thing on their mind...“We have seen a star in the east and we have come to worship Him.” (Matthew 2:2)

As part of their worship, they presented Jesus and His family with gifts fit for a king. “Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.” (Matthew 2:11). Gold, a royal gift, signified Jesus was the King who would sit on the throne of His father David. The gift of Frankincense denoted His future priesthood, where He intercedes on our behalf. And the gift of myrrh was used in the making of perfume, anointing oil, medicine, and is also needed in the embalming process. All of these gifts shed light on the days that were sure to come for the Light of the world.

May the Light of Christ shine in your hearts and minds this Epiphany Season. “God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5)

## PRAYER

Dearest Jesus, You are the Light that shines through the darkness. We are born in the darkness of sin, and we need Your Light. Forgive us for trying to find our own way as we fall into temptation. Shine the Light of Your grace on us and give us courage to stand in the Light of Your Truth. Amen.

**Pastor Snow**

## THIS WEEK

**Monday - January 5**

Men’s Bible Study 6:30am

Monday Night Meal 5:15pm

AA 7:00pm

**Tuesday - January 6**

Trustees Meeting 6:30pm

**Wednesday - January 7**

Moms in the Word 9:30am

Confirmation (Public School) 6:00pm

Messengers of Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm

**Thursday - January 8**

Women’s LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am

Ladies Aid Meeting 1:30pm

Trail Life Troop Meeting 6:30pm

**Saturday - January 10**

Colson Fellows Cohort Meeting 8:30am

Trail Life Leader’s Meeting 9:00am

**Sunday - January 11**

Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am

Education Hour 9:30am

Sugar City 4-H Club Meeting 5:45pm



THE WEEKLY WORD

300 E. 4TH ST. CHASKA, MN 55318  
952-448-2433

WWW.STJOHNSCHASKA.ORG

# Construction Update

With the students out for Christmas break, workers focused on the school, including:

- Repair of water damage caused by the accidental discharge of a sprinkler head several months ago. Work included replacing most of the acoustic ceiling tile and repainting most of the walls in the 1st and 2nd level corridors of the 2000 addition of the school, plus some additional work in a couple of the classrooms. Costs were covered by the contractor's insurance, with no cost to St. John's.
- Installed the interior window sills and did minor drywall repair and painting around the windows in the six 1961 addition classrooms.
- Installed the sink and associated plumbing in the Preschool/Nursery classroom.

# Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

Over the course of several Christmas services at St. John's last week, we shared one beautiful message: for us, a Savior has been born, and His name is Jesus.

As we celebrate the birth of our long-awaited Messiah, may the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ be with you and your family, today and throughout the year ahead.





## Meet the Pastors | Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>

Interested in learning more about St. John's or what it means to become a member?

Join our pastors this **Sunday, January 4, from 9:00–9:30am in the music room** for a casual time of conversation and questions. This is a great opportunity to connect, learn more about our church, and hear what membership looks like at St. John's.

**To register, scan the QR code to the left.**

## Walk Thru the Bible | Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>

Experience the story of redemption like never before as this unforgettable event brings the New Testament to life. Join us on **Saturday, January 24, from 9:00am to noon** at St. John's Lutheran Church. Doors open at 8:00am for a continental breakfast and coffee. **Cost is \$25** (\$20 for Mayer Lutheran students), payable at the door by cash or check.

**Questions?** Call 952-448-2433 or email [pastor.barry@stjohns-chaska.org](mailto:pastor.barry@stjohns-chaska.org)



**Scan to register for Walk Thru the Bible!**

## Lutheran Hour Broadcast on KGLB Radio

Hear the Good News of the Gospel on the Lutheran Hour each Sunday at 7:00am on KGLB 1310 AM and 96.1 FM Radio.

### You will hear the following topic on Sunday, January 11th:

January 11, 2026 "Solidarity" with Lutheran Hour speaker Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Solidarity is how Christians understand their relationship to Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus, the Son of God, went where we had gone so that we might go where He goes. Romans 6:5

## Join Us for Education Hour | Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us for Education Hour at 9:30 AM on Sundays at St. John's. There's something for every age!

- Sunday School (Age 1–6th Grade): Kids will learn Bible stories and grow in faith through age-appropriate lessons and activities.
- High School Youth Bible Study: A place for high school students to connect, grow in faith, and build community together.
- Adult Bible Study: "A Look Ahead" (Room 205/Library). A weekly study that previews the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday and helps you dive deeper before worship.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8:00/9:30/10:45am in the Gymnasium  
(Livestream at the 8:00am Service)

Education Hour 9:30am

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

## Want to receive the Weekly Word and church communications by email?

Contact [churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org) or call the church office.



## PRAYER LIST

Please continue to share your prayer requests by filling out the back of a Connect Card located on the information desks in the upper gathering and main level common areas or by going to [www.stjohns-chaska.org](http://www.stjohns-chaska.org) and clicking on "How can we pray for you?" You can also contact the church office: email: [churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org) or by phone 952-448-2433

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/4  
Sawyer Dolan  
Hannah Handberg  
Alice Hargrove  
Joshua Stewart  
Jim Sutherland  
Daniel Willmsen  
1/5  
Sarah Ahlbrecht  
Wilson Feltmann  
Kaley Hagen  
Kent Kramp  
Scott Wilmsen

1/6  
Tom Leier  
Miles Loewe  
Paul McMullen  
Natalie Phillips  
Jeff Stillman  
Janie Struble  
Mary Swanson  
1/7  
Elliot Annett  
Lacy Atkinson  
Sam Chanan Khan  
Nolah Charles  
Arthur Gustafson  
Keri Lorenz

1/7  
Dan Schlueter  
1/8  
Jamie Fischer  
Michael Meyer  
1/9  
Paxton Busker  
Justin Hagen  
Beckham Hanson  
Jenna Weber  
1/10  
Barbara Gentz  
Tracy Rehbein  
Peter Vickerman  
Katherine Wechter



### EXPECTANT MOMS

Brenda Simpson  
Izzy King  
Nicole Stockey  
Kourtney Vipond  
Katelyn Olson  
Amy Peterson

### FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Barb Frey  
Patti Oelfke  
John Gates  
Allan Panning

Janet Macenthun  
Matthew Swanson  
Jon Thom  
Joel Landskroener

Sandy Sprengeler  
Holly Walters  
Marilyn Lenzen  
Jolene Berg

### CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

1/4 Chris and Emma Ewing  
1/5 Wally and Christina Matthis  
1/8 Phillip and Nicole Stockey  
1/10 Dale and Nancy Van Sloun

### ONGOING PRAYERS

Carol Affeldt  
John Barney  
Jack Boman  
Jimann Campbell  
Julie Carver  
Marguerite Craighead

Sunnie Deis  
Anita Doss  
Sid & Merna Fjelstad  
Dennis Gaarder  
Bernie Gnan  
Eugene Henke

Carol Jones  
Len Kallsen  
Gretchen Laubach  
Melinda Meuwissen  
Gina Niesche  
Steve Pond

Austin Rannow  
Val Schlefsky  
Cliff Waller  
Ruth Ziegler  
Merlin Bentz - brother of Linda Knox  
Ruth Harms - sister-in-law of Marilyn Lenzen