

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor

Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

E-mail: pastor.hayes@outlook.com

Website: www.stjohnpalmer.net

Pastor Hayes - Home/Office: (785) 692-4228; Cell: (720) 897-6829 (call or text)

Member - Linn Lutheran School Association

Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net

Phone: (785) 348-5792

Principal & Teacher: Mr. David Beikmann; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,

Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Kim Burke, & Mrs. Renae Bott

December 3rd, 2023

First Sunday in Advent

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Hayes, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy - Divine Service Setting Three (pg. 184)

Opening Hymn: 331 "The Advent of Our King"

Hymn of the Day: TLH 58 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee" (printed on back)

*v.2 - women; v.3 - men; v.7 - women; v.8 - men

Distribution Hymn: 636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

Distribution Hymn: 332 "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Distribution Hymn: 333 "Once He Came in Blessing"

Distribution Hymn: 343 "Prepare the Royal Highway"

Closing Hymn: 672 "Jerusalem the Golden"

Prayer Requests

Please email prayer requests to Pastor Hayes at pastor.hayes@outlook.com. Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Marilyn Ohlde, Loraine Oldehoeft, & Lorna Heitman (nursing home)

Acolyte today - Kingston Voelker

Acolyte Dec. 10th - Samuel Bott

Ushers today - *Ryan Stuenkel, Daniel Nabors, Elijah Meier, & Mason Tiemeyer

Ushers Dec. 10th - *Aaron Stuenkel, Eli Thalmann, Dylan Ohlde, & Liam Voelker

LYF Serving for Bible Class today & Dec. 10th - Camryn Beikmann & Aiden Sweet

LYF Serving for Bible Class Dec. 17th & 24th - Daniel Nabors & Liam Voelker

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 3** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Program Practice
- Dec. 4** 7:00 p.m. Men's Club Meeting
- Dec. 6** 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper (hosted by Men's Club)
7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent 1
- Dec. 10** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Program Practice
4:00-8:00 p.m. LYF Elfing & Christmas Party
5:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling at the Linn Nursing Home

Announcements

- Everyone is invited to join our Christmas caroling at the Linn Nursing Home on **Sunday, December 10th**, at 5:30. Bring a friend!
- The LYF will be having their annual Elfing and Christmas party on December 10th at 4:00 p.m. Please meet at Canaan and Jessica's house and bring two dozen cookies, a white elephant gift, and a drink to share.
- LCMS memory verse challenge this week: Romans 8:38-39 - **"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."**
- Linn Lutheran 7th/8th grade class invites you to join us on **Wednesday, December 13th**, at 8:25 a.m. at Zion, as we lead chapel! Chapel offering for the month of December is going to the Washington County Food Bank. Chapel is every Wednesday at 8:25 a.m. at Zion, and everyone is always welcome to join us!
- **Thursday, December 7th**, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clay Center is having a Bazaar & Bake/Food Sale from 4 -7 p.m. and Soup Supper from 5-7 p.m. See the flyer on the hallway bulletin board for details.
- Pr. Gaschler of Immanuel will be leading a five part Bible study on Judges Tuesdays at 7 p.m. from Nov. 21 to Dec. 19 at the Clyde Senior Center. He will discuss topics ranging from the history of Israel, to the depravity of sinful man, to the faithfulness of God, to finding Christ in the Old Testament. All are invited!

The Meaning of Ad Te Levavi

The first Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Ad Te Levavi, which are the first Latin words of the Historic Introit assigned to this Sunday. Ad Te Levavi means "to you, I have lifted up" (Ad te levavi animam meam = to you I have lifted up my soul).

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination:

- I admit that I am a sinner. **(1 John 1:8-10)**
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. **(Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6)**
- I desire to live as God wants me to. **(John 14:15; 1 John 2:6)**
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. **(John 3:16; Romans 8:14; & 1 John 5:11-12)**
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. **(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 4:22-24; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Luke 22:17-20)**
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

Morning Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Introit *(Psalm 25:4-5, 21-22; antiphon: vv. 1-3a)*

To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Make me to know your ways, | O Lord;*

teach me | your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my sal- |
vation;***

for you I wait all the | day long.

May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,*

for I | wait for you.

Redeem Israel, | O God,*

out of all his | troubles.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Collect for the First Sunday in Advent

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.

Old Testament Reading: *Jeremiah 23:5-8*

⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

⁷ “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ⁸ but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

Gradual (*Psalms 25:3-4*)

None who wait for you shall be put to shame;

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

teach me your paths.

Epistle Reading: *Romans 13:8-14*

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Alleluia Verse (*Psalms 85:7*)

Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:1-9*

¹ When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵ “Say to the daughter of Zion,

‘Behold, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

As We Gather... The Lord Jesus Comes in Humility to Redeem Us

The new Church Year begins by focusing on the humble coming of our Lord. “Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey” (*Matthew 21:5*). Even as He was born in a lowly manger, so Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a beast of burden. For He bears the sin of the world. He is the Son of David riding to His enthronement on the cross, where He shows Himself to be “The LORD is our Righteousness” (*Jeremiah 23:5-6*). Our Lord still comes in great humility to deliver His righteousness to us in the Word and Sacraments. Before receiving Christ’s body and blood, we also sing, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” (*Matthew 21:9*) And as we receive the Sacrament, we set our hearts on His return in glory, for “our salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed” (*Romans 13:11*).

Ad Te Levavi

Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee

Matt. 21 : 1-9
Wie soll ich dich empfangen
Paul Gerhardt, 1653, cento
Tr. composite

7. 6. 7. 6. D.
(SECOND TUNE)

Wie soll ich dich
Johann Crüger, 1653

1 O Lord, how shall I meet Thee, How wel-come Thee a - right?
Thy peo - ple long to greet Thee, My Hope, my heart's De - light!
Oh, kin - dle, Lord, most ho - ly, Thy lamp with - in my breast
To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please Thee best. A - men.

2 Thy Zion strews before Thee
Green boughs and fairest palms,
And I, too, will adore Thee
With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
For Thee with praises new
And from Thy name shall never
Withhold the honor due.

3 I lay in fetters, groaning,
Thou com'st to set me free;
I stood, my shame bemoaning,
Thou com'st to honor me;
A glory Thou dost give me,
A treasure safe on high,
That will not fail or leave me
As earthly riches fly.

4 Love caused Thy incarnation,
Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling,
That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race!

5 Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted,
Who sit in deepest gloom,
Who mourn o'er joys departed
And tremble at your doom.
Despair not, He is near you,
Yea, standing at the door,
Who best can help and cheer you
And bids you weep no more.

6 Ye need not toil nor languish
Nor ponder day and night
How in the midst of anguish
Ye draw Him by your might.
He comes, He comes all willing,
Moved by His love alone,
Your woes and troubles stilling;
For all to Him are known.

7 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Let not your souls distress;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for men procuring
The peace of sin forgiven,
For all God's sons securing
Their heritage in heaven.

8 What though the foes be raging,
Heed not their craft and spite;
Your Lord, the battle waging,
Will scatter all their might.
He comes, a King most glorious,
And all His earthly foes
In vain His course victorious
Endeavor to oppose.

9 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A Light of consolations
And blessed Hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Thy beams most cheering,
And guide us safely home.



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