

*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



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ABC Preschool  
Church Office

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### The First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2023

Blended Order of Service/Divine Service 1

**The Sermon: "Your King Is Coming!"**

**The Text: Zechariah 9:9**

**The Communion Hymns (10:30 a.m.):**

*"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" LSB 350*

*"Once He Came in Blessing" LSB 333*

**+Holy Communion** will be celebrated at the 10:30 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  |
| Tuesday   | Bible Study - <i>Limping with God</i>     | 8:30 AM  |
| Tuesday   | TOPS/Potluck                              | 9:00 AM  |
| Wednesday | Release Time Classes                      | 8:25 AM  |
| Wednesday | Bible Study - <i>Christmas Traditions</i> | 10:30 AM |
| Wednesday | Advent Service/Meal                       | NOON     |
| Wednesday | Sunday School Program Practice            | 3:30 PM  |
| Wednesday | Confirmation                              | 3:30 PM  |
| Wednesday | Advent Meal - Tator Tot Hotdish           | 5:00 PM  |
| Wednesday | Advent Service                            | 6:00 PM  |
| Thursday  | Scouts                                    | 6:00 PM  |
| Saturday  | Norquist Christmas Concert                | 3:00 PM  |

### Next Sunday

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Worship (Comm.) | 8:00 AM  |
| Sunday School   | 9:15 AM  |
| Bible Class     | 9:30 AM  |
| Worship         | 10:30 AM |
| Scouts          | 4:00 PM  |

**"WHOOOPS":** The note in the bulletin for the flowers on the altar last Sunday should have read "Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and Hatoyama birthday to Nikki Wenger" from the Kimballs. The office apologizes for the error. The flowers this week are in loving memory of Arnie Wenger, from his godson, Jackson Kimball.

**TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON** is "*The Christmas Story*, Part 1."

**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 "Before They Call" (Isaiah 64:4) with Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. SOS and Mayday are distress signals that cry out for rescue. So is "Lord, have mercy!"

**ON MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH:** Rev. Heath Trampe, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Minot, ND, presents the message: "Prepared for Christ!" based on Mark 13:24-27. *This Is the Life: "Stable Boy"* - A manger scene comes to life and tells the story of the first Christmas. 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.

**SUNDAY INSERTS FOR YOUTH AGES 7 & UP** are available on the entry table by the confirmation sermon note basket.

**BOWLING:** 5th-12th graders are invited to go bowling at Bemidji Bowl today. We will meet at church at noon and return around 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$10. Friends are welcome.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE** for 1-6 grade continues for the next two Wednesdays. We pick up kids at the Century School. Please text Staci Lee (218-255-2403) to let her know if your child is attending and being picked up at the Century School. Also, please let us know if your child has any dietary restrictions provided.

**ADVENT SERVICES** begin this Wednesday with a service at noon followed by a meal. The Evening Guild will serve tator tot hotdish at 5:00 p.m. with worship at 6:00 p.m. Our theme is "The Emperor's New Clothes." Our focus this week is "A Foretaste of Fashion."

**THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in decorating the church for the Christmas season. From the entry ways to the interior, the time and effort taken makes it look wonderful!

**THANK YOU** to all the people who worked so hard to make our "Breakfast in Bethlehem" a great success. What a wonderful way to share the joy of this Christmas season!

**DEAR MEMBERS OF ST. JOHNS**, thank you so much for the kind words, cards and expressions of sympathy at the passing of my mother to her home in heaven. Thank you and God bless -  
***Steve and Jennifer Schauland***

**IT'S TIME** for our annual basket fundraiser. Baskets may be brought to the church by today. 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.

**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.

**NORQUISTS & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT** is scheduled for next 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.

**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.

**COME CAROLING** with the Evening Guild on Tuesday, December 12. We meet at church at 2:00 p.m., go caroling and return to church for an appetizer potluck. Bring your singing voice and your favorite appetizer to share.

**ALL LADIES** are invited to a Christmas tea on Thursday, December 14 (the date was wrong in the newsletter-sorry!) at 1:00 p.m. This is a brand new event that is taking the place of the annual Ladies Aid Christmas potluck. You don't need to bring anything but yourself!

**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.

**11/22 NOON SERVICE:** Att. - 19.

**THANKSGIVING:** Att.: 5:30 - 61. 9:00 - 38. Total - 99. Offering: Unified - \$1,585.00. Plate - \$190.00. Thanksgiving - \$865.00. Building Fund - \$3,000.00. Social Welfare - \$500.00. Lutheran Bible Translators - \$10.00. Total - \$6,150.00.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Att. - 28. Offering - \$15.00.

**LAST SUNDAY:** Att.: 8:00 - 132. 10:30 - 59. Total - 191. Offering: Unified: \$3,700.00. Unified Electronic - \$1,082.60. Plate - \$222.00. Healthy Balance - \$100.00. ABC Preschool - \$100.00. Release Time - \$100.00. LLL - \$100.00. Total - \$5,404.60.

**11/29 NOON SERVICE:** Att. - 26.