

*Our mission is to glorify God as we seek to make disciples of all nations  
by bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people within and outside  
of the one holy Christian Church.*

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**ST. JOHNS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**(Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod)**

Highway 34 West



Park Rapids, MN 56470

ABC Preschool  
Church Office

Phone 218-732-9783  
Phone 218-732-9783

Website: [stjohnspr.org](http://stjohnspr.org)

**James Neubauer, Pastor**

Phone 218-732-5621

[revneu@gmail.com](mailto:revneu@gmail.com)

**Chad Berg, Associate Pastor**

Phone 701-893-6963

[pastorcsberg@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcsberg@gmail.com)

**Larry Harvala, Visitation Pastor**

Phone 701-652-5686

[Larry.Harvala@gmail.com](mailto:Larry.Harvala@gmail.com)

**Kim Neubauer, Preschool Director**

Phone 218-732-9783

[abcpreschoolpr@gmail.com](mailto:abcpreschoolpr@gmail.com)

**The Last Sunday of The Church Year**

November 26, 2023

Divine Service Four, LSB page 203

**The Sermon: "I am sending my Shepherd"**

**The Text: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

**The Opening Hymn:** "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense" LSB 741

**The Sermon Hymn:** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" LSB 711

**The Communion Hymns** (8:00 a.m.):

"Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread" LSB 625

"Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying" (Insert)

"Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs" LSB 812

**The Closing Hymn:** "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" LSB 345

**+Holy Communion** will be celebrated at the 8:00 a.m. service today. Guests, it is our desire for you to commune with us. In the Lord's Supper, in with and under the bread and the wine, we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. You should also know that when you commune with a group of Christians, you are saying you agree with the teachings of that church body. If you are a member of a different church body, please use this time for prayer and reflection upon God's Word. We then invite you to speak with one of the pastors about how you, too, can share in this wonderful gift. If you believe what Christ says about His supper and share the beliefs we have at St. Johns, an LCMS congregation, you are welcome to join us for communion. Gluten free wafers are available. If you prefer a gluten free wafer please let the pastors know.

**This Week at St. Johns**

Monday	Staff Meeting	8:45 AM
Monday	Christmas Decorating	9:00 AM
Monday	Scouts	6:00 PM
Tuesday	Bible Study - <i>Limping with God</i>	8:30 AM
Tuesday	TOPS	9:00 AM
Wednesday	Release Time Classes	8:25 AM
Wednesday	Bible Study - <i>Christmas Traditions</i>	10:30 AM
Wednesday	Communion Service	NOON
Wednesday	Evening Guild/Ladies Aid Merge Meeting	1:00 PM
Wednesday	Sunday School Program Practice	3:30 PM
Wednesday	Confirmation	3:30 PM
Wednesday	Bell Practice	5:00 PM
Thursday	Breakfast at Bethlehem Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Saturday	Breakfast in Bethlehem	9:00 AM

**Next Sunday**

Blended Worship	8:00 AM
Sunday School	9:15 AM
Bible Study	9:30 AM
Blended Worship (Comm.)	10:30 AM

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** today are given by Jackson Kimball and the Kimball family in loving memory of Jackson's godfather, Arnie Wenger.

**TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON** is "*The Twelve Spies.*" **SUNDAY INSERTS FOR YOUTH AGES 7 & UP** are available on the entry table by the confirmation sermon note basket.

**LISTEN** to the Lutheran Hour Sundays on KPRM 870 AM at 9:30 a.m., or KTIG 102.7 and 95.9 FM at 5:00 p.m. You can also listen on Sirius XM Family Talk Channel 133 on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or any time on [lhm.org/sentradio](http://lhm.org/sentradio). Today's sermon is "Loving Mercy" (Matthew 25:34-40) with Lutheran Hour guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy.

**ON MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH:** Rev. Brian Doel, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Minot, ND, presents the message, "The Abundant Position of Christ" based on Matthew 14:13-21. *This Is the Life*: "The Gift" - A daughter struggles with what to do with birthday gift money. Main Street Living is broadcast Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on KVRP Fargo-Moorhead or watch online at [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com), "North (Fargo)."

**WE'VE STARTED SOMETHING NEW** at the 10:30 a.m. service - Children's Church. Just before the sermon, parents of children ages 2-6 will be invited to bring their children to the nursery for a time of faith focused videos and activities. This time will last about 20 minutes, while the parents have an opportunity to return to worship. We are looking for at least 4 pairs of volunteers to staff this time. You will be provided with materials to use. Contact the church if you are willing to volunteer for this new ministry.

**DECK THE HALLS!** Please join the Fellowship Board tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. as we decorate the sanctuary and the rest of the church for Christmas. Coffee and rolls will be on hand for all to enjoy before, during and after decorating!

**THE EVENING GUILD** has decided to merge with the Ladies Aid. A conversion meeting to start the process and answer any questions will be held on Wednesday, November 29 at 1:00 p.m. in the social hall. All Evening Guild and Ladies Aid members are asked to attend.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE** starts this Wednesday, November 29 for 1-6 grade. We will pick up kids at the Century School. Please let Staci Lee know if your child is attending and being picked up at the Century School. Text her at (218) 255-2403. Also, if your child has any dietary restrictions, please include that information as a snack is provided.

**MIKE RIEWER** will be retiring at the end of November. Gary Jaskowiak has accepted the janitor position and will begin work in December. We wish them both all the best in these new phases of their lives!

**ARE YOU** willing to bring your nativity scene to church to be included in the Nativity Gallery for Breakfast in Bethlehem? Please bring your sets to church any time by November 30.

**THERE WILL BE** a dress rehearsal for all characters, singers and musicians in our *Breakfast in Bethlehem* drama in the social hall at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 30.

**BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM:** See, hear, and taste the Christmas story this Saturday, December 2, 9:00 a.m. Enjoy breakfast, a dramatization of the Christmas story and the nativity gallery. Get your picture taken at one of our Christmas scenes. Kids can make some special Christmas crafts. Invite your friends! **IT'S TIME** for our annual basket fundraiser. Baskets may be brought to the church by December 3. The last day to bid will be December 17. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

**TOYS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS AND TINY TOTS:** It's that time of year again when we collect toys for area children. Please take as many ornaments (children) as you feel moved to help with, but be sure to write your name, the child's gender and age, and the family number on the sign-up sheet so we know that gifts have been returned. Please use a separate line for each ornament you take. Drop off unwrapped gifts, with the ornament attached, to the box under the tree at church by December 10.

**NEW ELVES NEEDED:** Doug and Julie Kingsley have spearheaded our participation in Toys for Tots for several years. They would like someone (or a couple) to work with them this year. The intention would then be that the new person(s) would take over coordinating our church's involvement in subsequent years. Please consider talking with Julie or Doug to inquire about what the project involves.

**NORQUISTS & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT** is scheduled for Saturday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. here at St. Johns. You won't want to miss this event. Previous concerts have received rave reviews. Freewill offering for the Local Lutheran Hour. The Lutheran Laymen's League members will serve treats following the concert. Come enjoy the sounds of Christmas with your family and feel the love Christ has to offer.

**TWO NEW COMMITTEES FORMING** - As a result of the November 19 voters meeting, two new committees will be formed to work out details for final project approval by the voters assembly. Digital Sign Committee – Looking for two or more members. If you wish to have input on a new sign design, volunteer to be on the sign committee by letting Jerry Grudem (218-252-2007) know you are interested. Sanctuary AV Upgrade Committee – Looking for three or four more members. If you have expertise with audio-visual equipment, or simply wish to help improve the sound, live streaming, and visual screens for the sanctuary, please contact Jerry Grudem to let him know you are willing to help.

**2025 YOUTH GATHERING**: Youth members, grade 7 and up, if you are interested in attending the gathering in New Orleans in 2025, please talk to Pastor Berg.

**SUBSTITUTES** are needed for Sunday School and Release Time. Serving as a substitute is a great way to volunteer if you can't commit to teaching every week. Helpers are also appreciated! If you're interested, please contact Staci Lee for Sunday School or Laurie Kimball for Release Time.

**DECEMBER ASSISTING ELDERS**: 8:00 - (12/10) Tim Ranisate & Jerry Eischens, (12/24) Emil Burgau & Steve Schauland. 10:30 - (12/3) Mike Poole. Christmas Day 9:00 - Tim Ranisate & Jerry Eischens.

**DECEMBER ACOLYTES**: 8:00 - (12/3) Will Sanquist & Khloe May, (12/10) Ketch Luther & Luke Eskola, (12/17) Ava Kimball & Addie DeVore. 10:30 - (12/3) Kiften Luther & Ava Kimball, (12/10) Zach Harju & Nevaeh Etter, (12/17) Rozaley Hall & Wyatt Goodwater. **Christmas Eve** - 9:00 a.m. - (12/24) - Kryton Nilson. **New Year's Eve** - 9:00 a.m. - (12/31) - Kiften Luther & Will Sanquist. **Advent Services** - 6:00 p.m. (12/6) - Walter Harrison & Hayden Hafner. (12/13) - Khloe May & Kolt Safratowich. (12/20) - Alex Lof & Clinton Koch.

**DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD**: Laurie Kimball & Staci Lee.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**: Att. - 26. Offering \$15.00.

**LAST SUNDAY**: Att.: 8:00 -120. 10:30 - 78. Total -198. Offering: Unified: \$4,435.00. Unified Electronic - \$1,373.03. Plate - \$547.00. Healthy Balance - \$20.00. Total - \$6,375.03.