

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Third Sunday of Advent



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



St. John's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Chris Schoon Phone: 815-498-3810 • Cell: 815-768-7452 • Email: pastor@elcastjohns.org

Worship Services: Saturdays at 5:00pm • Sundays at 9:45am

Parish Education: Sunday School - Grades Pre-K to 6th - 8:30am • Adult Forum - 8:30am
Confirmation - Grades 7 & 8 - Wednesdays 6:30pm

Church Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-2pm • Fri 9am-12pm

235 S Green Street | PO Box 245 | Somonauk, IL 60552 | 815-498-3667

office@elcastjohns.org | www.elcastjohns.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of
December 15 - 22

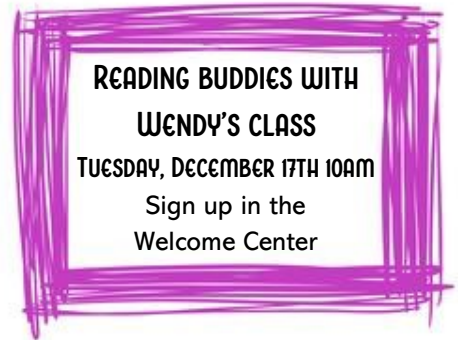
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Children's Christmas Program) Noisy Offering
Tuesday	9:00am Advent Morning Prayer 10:00am Reading Buddies
Wednesday	6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's
Saturday	5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship



Join us for a night of fun and fellowship
Saturday, January 4th

After worship (Approx. 5:45pm)

Please note date correction from newsletter which said January 3rd.



**READING BUDDIES WITH
WENDY'S CLASS**
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH 10AM
Sign up in the
Welcome Center



Offering 12/7 & 12/8	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$9,686.00	\$194,492.50
Capital Fund	\$155.00	\$13,470.39
Hall Usage	\$150.00	\$450.00
Special---individuals	\$170.00	\$170.00
Poinsettias	\$85.00	\$173.00
Safe Passage	\$20.00	\$20.00
Sharing Pantry	\$100.00	\$1,482.00

Prayer Requests

Marilyn Abbott	Mary Ann Hulon	Larry Rogers
Mary Bark	Jen	Doris Rogers & family
Lance Davenport	Judy	Shelly
Lee Gehrke	Karen	Lynn Skryzpiec
Gianna	Rhea Lumsden	Lynn Skryzpiec's great-nephew, Oakley
Sharon Goode	Linda Martin	Jack Smith
Pastor Grafe	James Moris	Jackie Wendland
Family of Chuck	Lonnie Murray	Susan White
Hoepé's sister, Carol	Sharon Rhea's son, Jeff	

Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Occasion
DECEMBER	17	READING BUDDIES
JANUARY	4	CHILI SUPPER
JANUARY	19	ANNUAL MEETING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P: God of might,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P: God in our midst,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ☩ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 242 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Prayer of the Day

P: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God,

C: **and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

We Light the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath

A: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near.

P: Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

C: **Amen.**

Advent Song – ELW #240 v 1, 2, 3 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

(Assisting Minister lights 3 Advent candles)

1. Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.
2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.
3. Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

A: The **First Reading** for this 3rd weekend of Advent comes from the Book of Zephaniah Chapter 3 verses 14-20

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: The **Psalm** comes from Isaiah Chapter 12 verses 2-6

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might,
and has become my salvation.

³ **With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

⁴ And you will say in that day:

Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations;
proclaim that this name is exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

A: The **Second Reading** comes from Philippians Chapter 4 verses 4-7

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sunday School Christmas Program – Jesus' Birthday

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3rd Chapter

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Apostle's Creed

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A: ... Lord, in your mercy,

P: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The congregation may shake one another's hand. If you do not wish to shake hands, please hold your hands in a prayer position and bow to the other person.

Offering/Noisy Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offering Prayer

P: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

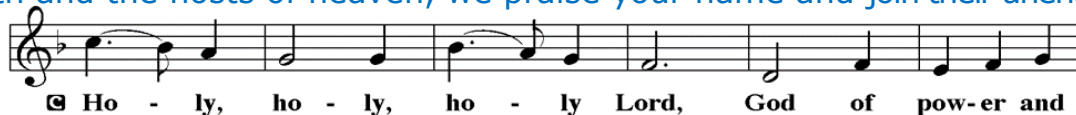
P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh....

... All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
 Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
 one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

Please be seated. The usher will direct you when to come forward for Holy Communion.

Holy Communion is served

Communion Hymns W&P 141 This is the Day
 W&P 156 What Have We to Offer

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showing us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn ELW 267 Joy to the World

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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