

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. John Werner, Pastor

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Principal & Teacher: Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,

Mrs. Laurel Wurtz, Mrs. Renae Bott, & Mrs. Amy Duever

January 4, 2026

Second 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 Werner, 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 Four (pg. 203)

Opening Hymn: 546 "O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild"

Hymn of the Day: 385 "From East to West"

Distribution Hymn: 389 "Let All Together Praise Our God"

Distribution Hymn: 392 "God Loves Me Dearly"

Distribution Hymn: 383 "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

Distribution Hymn: 399 "The Star Proclaims the King is Here"

Closing Hymn: 386 "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

Prayer Requests

Please text or call Pastor Werner at (612) 716-4753 to submit prayer requests.

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Lorna Heitman, Loren Bott, JoAnn Ohlde, & Gladys Stone (nursing home); **Micah Helms** (cancer)

Acolyte today - Jase Meier

Acolyte Jan. 11 - Kyra Ohlde

Ushers today - *Ethan Bott, Aiden Sweet, Cash Stunkel, & Liam Voelker

Ushers Jan. 11 - *Daniel Nabors, Zac Hiltgen, Greyson Ohlde, & Deaven Ohlde

Fellowship Hour LYF serving today - Ben & Sam Werner

Fellowship Hour LYF serving Jan. 11 & 18 - Aiden Sweet & Dylan Ohlde

Upcoming Events

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| Jan. 4 | 9:00 a.m. Mixed Choir Rehearsal (new members welcome!)
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School |
| Jan. 7 | 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. LWML Meeting |
| Jan. 11 | 8:30 a.m. Men's Chorus Rehearsal (new members welcome!)
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
1:00 p.m. Annual Association Meeting at Zion |
| Jan. 14 | 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation |
| Jan. 18 | 8:30 a.m. Mixed Choir Rehearsal (new members welcome!)
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 w/Qtly Voters Mtg following |

Announcements

- Ladies - It's not too late to join the a.m. or p.m. group to (re)develop or strengthen a daily habit of Bible reading. We'll meet every Monday in January, starting TOMORROW, but you must sign up so I have enough material and you have the details! Text or call Martha Hornbostel, (785) 747-7410.
- Zion's Men's Club will be hosting their annual Pancake Supper on **Sunday, Jan. 11th**, from 5-8pm; free-will offering. Sausage patties are available for purchase.
- Due to some confusion/miscommunication on Christmas Eve, the special offering for the Orphan Grain Train was not collected. Therefore, **next Sunday, January 11th**, we will collect that special offering in the narthex. The plate offering will still be collected, as usual. The Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The organization's wish list can be found on their website (ogt.org) and includes supplies for infants, medical, hygiene, and school as well as clothing, quilts/comforters/towels, and other items. Cash donations help pay for shipping. The average cost to ship a box of donated goods is \$11. The average cost to sponsor a full shipping container overseas is \$9,000.

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. John Werner, 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 8:1, 4-6; antiphon: v. 2)*

Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength
because | of your foes,*
to still the enemy and the a- | venger.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.

What is man that you are mind- | ful of him,*

and the son of man that you | care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings*

and crowned him with glory and | honor.

You have given him dominion over the works | of your hands;*

you have put all things under | his feet.

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.

Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength
because | of your foes,*
to still the enemy and the a- | venger.

Collect for the Second Sunday after Christmas

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- LCMS memory verse challenge: **Psalm 37:23-24** - “The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.”

Old Testament Reading: *Genesis 46:1-7*

1 So Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. 2 And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, “Jacob, Jacob.” And he said, “Here am I.” 3 Then he said, “I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation. 4 I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and Joseph’s hand shall close your eyes.”

5 Then Jacob set out from Beersheba. The sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. 6 They also took their livestock and their goods, which they had gained in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him, 7 his sons, and his sons’ sons with him, his daughters, and his sons’ daughters. All his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.

Gradual (*Psalms 106:47; Isaiah 63:16b*)

**Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the Gentiles,
to give thanks to Your holy name, to triumph in Your praise.
You, O Lord, are our Father,
our Redeemer from Everlasting is Your name.**

Epistle Reading: *1 Peter 4:12-19*

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:13-23*

13 When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

18 “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

As We Gather...

Jesus Is the Perfect Israel

Israel and all his family went and dwelt in Egypt (*Genesis 46:1-7*). God made a great nation of him there, but that nation would prove unfaithful to the Lord. Therefore, the New Israel came. In fleeing the murderous Herod, our young Lord goes to Egypt (*Matthew 2:13-23*), that the prophecy might be fulfilled, “*Out of Egypt I called my Son*” (*Hosea 11:1*). Jesus brings to perfection what old Israel could not. He is the faithful Israel, the embodiment of the people of God. He offers His perfect and holy life in place of our own. He submits Himself to persecution and suffering in order to save us. Therefore, we should not think it strange when we who are in Christ experience trials because of the faith (*1 Pet.*

4:12-19). Rather, we rejoice to share in Christ's sufferings, knowing that we will also share in His glory.

Catechetical Review

Table of Duties

CERTAIN PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE FOR VARIOUS HOLY ORDERS AND POSITIONS,
ADMONISHING THEM ABOUT THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Of Civil Government

Romans 13:1-4

¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

Of Citizens

Matthew 22:21

They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

Romans 13:5-7

⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

1 Timothy 2:1-3

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.

Titus 3:1

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work.

1 Peter 2:13-14

¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

The Sunday of the Flight to Egypt



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