

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**Second Sunday of Advent**



**St. John's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Pastor Chris Schoon Phone: 815-498-3810 • Cell: 815-768-7452 • Email: [pastor@elcastjohns.org](mailto: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*

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of  
December 8 – 15

<b>Sunday</b>	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship 5:00pm 3-n-1 Christmas Party at Boczko's
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00am Advent Morning Prayer 9:30am-3:00pm, 7-9pm LWR Workday
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00am-3:00pm LWR Workday 6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00pm Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Children's Christmas Program) Noisy Offering

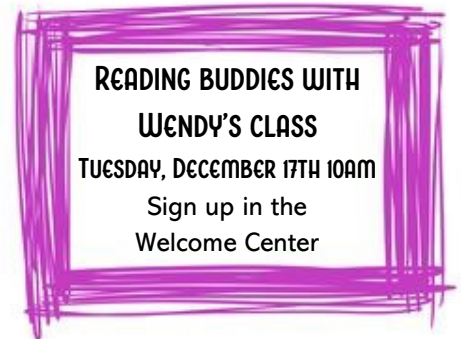


Join us for a night of fun and fellowship

**Saturday, January 4th**

After worship (Approx. 5:45pm)

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



# December

Offering 11/30 & 12/1	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$2,884.00	\$184,806.50
Capital Fund	\$45.00	\$13,315.39
Cusco Lutheran Churches	\$97.92	\$1,799.13
Good Samaritan Fund	\$100.00	\$2,989.25
Poinsettias	\$34.00	\$88.00
LSSI	\$100.00	\$303.00



## 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
Hoep's sister, Carol	Sharon Rhea's son, Jeff	

## Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Occasion
DECEMBER	7	PROGRESSIVE DINNER
DECEMBER	15	CHILDREN'S XMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER	17	READING BUDDIES

## 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 254 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

#### 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 our hearts, Lord God,

**C:** **to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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.*

#### The Second 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 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

*(Assisting Minister lights 2 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.

**A:** The **First Reading** for this Second Week of Advent comes from the Book of Malachi Chapter 3 verses 1-4

**A:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**A:** The **Psalm** comes from Luke's Gospel Chapter 1 verses 68-79

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets,  
you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup> from the hands of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,**

<sup>75</sup> **holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**A:** The **Second Reading** comes from Philippians Chapter 1 verses 3-11

**A:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

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

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter

**C:** **Glory to you O Lord.**

**Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

**P:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day** ELW 264 Prepare the Royal Highway

**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,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**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**

*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:

**(Holy, Holy, Holy words on screen)**

### **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.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

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** ELW 479 We Come to the Hungry Feast  
W&P 152 We Remember You

*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 275 Angels, From the Realm of Glory

### 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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