

## St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor

Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

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

### Member - Linn Lutheran School Association

Email: [linnluth@bluevalley.net](mailto:linnluth@bluevalley.net)

Phone: (785) 348-5792

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

Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Ramona Tiemeyer, & Mrs. Renae Bott

### December 31st, 2023

### First Sunday after Christmas

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:** 360 "All My Heart Again Rejoices"

**Hymn of the Day:** 389 "Let All Together Praise Our God"

**Distribution Hymn:** 372 "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is"

**Distribution Hymn:** 370 "What Child Is This"

**Distribution Hymn:** 364 "Away in a Manger"

**Closing Hymn:** 896 "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year"

### Prayer Requests

Please email prayer requests to Pastor Hayes at [pastor.hayes@outlook.com](mailto: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** -Sophia Hiltgen

**Acolyte Jan. 7th** - Lucious Petesch

**Ushers today** - \*Evan Bott, Ryan Stuenkel, Daniel Nabors, & Aiden Sweet

**Ushers Jan. 7th** - \*Tyler Ohlde, Noah Thalmann, Mason Tiemeyer, & Dylan Ohlde

**LYF Serving for Bible Class today & Jan. 7th** - Zac Hiltgen & Noah Thalmann

**LYF Serving for Bible Class Jan. 14th & 21st** - Dylan Ohlde & Mason Tiemeyer

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 31** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
10:45 a.m. **No** Adult Bible Class or Children's Sunday School  
7:00 p.m. Divine Service (NYE/Eve of the Name of Jesus)
- Jan. 3** 5:30 p.m. **No** Midweek/Confirmation
- Jan. 6** 7:00 p.m. Joint Epiphany Service w/Holy Communion at Zion  
\*Soup supper prior to service
- Jan. 7** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
- Jan. 8** 7:00 p.m. Men's Club Meeting
- Jan. 10** 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation  
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting
- Jan. 14** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School  
~11:40 a.m. New Member Potluck  
\*Quarterly Voters Meeting held following potluck

## Announcements

- LCMS memory verse challenge this week: Galatians 4:4-5 - **"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."**
- Zion's Men's Club will be hosting Zion's Pancake Supper on January 14 from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. You may dine-in at Zion or call in to-go orders by contacting Kyle Peters (785-632-0372), Terry Ohlde (785-747-6554) or Levi Ohlde (785-747-6398).
- **CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org:** Continue enjoying the Twelve Days of Christmas on KFUO Radio, with special Christmas music, Scripture, and greetings until January 6. Blessed Christmas! Christ is born! Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the KFUO Radio app!

## 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.

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### 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.

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### Introit *(Psalm 93:1, 3-4; antiphon: vv. 5, 2)*

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;\*  
holiness befits your house, O Lord, for- | evermore.  
Your throne is established | from of old;\*  
you are from ever- | lasting.

**The Lord reigns; he is robed in | majesty;\*  
the Lord is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.**

**Yes, the world is es- | tablished;\*  
it shall nev- | er be moved.**

**The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted | up their voice;\*  
the floods lift up their | roaring.**

**Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves | of the sea,\***

**the Lord on high is | mighty!**

**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.**

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;\*  
holiness befits your house, O Lord, for- | evermore.  
Your throne is established | from of old;\*  
you are from ever- | lasting.

### Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 11:1-5*

<sup>1</sup> There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
<sup>2</sup> And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
<sup>3</sup> And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

## Gradual (*Psalm 45:2a, 1b*)

**You are the most handsome of the sons of men;  
grace is poured upon your lips.  
I address my verses to the king;  
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.**

## Epistle Reading: *Galatians 4:1-7*

<sup>1</sup> I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup> In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

## Alleluia Verse (*Psalm 93:1*)

**Alleluia.** The Lord reigns; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. **Alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading: *Luke 2:22-40*

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation  
<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.  
<sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

## As We Gather...

## The Seed of David Comes to His Temple

A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1-5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Samuel 7:1-16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Galatians 4:1-7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2:22-40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

During this morning's Divine Service, the newly elected officers of this congregation will be installed into their respective offices:

#### Board of Elders:

Shane Ohlde & Marlon Walter

#### Board of Trustees:

Greg Bott & Kurtis Voelker

#### Sunday School Superintendent:

Debi Hornkohl

#### Treasurer:

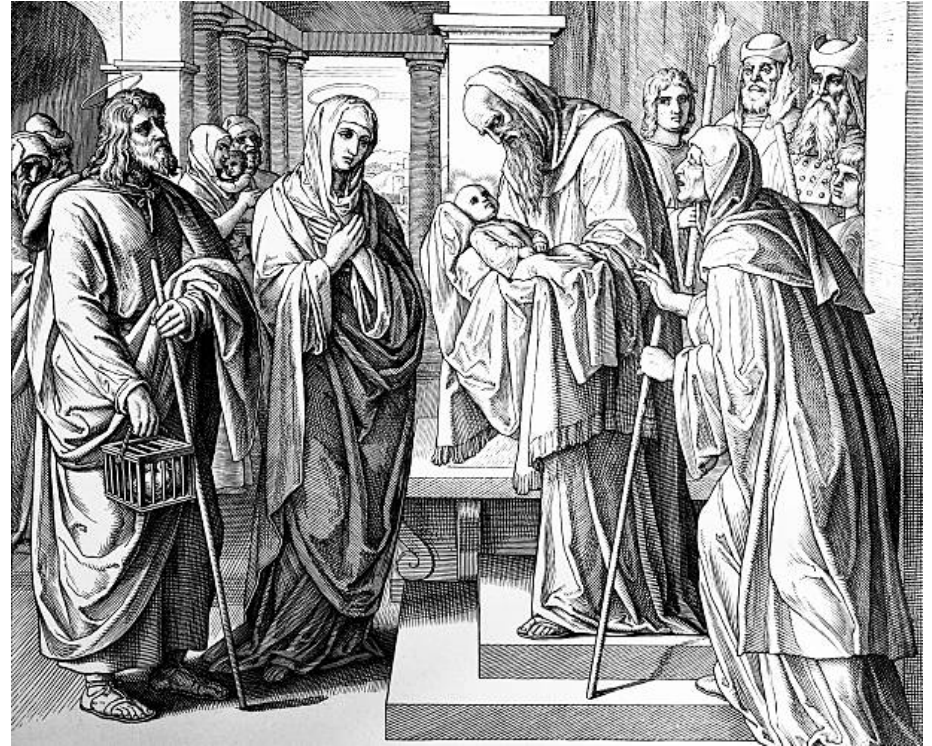
Annette Bott

#### Recording Secretary:

Jim Hornbostel

Please keep these newly elected and the continuing stewards in your prayers.

*“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word...”*



*December 31, 2023*  
*First Sunday after Christmas*

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*304 National Road*  
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