

Week of
12/01/2019



Join the
**St. John's Lutheran
Ministries Schools -Official**
group for news, updates
and daily encouragement!

Welcome in the name of the Lord !

As God serves us today in Word and Sacrament, may we rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation.

- 1) Please complete either a Guest (blue) or Member (white) card found in the hymnal rack of the pews. You may place this card in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.
- 2) To parents of small children, we love the sound of children in worship. Thank you for bringing your child to worship; they belong here! If your child is actively crying, we have a cry room with service audio and video near the restrooms.
- 3) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: If you are not a confirmed member of this congregation or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, please speak to the pastor before communing. Pastor is readily available in the narthex before worship for this conversation. For those with

medical need, the center section of the individual cup trays is filled with cups of grape juice (lighter color). For those that have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.

4) Children are invited to come forward to the altar while the Lord's Supper is distributed; encourage them to bow their heads and fold their hands. While there, they will receive a Baptismal blessing from the Pastor.

5) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.

6) Our elders, greeters, and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

Thanks for worshipping with us!

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT (01)

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:15 a.m. Coffee Hour and Christian Education, CLC
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 10:30 a.m. Joining Jesus on His Mission, School Cafeteria Classroom
- 11:45 a.m. Parish Life Board Meeting, School Cafeteria
- 6:00 p.m. Advent by Candlelight setup, CLC

MONDAY (02)

- 9:30 a.m. The Phoenix Bible Study, Phoenix Apartments
- 5:00 p.m. Board of Stewardship, School Cafeteria Classroom
- 5:30 p.m. Walkie Talkies, Divine Savior Hospital Tunnel
- 6:00 p.m. Advent by Candlelight, CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Financial Peace University (FPU), School Art/Science Room

TUESDAY (03)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 12:00 p.m. Scrip orders due
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony

WEDNESDAY (04)

- 9:00 a.m. Budget Meeting, Church Office Conference Room
- 10:00 a.m. Advent Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Due
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group, Gym/Youth Group Room
- 5:00 p.m. Handbell Choir, Balcony
- 5:30 p.m. Advent Dinner, CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship
- 7:30 p.m. Tree Decoration, Church Sanctuary

THURSDAY (05)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Class, CLC
- 9:30 a.m. Rachel Bible Class, CLC
- 9:30 a.m. Walkie Talkies, Divine Savior Hospital Tunnel
- 10:00 a.m. Our House Monthly Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Heritage House Monthly Worship
- 5:30 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, School Cafeteria Classroom

FRIDAY (06)

- Pastor's day off
(contact for emergencies only)

SATURDAY (07)

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study, Dino's
- 5:30 p.m. Christmas Choral Vespers

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT (08)

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening, Nursery
- 9:15 a.m. Coffee Hour and Christian Education, CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 10:30 a.m. Joining Jesus on His Mission, School Cafeteria Classroom

Please Pray

Thanksgiving (birth, baptisms, weddings, recovery):

Milestone (birthdays, anniversaries):

Medical:

Jerome Behnke

Long-term Illness/Treatment

Rita Fenske

Mourning:

Other:

How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Prayer requests for Thanksgiving, Milestone, Medical, and Mourning will remain on the list for a 2-weeks. Prayer requests for Long-term Illness/Treatment will remain for 1 month unless the church office is notified with an update on the individual. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

****Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital, so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.***

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 4:6-7

St. John's Info. Corner

Last Weekend's Attendance: 288

Unified Received: \$9,564.00

Other Contributions: \$452.00

TOTAL: \$10,016.00

Weekly Unified Needed: \$14,230.77

Holiday Services

Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 4th

10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

*St. John's 6th-grade will be serving the Advent dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.

Wednesday, December 11th

10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

*St. John's 7th/8th-grade will be serving spaghetti for the Advent dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.

Special Services

St. John's Choral Vespers,

Saturday, December 7th at 5:30 p.m.

St. John's School Christmas Program,

Wednesday, December 18th at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Worship

Christmas Eve Scripture and Carols,

December 24th at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,

December 24th at 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service,

December 25th at 9:00 a.m.

Board of Parish Life News

Christmas Tree Decorating

Everyone is invited to help decorate!
Join us December 4th at 7:30 p.m.
(after the Advent Worship Service)



Christmas Caroling

Don't miss out on bringing the joy of the Christmas season to others. Lend your voices and sing for the joy of the coming of our Savior. Join us for Christmas Caroling, December 14 at 2:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.



News from St. John's Lutheran Ministries Groups

Our military ministry will again be sending boxes to our military family or extended family members in time for Christmas. Money donations may be dropped off at the church office, and cookies and other treats can be dropped off in the military box in the Christian Life Center. We will be packing the boxes on Monday, December 9th at 1:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. Help with packing would be appreciated.

-Thank you,

St. John's Military Ministry

Sunday School

No Sunday School this Sunday, December 1st.

Please join us next Sunday, December 8th at 9:15 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

Help Wanted

Earn some extra cash!

St. John's is looking for a part-time custodian to clean the school after 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 or email churchoffice@sjohnsportage.com.

Substitute Teacher Needed!

Do you enjoy a flexible schedule and working with students?

St. John's School is looking for short-term and long-term substitute teachers for 4K-8th grade.

- A bachelor's degree is required.
- A teaching degree is preferred, but not required.

Please submit your resumé to

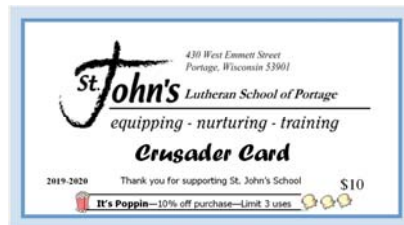
akohn@stjohnsportage.com Questions? Please contact St. John's School, 608-742-9000.

Crusaders News and Events

St. John's Crusader Cards make great

stocking stuffers! St. John's 7th and 8th graders are working hard to raise funds for their class trip to The Creation Museum in Kentucky.

For just \$10.00, you get 10% off at Edgewater Greenhouse, 2 for 1 on 9 holes of golf at Saddle Ridge, and many other worthwhile discounts to local businesses. The cards are good through December 2020. You can purchase cards from one of St. John's 7th or 8th graders, or pick one up in the church office.



Lutherans For Life Thoughts

December 1 – Advent I – Some call “sexual liberation” and “individual autonomy” progress. But abortion and assisted suicide show how serving flesh and self enslaves only to death. “[S]alvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed” (Romans 13:11b). Jesus draws and drives us toward a better hope: forgiveness, resurrection, everlasting life, Kingdom of heaven. Real progress means trusting the Word of the Lord and receiving even the least of these as precious neighbors.

Support St. John's Ministries

St. John's was awarded a grant from the Lenz Trust in matching funds for the new playground. We have raised \$30,500 to date. To receive the grant, we need to raise an additional \$11,670.00. Please consider donating to help us reach our goal.

Holiday Cards in the Narthex

Thanksgiving and Christmas cards are available for purchase in the narthex.

Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast

Our Sunday morning broadcast of the previous Sunday service continues at 10:00 a.m. on WPDR 1350 AM. Broadcasts (\$50) as well as the order of service booklets (\$30) may be sponsored in honor, or in memory, of a special person or occasion.

Community News and Events

Columbia County Right to Life gathers on the second Tuesday of every month in front of Planned Parenthood, 132 W. Cook St., in Portage from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please join to pray that abortion will no longer be a solution for unplanned pregnancies on **Tuesday, December 10th**, for all or part of the hour.



Help bring joy to children in Columbia and Dodge counties this Christmas season. We

are collecting toys for Toys for Tots. You can drop off new unwrapped toys in the Toys for Tots box located in the coat room. The deadline to drop off toys is December 18th, 2019.

Reminders

Please be considerate of our disabled worshipers' parking needs. If the driver is not disabled, it would be best if he or she would drop an individual at the door and use a regular parking stall when possible. Then, we will be sure we have enough handicap parking for our disabled drivers. We appreciate our caregivers and drivers.

Pastor Hovland's cell number is (608) 571-3360. Program it into your phone before you need it. Text him your prayer requests. Call him in times of spiritual distress or needed pastoral care. The only way your pastor knows that you want or need help is when you ask. Remember: hospitals CANNOT give your information to pastor by HIPAA regulation. You or a family member needs to do it. Please reserve evening and nighttime calls/texts for emergency situations that are occurring at that moment. (Note: text messages received after 8pm are reviewed the next morning. Call in an emergency.)

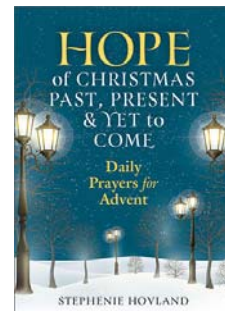
Pop Quiz

What does the word *Advent* mean?

What prophet from the Old Testament predicted the coming of the Savior?

You can submit your answers to churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

The first two people to submit correct answers will receive a copy of *Hope of Christmas Past, Present, & Yet to Come: Daily Prayers for Advent* by Stephenie Hovland.



Altar Guild Flower Fund

If you are interested in donating toward Christmas poinsettias, please fill out the following and return to the church office by December 20th. Checks payable to *St. John's Altar Guild*. Please do not place in an offering.

A Gift In Loving Memory of: _____

Given by: _____



Bible Study

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS at 9:15am

Pastor Hovland will lead Sunday Morning Bible Study with us in the Christian Life Center. We hope to see you there for coffee, fellowship, and study!

STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

Sunday mornings at
9:15am, APR

This class is led by
Dave Tamminga.

THE PHOENIX BIBLE STUDY

First and Third Monday of the Month
at 9:30am, The Phoenix Apartments

This class is led by Pastor Rod Armon.
Contact Annette Monthey at 566-1346.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday mornings at
6:30am, CLC

Contact Ken Manthey at 742-5216.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Tuesday mornings at
9:15am, CLC

This class is led by
Pastor Hovland. Come a few minutes
early for treats and
coffee.

SISTERS IN CHRIST BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday evenings at
6:30pm, Church Conference Room

All women are welcome.
Contact Elaine Hull at
408-4247.

ESTHER BIBLE STUDY

Thursday mornings at
8:00am, CLC

Contact Mary Loomans at
742-3972.

RACHEL BIBLE STUDY

Thursday mornings at 9:30am, CLC

If you have questions,
contact Gladys Chance at
566-1123.

THIRSTY SOULS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday nights at
5:30pm, Cafeteria Classroom

If you have questions,
contact Marilyn Jahn at
617-7787.

SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

Saturday mornings at
7:00am, Dino's in Portage

The group is working through
the Epistles. Contact
Dave Tamminga at 742-3164.

Adopt a Sunday! It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family.

We encourage families and groups
to "Adopt a Sunday" by hosting
coffee hour on Sunday mornings.
Sign up in the Christian Life
Center or email
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

December 01: OPEN
December 08: OPEN
December 15: OPEN
December 22: OPEN
December 29: OPEN
January 05: OPEN

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS ADVENT 1

**Matt. 21:3 – "If anyone says
anything to you, you shall say,
'The Lord needs them,' and he
will send them at once."** Just a
colt and her foal. How significant
could they be? Could they really be
used by the Lord for some great, heav-
enly purpose? This is one facet of
stewardship we often forget: it is a
blessing *to us* to be of service in the
Lord's kingdom. What honor the Lord
bestows upon us by using our gifts for
His goals.

This week's readings comes from the
Daily Lectionary found in the
Lutheran Service Book page 299.

Advent 1

Sun.	Is. 7:10—8:8 1 Peter 3:1—22
Mon.	Is. 8:9—9:7 1 Peter 4:1—19
Tue.	Is. 9:8—10:11 1 Peter 5:1—14
Wed.	Is. 10:12—27a, 33—34 2 Peter 1:1—21
Thu.	Is. 11:1—12:6 2 Peter 2:1—22
Fri.	Is. 17:1—23 2 Peter 3:1—18
Sat.	Is. 24:1—13 1 John 1:1—2:14

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

850 Armstrong Street
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608) 742-9000
fax 742-7154

Rev. Greg Hovland,
Senior Pastor
(c) 608-571-3360
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com

Rev. Rod Armon,
Pastoral Care
rarmon@stjohnsportage.com

Jenni See,
Business Manager
jsee@stjohnsportage.com

Catharine Daily,
Ministries Coordinator-Church
cdaily@stjohnsportage.com

Office Hours: M-F / 8:30a-3:00p

St. John's Lutheran School

A Nationally Accredited School
430 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000

Luke Beck,
Principal
lbeck@stjohnsportage.com

Amanda Kohn
Ministries Coordinator-School
akohn@stjohnsportage.com

Office Hours: M-F / 7:45a-3:30p



St. John's Child Development Center

A Five-Star Rated Center
426 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000

Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com

cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Center Hours: M-F / 6:00a-6:00p

Announcements to be
printed must be in the church office
no later than NOON on Wednesdays.
Send all correspondence to
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

St. John's Elder Directory

The elders listed below are
available to talk and pray with you.
Feel free to contact us wherever
you are, with whatever you may be
going through. We are here to serve
you with the Gospel:
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102
Robert Griepentrog 566-9810
Gene Thompson 697-4786
Don Wakershauser 617-6171
Mark Witt 697-0224
Bob Fairfield 296-4012
David Hall 493-2125
Pete Smith 697-3807
Ron Mueller 369-1845, Chair

8:00 Worship

Sharing of the Peace and Ringing of the Bell

8:00 only Adult Choir *Soon and Very Soon*

Hymn

Savior of the Nations, Come LSB 332 sts. 1–4

Invocation

Exhortation LSB 203

Confession of Sins and Absolution LSB 203

Kyrie LSB 204

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

8:00 only Adult Choir *Alleluia for Advent*

The Old Testament Isaiah 2:1–5

The Epistle Romans 13:8–14

Alleluia LSB 205

The Holy Gospel Matthew 21:1–11

Apostles' Creed LSB back cover

Hymn of the Day

Savior of the Nations, Come LSB 332 sts. 5–8

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Preface LSB 208

Sanctus LSB 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer LSB 209

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini / Agnus Dei LSB 209/210

Distribution Hymns

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gate LSB 341

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence LSB 621

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

Post-Communion Collect

Benedicamus LSB 212

Benediction

Hymn

The Advent of Our King LSB 331

Divine Service, Setting four from Lutheran Service Book
Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

10:30 Worship

Sharing of the Peace and Ringing of the Bell

Song

My Deliverer

Invocation

Exhortation *Psalm 124:8 and Psalm 130:3-4*

Confession *Luke 18:13*

Absolution *John 20:19-23*

Salutation and Prayer of the Day 2 Timothy 4:22

The Old Testament Isaiah 2:1–5

The Epistle Romans 13:8–14

The Holy Gospel Matthew 21:1–11

Apostles' Creed *1 Timothy 6:12*

Song

Immanuel

Sermon

Offering

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Prayer of the Church *1 Timothy 2:1-4*

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

Preface *Psalm 136*

The Words of Our Lord *Matthew 26:26-28;
1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

Distribution Songs

*While We Are Waiting Come
Here with Us*

The Common Dismissal

Benedicamus *Psalm 103:1*

Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

Closing Song

You are My King

November 30th and December 1st First Sunday in Advent



A Congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Serving the Worshiping Community Today:

Organist: Stephenie Hovland

Lectors: Dorothy Neitzel (5:30); Ken Manthey (8:00);
Bonnie Mulhern (10:30)

Worship Team: Led by Kara Rietmann

Adult Choir: Directed by Kathy Gerstenkorn

The Old Testament

Isaiah 2:1–5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the
mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the
LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”
For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

The Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 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.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

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. 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. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But

put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 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. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

“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.’”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!” And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”