

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

The Third Sunday in Advent



# SAINT MICHAEL'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH • LCMS

W I N C H E S T E R  T E X A S

Worship God. | Love One Another. | Serve All People.

700 Frio Street  
Winchester, Texas 78945

Office: 979-242-3444  
Pastor's Cell: 979-966-8036

**Rev. Nate Hill – Pastor**  
**Margie Clifton – Church Secretary**  
**Mark McClain – Minister of Music**  
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[pastor@stmichaelswinchester.org](mailto:pastor@stmichaelswinchester.org)  
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## **A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS:**

Welcome to Saint Michael's Lutheran Church! We are a historic congregation committed to continuing the mission of Jesus Christ in our community. We are very excited to have you worshiping the Lord with us this morning. You are always welcome in our church! Here are a few helpful things to know about Saint Michael's:

- Our beautiful and historic church building was built in 1906. Unfortunately, this means that it was not built with restrooms. Restrooms are located in our education building next door.
- A changing table for infants is located in classroom 4 in the education building.
- During our worship service, attendance books will be passed across the pews. Please take a moment to register your presence with us in the book and include your address and phone number so we can follow up with you in the future.
- Our pastor, Rev. Nate Hill, is always willing to meet with you to answer any questions that you might have about our church and beliefs or to be of help in any way that he is able. Please introduce yourself to him this morning. He will be thrilled to meet you!

We hope that you find Saint Michael's to be a place where you feel at home as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

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## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church exists to worship God, love one another, and serve all people according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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### **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING TWO WITH COMMUNION**

<b>Prelude</b>	Selected Music
<b>Ringing of the Church Bell</b>	Ushers
<b>Welcome and Greeting</b>	Pastor
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	<i>"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"</i> LSB #345

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross ✝ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.  
**Amen.**

**P** 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)*

**C** Amen.



## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit

Read Together

*Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7*

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to  
folly.

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

Yes, the Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

*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.*

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

### Kyrie

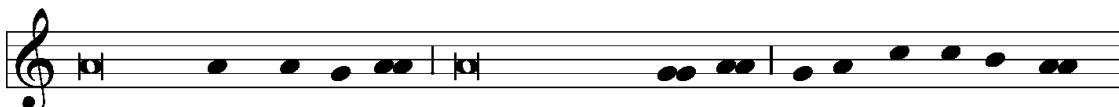
*Mark 10:47*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



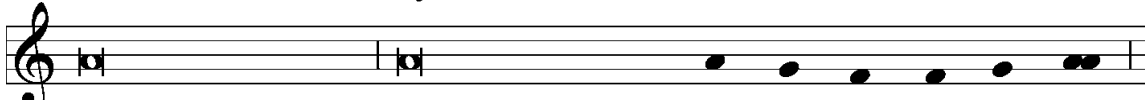
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



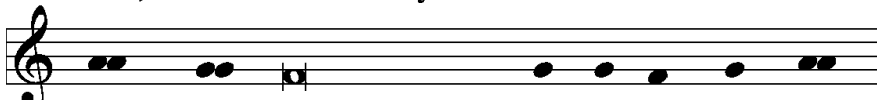
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# Hymn of Praise

## "This is the Feast"

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



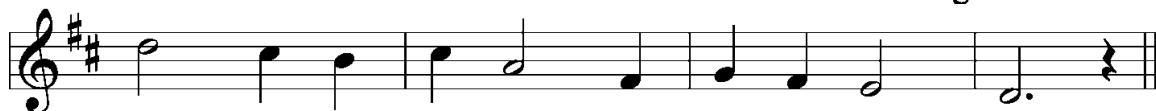
**C** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

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

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

## **P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.  
<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations. . . .  
<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup>Their offspring shall be known among the nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.  
<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to sprout up before all the nations.



**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

<sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like streams in the Negeb!

<sup>5</sup>Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!

<sup>6</sup>He who goes out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.

## Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do  
not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup>Abstain  
from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may  
your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord  
Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Children's Message

Pastor

**Hymn of the Day**    *“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”*    LSB #348

**Sermon**                      *"The Good News of the Anointed One"*                      Rev. Nate Hill  
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

## Nicene Creed

**C 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.

## Prayer of the Church

**Offering**     *(Please sign the attendance books as they are passed)*     Ushers

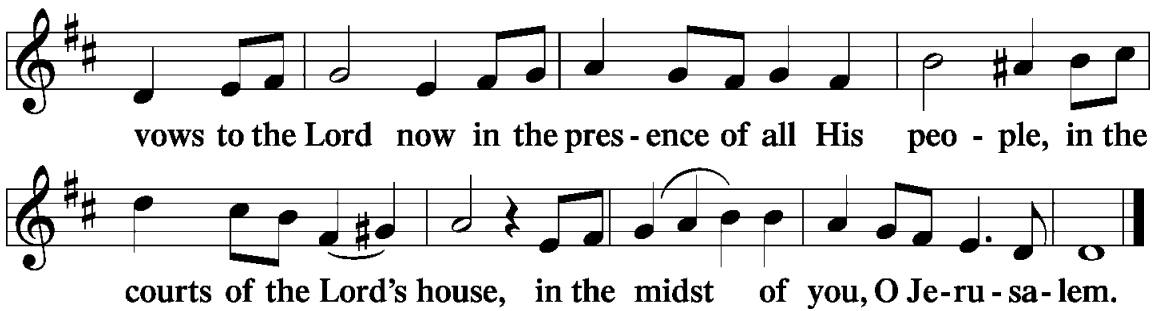
*If you would like to transition to making your regular tithe or offering online,  
you may do so at [www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give](http://www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give)*



## Offertory

Musical notation for the Offertory hymn, consisting of five staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The hymn is a traditional offertory song, often used during the Eucharist.

**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to  
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



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### *Important Information about Holy Communion Today*

Today, we will celebrate Holy Communion, where Jesus Christ offers us his true body and true blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. This Sacrament is also an expression of the unity in faith, doctrine, and practice of those who receive it together.

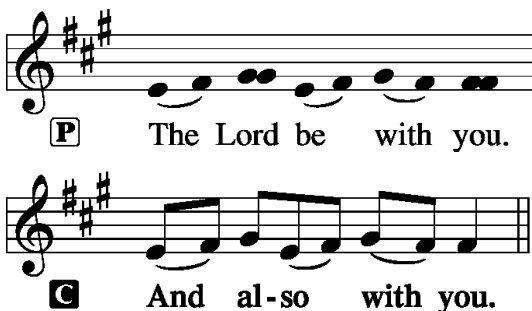
If you are a confirmed member in good standing of this or another LCMS congregation, we welcome you to commune with us today. However, if you are uncertain about our beliefs and practices surrounding Holy Communion, we ask that you refrain from communing today. If you have questions, please let Pastor Nate know. He would be happy to meet with you to talk about the blessings of church membership and Holy Communion!

For those who are sensitive to alcohol, the cups in the center of the communion tray contain water with one drop of wine added.

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## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **Preface**



*2 Timothy 4:22*

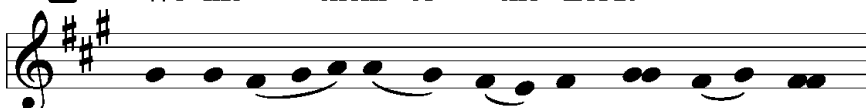


**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

*(Colossians 3:1)*



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

*(Psalm 136)*

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



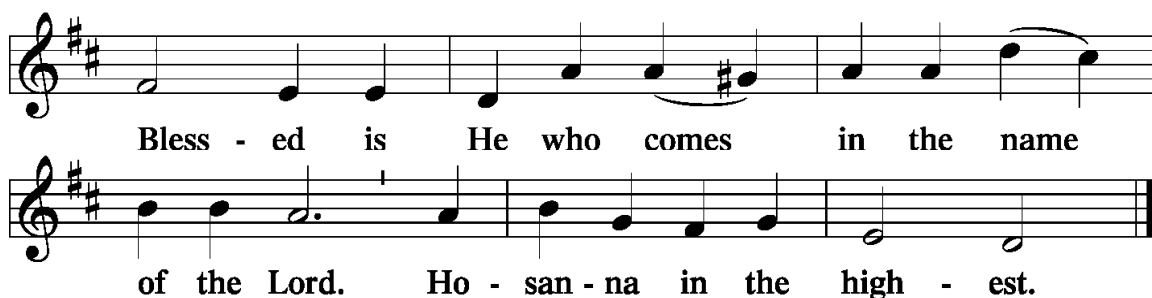
**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** 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.

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## The Words of Our Lord

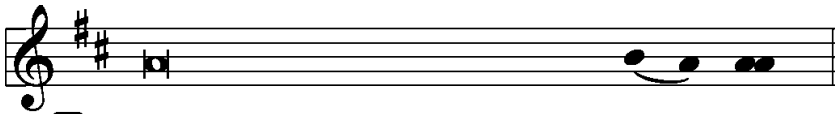
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution Hymns

*"When All the World Was Cursed"*  
*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*  
*"In Thee is Gladness"*

LSB #346  
 LSB #621  
 LSB #818

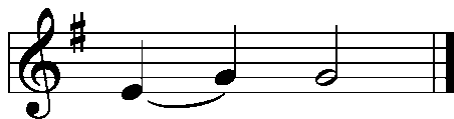
## Post-Communion Canticle "Thank the Lord"

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - 'ry-one what  
 He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -  
 joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is -  
 es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

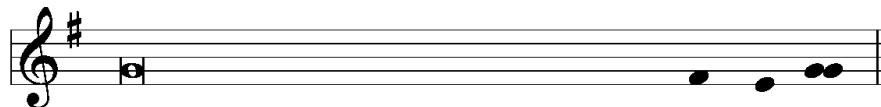
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



**P** 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A - men.

## Announcements

Pastor

## Closing Hymn

*"Hark the Glad Sound"*

LSB #349

## Postlude

Selected Music

## PRAYERS AT SAINT MICHAEL'S

### MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

- Melinda Bennett – *Bill Karisch's Friend*
- Sheila Bojorquez – *Charles Lehmann's Daughter*
- Debra Bradley – *Garry Synatschek's Mother*
- Kourtney Burton
- Erland Carlson – *Leann McClain's Brother*
- Sue Doepner – *Daniel and Karen Kilian's Friend*
- Charlene Franke
- Myrtle Friemel – *Carol Ahlschlager's Friend*
- Ivan Fritsche
- Sam Gibbs
- Nellie Gonzalez
- Gavon Grayson – *Glenn and Stacy Zoch's Friend*
- Larry Hernandez – *Marceil Prestridge's Son-in Law*
- Nicole Hernandez – *Marceil Prestridge's Daughter*
- Jerry Hielscher
- Delores Karisch
- Morgan Ray Karisch
- Evelyn Kasper – *Bill Karisch's Mother*
- Thelma Kieschnik
- Audrey Koenning
- Theresa Krause – *Diana Roeber's Friend*
- Mary Lehmann
- John Lievsay, Jr – *Kelly Franke's Brother*
- Kevin Margeson – *Kurtis Hankemeier's Brother*
- Karen McDougall – *Mark McClain's Sister*
- Dianna Mitschke – *Karen Robbins' Mother*
- Kolton Montgomery
- Janet Murphy – *Richard Davis' Sister-in-Law*
- Dwayne Patterson – *James Franke Family's Friend*
- Mary Patterson – *James Franke Family's Friend*
- Lillian Pietsch
- Victoria Pope – *Mark McClain's Friend*
- Marceil Prestridge
- Layne Schramm – *Thelma Kieschnik's Grandson*
- Marie Schulz
- Raymond Schulz
- Laverne Schulze
- Barbara Spence
- Amy Wagner
- Angeline Zoch

### SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES:

- Christopher Brand – US Navy – Great Lakes, Illinois
- Caleb Burton – US Army – Fort Carson, Colorado
- Manuel Comancho – US Air Force – Serving in Israel – *Irma Gersch's Friend*
- Warren Evans – US Army – Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- Jake Hagood – US Army – Fort Hood, Texas
- Kaleb Pyle – US Army – Fort Bliss, Texas
- Dylan Robbins – USMC – Jacksonville, North Carolina
- Ryan Spray – US Air Force – San Antonio, Texas
- Erik Vallejo – Texas National Guard – United States Border

### MISSIONARIES:

- Julie Aftab – People of the Book Lutheran Outreach – Houston, TX
- Abba's House – LCMS Ministry to Refugees – Cypress, TX -  
<https://abbashousetexas.com/>

## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL'S:**

### **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00am – Worship Service with Communion – *Sanctuary*
- 10:15am – Bible Study – *Education Building*
- 10:15am – Christmas Program Practice – *Sanctuary*
- 1:00pm – Christmas Caroling – *Meet in the Church Parking Lot*

### **Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:00pm – WACA Book Club – *Zilss Hall*

### **Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30am – Bible Class – *Education Building*
- 6:00pm – Christmas Program Practice – *Sanctuary*
- 7:00pm – Advent Midweek Service – *Sanctuary*

### **Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve**

- 9:00am – Worship Service – *Sanctuary*
- 5:45pm – Arrival for Program Kids – *Education Building*
- 6:00pm – Christmas Eve Service – *Sanctuary*

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**Flower Chart:** The flower chart is up in the back of the church. Please feel free to start filling it in. You may call Margie Clifton in the church office if you need her to fill it in for you.

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**Casserole Crew:** Pat Karisch is on for the month of December. If you know of someone with a need for a meal in the congregation or community, please contact Pat at (281)682-2841.

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**Thank You!** We would like to thank the casserole committee, particularly Katrina Miertschin for the enchilada casserole, rice and beans that was provided after Levi was born. It was so nice to have a meal prepared after we returned home from the hospital. God's blessings. Jake, CJ, Kamryn and Levi Franke

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**Poinsettias:** If you purchased a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary, please plan to take it home after the service **on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

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**Christmas Caroling:** Please make plans to join us for an afternoon of bringing Christmas Joy and Spirit through song to our elderly brothers and sisters in Christ who reside in local care facilities or at their homes. Our annual Christmas Caroling event has been scheduled for **Today**, Sunday, December 17. We will meet in the Church parking lot at 1:00 PM, and a meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall when we return. If you plan to attend, or have any questions, please contact Roland at 979-966-9397 or Robbie at 979-639-1220, by December 15. HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING!!!!

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**Rehearsals for Children's Christmas Eve Program:** At this year's Christmas Eve Service, we will once again be blessed to enjoy a program put on by the children of our congregation. If you would like your child or grandchild to participate, please plan on having them attend all rehearsals for the children's program. Rehearsals will take place during the Sunday School Hour each week and begin November 26th. There will also be a final rehearsal at 6:00pm on Wednesday, December 20th. In order to ensure that the children are well-prepared for their songs and speaking parts, attendance at each of the December rehearsals is mandatory. Please contact Amanda Hart for more information.

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**German Advent/Christmas Hymn Sing:** You are cordially invited to a German hymn sing on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Manheim. Refreshments will be served following the service.

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**Christmas Season Services at Mt. Calvary:** Let's celebrate Christmas in its season. Pastor Kaspar will be serving a simple Divine Service at Mt. Calvary, La Grange with the Lord's Supper each night at 6pm from Dec 26 - Dec 30. Please join us once or twice to hear, receive, and sing some carols together.

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**Full Scholarships to Camp Lone Star Available:** Saint Michael's has full scholarships available for children of our church members to attend a week of camp this summer at Camp Lone Star. For more information, contact Pastor Nate. Please visit [camplonestar.org/summer-camp/](http://camplonestar.org/summer-camp/) to look at the summer and activities. **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024** is the deadline to make use of this opportunity.

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**Installation of Officers and Board Members:** On Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, during our Worship Service, Saint Michael's Officers and Board Members will be installed. If you are newly elected or continuing your service, please make plans to attend.

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**All Boards Meeting and Training:** Our annual All Boards Meeting and Training will take place Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the Education Building. All board members and officers should plan on attending this meeting. At the meeting we will go over everyone's duties and responsibilities and will also set calendar items for the year.

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Please join us  
for the  
installation of  
**Reverend  
E.B. Holschuh**  
as the Sole Pastor of  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
of Bastrop  
Saturday, January 6, 2024  
1 o'clock in the afternoon\*  
Bastrop State Park Refectory  
Light reception to follow  
RSVP [secretary@epiphanybastrop.org](mailto:secretary@epiphanybastrop.org)  
\*Participating clergy are asked to vest in white  
& arrive thirty minutes prior to the service.



Our tradition at Christmas is to place poinsettias in the church. The beauty of the poinsettias set the church ablaze in praise and glory of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

THE POINSETTIAS ARE PLACED IN THE CHURCH BY:

**Jerry and Jenny Althaus** for the blessing of children and grandchildren.

**Margaret and Tom Atkins** for their blessings.

**The Bamsch Family** in loving memory of Harriet and Alford Zoch.

**Denise, Glenn Becker, Trenton, and Cameron** in memory of Rose Lehmann (Mom and Moe) for her first Christmas in heaven.

**Marc Brand** in memory of his father, Rev. Adolph Brand; mother, Inez Brand; brother, Timothy Brand; and sister, Rhoda House.

**The Deters Family** in loving memory of Judy Hielscher.

**Jenny, Josey, and Casey Fajkus** in loving memory of Josie and James Zoch, Frances and Melvin Zoch, Caroline and Mervin Dube, Rita and Emil Fajkus, and Evelyn and Louis Svoboda.

**Iris Franke, Gina Sanders, and Coleen Smiley** in memory of James Franke, RC Franke, and Tillie and Traugott Franke.

**Debbie Graham** in memory of her mother, sister, and brother.

**Mirlyn Griffin** for God's many blessings.

**Cindy and Scott Hielscher** in thankfulness for family during the season of Christmas blessings including their family already in heaven celebrating.

**Pastor Nate and Candice Hill** in thanksgiving to God for St. Michael's and their boys, Jack and Carter.

**Ron and Darline Kaiser** in loving memory of their parents, Lorine and Martin Kaiser, Frieda and EA Lehmann; and brother-in-law Herbert Moerbe.

**Bill and Pat Karisch** in memory of Karisch, Klein, Bammel, and Noack families enjoying eternity with our Savior.

**Mildred Kasper** in loving memory of my husband, Elgin and son, Gary.

**Karen and Daniel Kilian** in honor of their children, grandchildren, and in memory of loved ones.

**The Kipp, Cave, and Stewart Families** in loving memory of their father, Marvin Kipp.

**Ronnie Kleiber** in loving memory of Mattie.

**Elna Koenning** in memory of Delton Koenning and daughter-in-law, Christi Koenning.

**Charles Lehmann** in memory of Rose Lehmann, Edna and Willie Lehmann, and Annie and Felix Petrash.

**Roger and Dorothy Loewe** in honor of the Loewe and Peschke families.

**Laura Matthijetz** in memory of her husband, Max.

**Mark and Leann McClain** to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark's parents, Bill and Betty McClain; and siblings, Richard McClain and Mary Castle.

**Katrina and Travis Miertschin** in memory of Kat's parents, Leonor and Marcelino Savcedo, Sr. and Travis' parents, Violet and Leon Miertschin.

**Jeanette Mitschke** in memory of Rudie Lee Mitschke, Rudy and Wanda Mitschke, and Otto and Alma Kappler.

**Evelyn Parker** in memory of loved ones.

**Betty Richter and Donald Noack** in memory of their loved ones.

**Wayne and Peggy Smith** in celebration of Jesus' birth.

**Garry and Cassandra Synatschk** in loving memory of Garry Synatschk, Sr. and Shannon Synatschk, Martin and Alma Kilian, and Jackie Clem.

**Doug and Sharon Teinert** in memory of Milton Koenning and in honor of Audrey Koenning. In memory of Delton Koenning and in honor of Elna Koenning. In memory of Elgin and Gary Kasper and in honor of Mildred Kasper.

**The Watts Family** in loving memory of Tammi Watts by Kirt Watts and Jordan and Shawn Davis, Parker Jo and Chandler Rae. In loving memory of Esther and Milton "Shorty" Pampell by children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren.

**Angeline and Ali Zoch** in loving memory of Elmo Zoch.

**Barry and Sandy Zoch** in memory of their parents that have passed.

**Missy Zoch** in loving memory of her Papa and Memaw.

