



St. James Lutheran Church
2040 Oakwood Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

+++++

Office: 616-363-7718
Email: office@stjamesgr.com
Website: www.stjamesgr.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjamesgr
Online Giving: www.stjamesgr.com/give.

+++++

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer
glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com

**The Second Sunday in Advent
December 4, 2022**

Divine Service 1 (p. 151ff in LSB)

The Pre-service Music, Call to Worship, & Welcome

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

C: We PRAISE You, O Shoot from the stump of Jesse, for on You rests the Spirit – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

C: We PONDER Your love and concern for the poor, the needy, the oppressed, for we admit that we are poor, needy and oppressed and yet, You make us rich, complete and free!

P: 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.

C: We PRAY, “God of endurance and encouragement grant us to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together we may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ... God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope.”

P: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

C: We PROCLAIM, “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your

king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.”

(Two Advent Candles are lit as we sing a hymn.)

The Hymn of Invocation: 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *(Everyone sings: verses 1, 6, 7; Women sing: verses 2 and 4; men sing: verses 3, 5)*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from
 cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y
 ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain
 Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery. Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

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.**

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. Amen.

A Hymn: 343 Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553
Tune: Public domain

The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. 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.

C **Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 11:1–10

A The Old Testament lesson is from Isaiah 11.

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of

the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem: "What Child Shall Come?"

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 15:4–13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For 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, ⁹and 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.” ¹⁰And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.” ¹¹And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.” ¹²And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” ¹³May 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

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

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 3:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed (see back page of hymnal)

The Sermon Hymn: 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on strong sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
 Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
 Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon *(During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)*

The Offering *(Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)*

The Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

A Hymn: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 Δ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say, "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -
works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements and Blessing

+Service of the Sacrament+

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

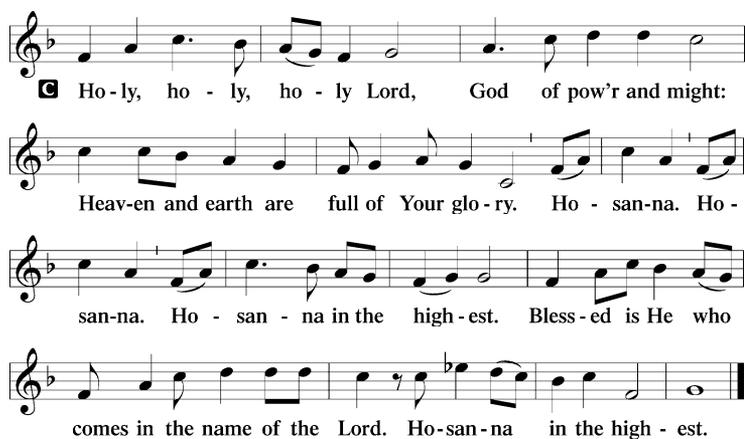
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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:

The Sanctus

LSB 161



Q Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

- 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 Words of Institution

The Pax Domini

LSB 163



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



C A - men.

The Agnus Dei

LSB 163



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.

The Distribution

A Distribution Hymn: 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
 2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor

In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
 Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
 That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -

bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this

they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!

May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that

sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553
 Tune: Public domain

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.

Let all who seek 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.

A Post-Communion Collect

The Benediction

The Closing Hymn: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our

glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His

give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.

- 6 He is the key and He the door
 To blessed paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.
- 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
 Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553
 Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
 Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
 Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

Events of the Week: December 4-11, 2022

Sunday	6:00 p.m. Advent by Candlelight
Monday	6:30 p.m. Communion service
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Advent supper 7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent service
Thursday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir 7:15 p.m. Choir
Friday	Pastor's Day off
Saturday	8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Bible study
Sunday	8:00 a.m. Gizmo Devotion on FB 9:30 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Bible study

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: November 27-28, 2022

General Fund	4546.00
Memorials (Walt Bartusch)	<u>1000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$5546.00

Announcements

Tis the Season to Sing! Pastor Schaeffer will lead us in a study of the hymn, “*O Come, O Come, Immanuel*” following our service today. Next Sunday the hymn will be: “*From Heaven above to Earth I Come.*”

We need the Lord’s ongoing regenerating work in our life. Our Lord sustains us in our faith through the Word and Sacrament. He is the Vine, and we are His branches. Come, and be refreshed by the Vine! Join us this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for an Advent supper and for our midweek Advent service at 7:00 p.m.

The December newsletter was emailed to members and there are paper copies on the table in the church foyer.

The day school children at ISJ Academy will present their annual Christmas program, “*Carriers of the Light*” as they remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world on Wednesday, December 14. Come, bask in the Light and be “*carriers*” of the Light yourself! **NOTE:** *The program starts at 6:30 p.m.! The Advent supper begins at 5:30 p.m.*

Who are you inviting to our Christmas Eve service? It’s a wonderful opportunity to invite a family member, friend, coworker, classmate, or neighbor so that they might hear the glad tidings of great joy announced by the angelic choir.

Discovery Class with Pastor Schaeffer: Discovery is a 12-week course that is designed for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of St. James. If you are already a member but would like to brush up on your understanding of Lutheran doctrine and the Small Catechism, this class is also for you! This class allows for Pastor Schaeffer to get to know you and for you to get to know Pastor in a more personal way. If you have any questions about this class, contact Pastor Schaeffer (glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com.)

At this point, Pastor is trying to see who might like to attend Discovery so that he can set a day and time that works for those interested. Pastor's plan is to start the Discovery Class in January 2023.

The Altar Guild is now being led by Deb Butler. We are getting ready to make the schedule for next year and are looking to talk to those who are currently serving on Altar Guild as well as those who are interested in serving. Any questions, concerns, comments, or ideas are welcome. Feel free to call or text 616-437-6230 (Kelsey) or email kbutler@mychristianschool.com at any time. We look forward to hearing from you!

Change of Address: In case you want to mail Bee Ruble a Christmas card or a note throughout the year, Bee's new address is:

6162 Balcom Lane
Allandale, MI
49401

Lectors Needed. If you would like to read the Old Testament and Epistle lessons for a Sunday service, please sign up on the sheet located on the table in the church foyer.

TONIGHT! Presenting Advent by Candlelight 2022 – *“The Heartbeat of Praise: The Little Drummer Boy”* from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. *The Heartbeat of Praise* will help our hearts to ponder the Advent of our Lord by focusing on Isaiah 12:2 *“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for The LORD God is my strength, and my song, and He has become my salvation.”* A freewill donation will be collected for the NECM food pantry. You are welcome to bring a monetary donation or food items. The pantry is most in need of canned fruits, canned meats and/or cereal.

FREE Christmas cards are available in the coatroom.
Browse the cards and send someone a reminder of Jesus' birth!

LAST CALL: Would you like to receive a monthly subscription *The Lutheran Witness*? It will be delivered to your home starting in March 2023. Yearly subscriptions are \$12.00/year. Please let Pastor Schaeffer know by December 11th and he will add your name to the subscription list.

A Christmas card and letter from Pastor and Linda Blain is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Our Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday Advent Services – December 11 and 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Midweek Advent Service – December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

ISJ Academy Christmas Program – December 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service with Communion at 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Day Service at 9:30 a.m.

We are planning to livestream all services on Facebook Live.

Those who serve Today:

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

Lector: Charlie Kirt

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Brian Ensing and John Weiss

Ushers: Jim and Nancy Spears and Caleb Butler

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

December Altar Guild: Marjie Weiss and Melissa Ensing

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to speak to the Pastor before attending the Lord's Supper. Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life.

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.