

**Sunday Bible Class:**

9:00 am

**Sunday Worship:**

10:00 am

**Wednesday Bible Class**

9:00 am

**Holy Communion  
is celebrated on the  
First, Third, Fifth  
Sunday.**

*A member of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Proclaiming Christ 150 YEARS*

**STJNIB**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
New Berlin, IL

*The  
LORD  
IS GOOD  
and His love  
endures forever  
His faithfulness  
continues through  
all generations*

**Welcome  
in the name of Jesus!**

*We're so glad to have you  
join us to worship our Lord!*

*If you are a guest with us  
for worship today, please  
introduce yourself to our  
pastor and stop by the  
registration book at the  
back of church.*

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
Olive & Gibson Streets  
New Berlin, Illinois  
(H) 217-488-3190  
(C) 217-697-9567

**Pastor David Benning**  
[pastorbenning@stjnb.org](mailto:pastorbenning@stjnb.org)

**Parsonage Hours:**  
**10:00am-4:00pm m,w,st**

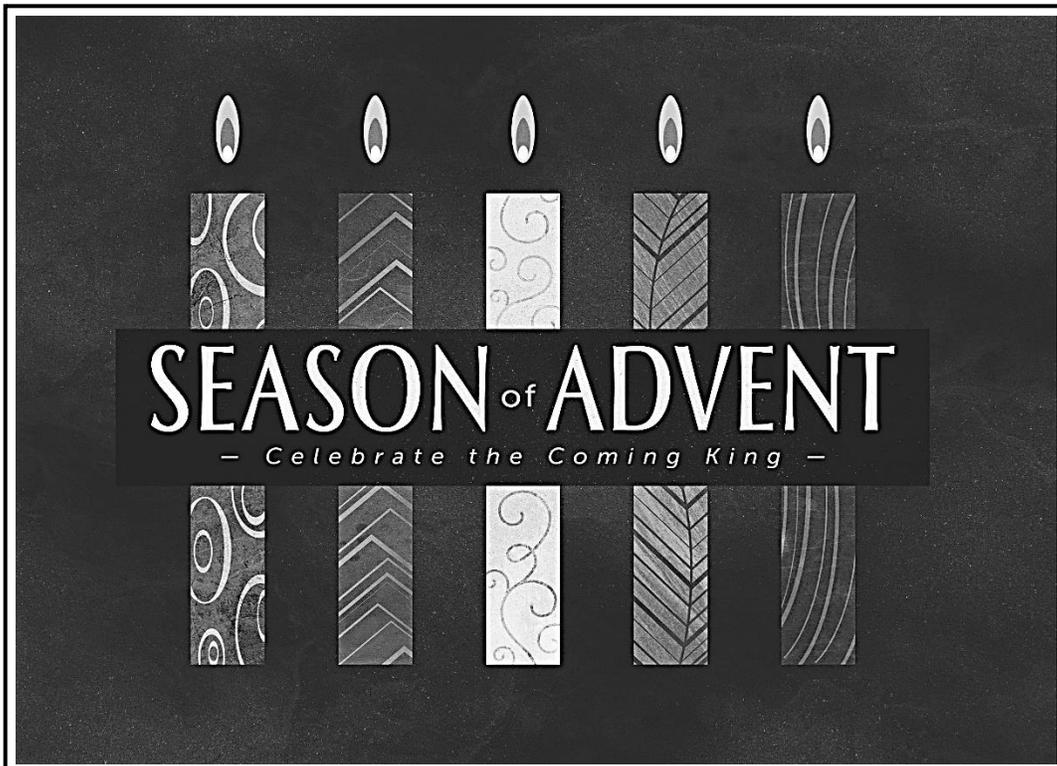
**Pastor is also available by  
appointment.**

**For Emergencies 24/7**

**Policy Regarding the Lord Supper**

Today our Family of Faith will celebrate the Lord's Supper. We believe Jesus Christ gives us not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins. Our Lord invites to His table the baptized who trust His words, repent of all sin, and forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession of faith differing from that of The LCMS, are asked to please refrain from communing today.

† **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent** †  
**December 6, 2020**



*As We Gather...Please welcome Pastor Robert Barth who will be filling in for Pastor Benning today. His focus for the sermon is our Epistle lesson from Romans 15:13, with the theme of 'PEACE.' Pastor Benning will be back with us next Sunday. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and acts of kindness during these difficult times.*

**Advent Services ONLINE!!  
Tune in LIVE 6:30pm Wednesdays**

## Opening Hymn:

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

LSB # 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalms 124:8*

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.**

*Psalms 130:3-4*

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together, as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*[Luke 18:13]*

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

*[John 20:19-23]*

People: **Amen.**

## Introit

Restore us, O God;

**let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead  
Joseph like a flock!

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim,  
shine forth.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
**it took deep root and filled the land.**

*Psalms 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 3*

Restore us, O God of hosts;

**let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Restore us, O God;

**let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

## Kyrie (Sung)

*Mark 10:47*

LSB # 204



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

# Gloria in Excelsis (Sung)

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

LSB # 204



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

LSB # 205

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that her warfare is ended,  
that her iniquity is pardoned,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our  
God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!"  
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,  
and all its beauty is like the flower of the  
field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades  
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good news;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,  
“Behold your God!”  
<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle *Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,  
“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,  
“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia and Verse (*Sung*)



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

*John 20:31*



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the First Chapter.  
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Mark 1:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ,  
the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,  
“Behold, I send my messenger before your  
face,

who will prepare your way,  
<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.””

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
 People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed**

LSB 206

**I believe in one God,  
 the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth  
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
 the only-begotten Son of God,  
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
 God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came  
 down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the  
 virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius  
 Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to  
 the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge  
 both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is  
 worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and  
 apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of  
 sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Children's Message:**

**Hymn of the Day:**

*Hark the Glad Sound*

LSB # 349

1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Tune and text: Public domain

**Sermon:**

*PEACE*

Pastor Robert Barth

## Giving Options:

There are several ways to give during this time we are not able to meet in person. One is the Give + app, which can be downloaded from your phone's app store. Our E-Giving platform can also be accessed from our website by clicking on the E-GIVING tab at the top of the page. In addition to these two options, we also have a locked drop box on the outside of church next to the bulletins.

## Offering Prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Lord Jesus, You paid the ransom that redeemed us from the sin in our life through Your death and resurrection. Use these offerings to show others the payment You have made for us that leads to life through Your living Spirit. Amen.**

## Prayers of the Church

[2 Timothy 2:1-4]

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy . . .

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray . . .

Matthew 6:9-13

People: **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.**

## Preface

LSB 208

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

[2 Colossians 3:1]

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

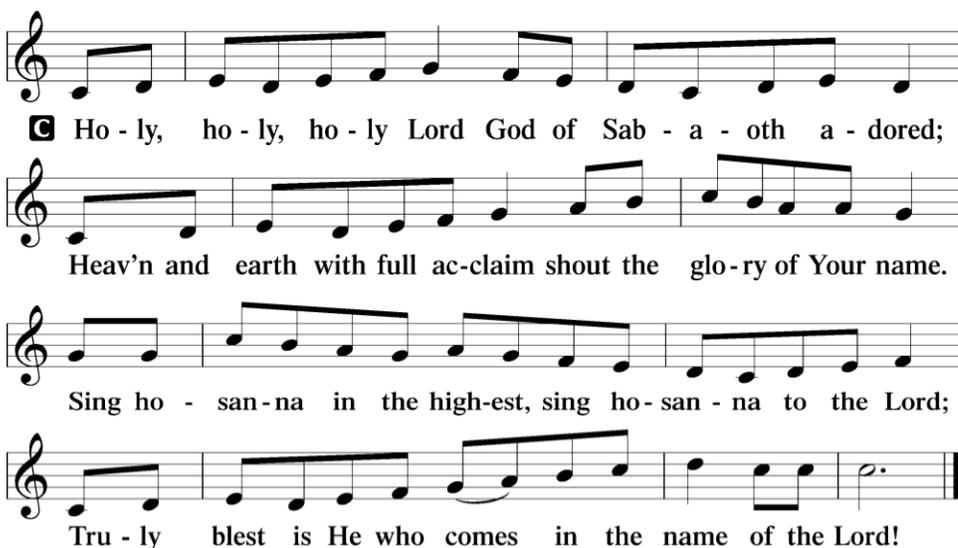
[Psalm 136]

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord,...

## Sanctus (Sung)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

LSB 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed...

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

**Agnus Dei** (*Sung*)

*John 1:29*

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**Distribution Hymn**

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

LSB # 347

1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er  
 saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -  
 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord  
 Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall  
 sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Tune and text: Public domain

## Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in His peace.

People: **Amen.**

## Nunc Dimittis (Sung)

Luke 2:29-32

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Lord Jesus, You took on flesh and blood, being born to give me life and hope. Thank you for giving me the gift of Your body broken and Your blood shed and for Your forgiveness and love. Use it to strengthen my confession of Your Lordship in my life, until that day when You come again in glory and with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to live and reign to all eternity. Amen.**

## Benedicamus and Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

People: **Amen, Amen, Amen. (Sung)**

## Anniversary Closing Hymn:

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

LSB # 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

## CHURCH NEWS

***Welcome, Pastor Barth, and thanks for sharing God's Word with us.***

### **TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**

In today's lesson, "The Unlikely Ally," the Israelites prepare to enter the Promised Land. Joshua sends two spies to explore Jericho. Rahab, a sinful woman first hides the spies from the authorities, and later she helps them escape out her window in the city wall. Because of her faithfulness, the spies promise to spare Rahab and her family when the Israelites come to occupy the city. The spies kept their promise to Rahab, which was symbolized by a scarlet cord, the same color as the blood Jesus shed for us on the cross. As a result, Rahab becomes a believer, marries an Israelite and becomes the mother of Boaz, husband of Ruth, an ancestor of Jesus.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

The Children's Christmas Eve Service will be pre-recorded and available for viewing beginning December 24. Anyone who would like to join in the pre-recording of the hymns is invited to stay after church on December 13.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Some Christmas seasons we played Christmas music and broadcast it over the speakers in the belfry.

### **PHOTO DRAWING**

Our sesquicentennial drawing has come to a close. We have counted the ballots, and nobody exceeded the limit of 150 entries per person. The winner of the non-framed photo of the outside of the church at Christmas time is Carolyn Dalton. Congratulations, and thanks to all who entered our contest.

### **MARY-MARTHA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

In order to keep everyone safe, the Mary-Martha officers have made the decision to cancel this year's Christmas party.

### **SESQUICENTENNIAL THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**

God wants full custody of His children; not just weekend visits.

**LWML-CID Mission Grant Mite Bytes 2020**

No grants were awarded for the month of December.

**ANGEL TREE**

St. John's will once again participate in supporting the community's Angel Tree! This year, St. John's is collecting toothpaste and toothbrushes. A collection box, on the landing, will be available next week.

**KFUO**

This week on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org), hear Advent midweek service from Village Lutheran Church 12/9 at 12:00 p.m. CT, study Advent with the Prophets on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and consider the practical application of our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters (12/8 at 2:00 p.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or wherever you get your podcasts!

**Please submit bulletin information by Noon on**

**Thursday.** Email Allicent Smith at [Sallicent@gmail.com](mailto:Sallicent@gmail.com), or call (217) 341-1757. Thank you!

***For Advent 2: December 6, 2020***

A man who had been married for years sighed, "You know, there are times when my wife suddenly forgives me while we are in the middle of an argument. She says, 'You're wrong, and I forgive you.' I want to keep pressing my point, but she ends the whole thing with forgiveness." He added, "That really kills me."

Centuries before the coming of Christ, the prophet Isaiah brought a message of comfort to God's people. In a passage to be read at our church on Sunday, God told Isaiah: "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned."

Sinners want to fight God, but God simply finishes the fighting. He brings the warfare to a stop. He does this through His Son, Jesus Christ, Who took the wrath of God for all sinners. Jesus saves sinners.

He forgives. In so doing, He ends all human strivings to justify our own lives, all our efforts to show ourselves to be in the right before Him. We may want to keep pressing our points, but He says, "You are wrong." Period. No escape.

He provides the escape. He says, "I forgive you." This pronouncement sets us free from sin, not by our own striving and prevailing but because of Christ's life, death and resurrection. He forgives. Period.

This really kills people. It kills the old sinful nature we inherited from our ancestors all the way back to Adam and Eve. Yet the story does not end there. With forgiveness from God comes new life.

You might be fighting against God, but there is no reason to do so. God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself. By the power of the Holy Spirit, be reconciled to God! (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

# A Messenger Sent from God

It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way."

Mark 1:2 (NIV)

Based on Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

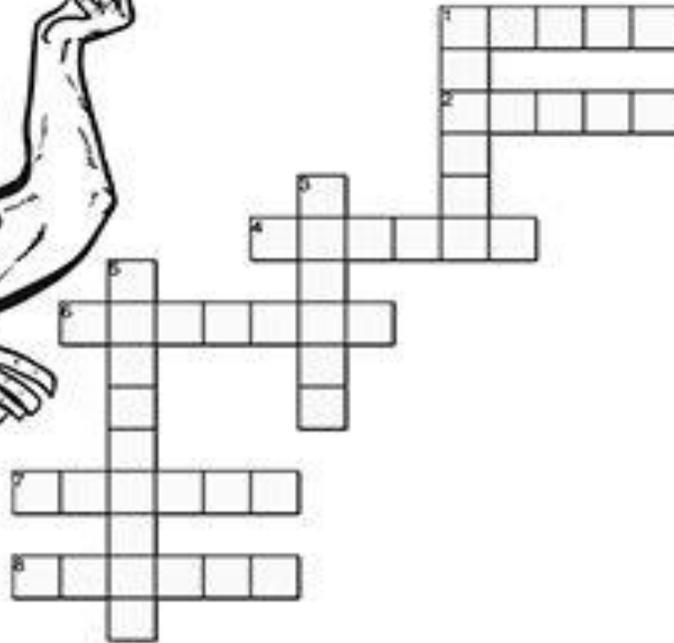


V J P O I V S T C O N F E S S  
 E A A M C L H M P R O P H E T  
 Z K T G A G N R M X J R G C C  
 S W H D I A L T E L T E F J H  
 J X N A D R R C S O R A S V C  
 R A T R S E Q H S C E C A U E  
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 L I N B H K E A G V E H P T B  
 C N G O S P E L W R I V E R R

LOCUSTS	PATH	GOSPEL	VOICE	PROPHET
CALLING	HONEY	STRAIGHT	CHRIST	JOHN
REPENTANCE	PREACHING	RIVER	JESUS	DESERT
JORDAN	SANDALS	BAPTIZE	MESSENGER	CONFESS

# JOHN THE BAPTIST

Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8;  
Luke 3:1-18; John 1:19-34



## Across

1. John was preparing the way for whose ministry?
2. Israel had been captured by the \_\_\_\_\_ Empire at the time of Jesus' birth.
4. What was John's single most important message?
6. God said Jesus was his \_\_\_\_\_ son, and He was very pleased with him.
7. When Jesus was baptized, God's \_\_\_\_\_ came down from heaven like a dove.
8. How was John the Baptist related to Jesus?

## Down

1. What river did John baptize Jesus in?
3. What type of place did John live in?
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ leaders were not happy about the type John's ministry received.



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