

Sunday, December 14th

3rd Weekend of Advent



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 14-21

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Children's Christmas Program Pastor Elizabeth Mascall
Tuesday	10:00am Reading Buddies
Wednesday	6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's
Saturday	5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Adult Forum (no Sunday School) 9:45am Worship



READING BUDDIES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

Sign up in the Welcome Center to read
with Wendy Merkel's kindergarten class.

December
16th

Advent Morning Prayer services
will be held on Tuesdays at 9:00 in
the Fellowship Hall. It will be a
time for readings, reflections,
music and a light snack.

Offering 12/6 and 12/7	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$3,062.00	\$212,388.02
Capital Fund	\$207.50	\$16,801.25
Sharing Pantry-Utilities	\$150.00	\$1,950.00
Cusco Lutheran Churches	\$67.60	\$1,223.34
Kitchen	\$150.00	\$2,246.30
Hall Usage	\$100.00	\$300.00
Safe Passage	\$430.93	\$430.93



Prayer Requests

Mary Bark
Mary Carlson
Lance Davenport
Lee Gehrke
The Family of Christy
Gibson
Marlyn Glover
Sharon Goode

Mike Hamer
Mary Ann Hulon
Linda Johnson
Rhea Lumsden
Linda Martin
Doris Miller
James Moris

Lonnie Murray
Kay Nelson
Roger & Helen
Larry Rogers
Shelly
Lynn Skryzpiec
Rosemary Underwood
Jackie Wendland
Cindy Westbrook
Susan White

Dates to Remember		
Month	Date	Occasion
DECEMBER	14	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER	16	READING BUDDIES

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Long-expected God,

C: **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

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.**

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with the A part in blue and the C part in black. The first staff has the lyrics: A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: C Lord, have mer - cy. The second staff has the lyrics: A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: C Christ, have mer - cy. The third staff has the lyrics: A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: C Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God,

C: **Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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 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 first candle of 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"

3 Verses *(Assisting Minister lights 3 Advent candles)*

A: The First Reading comes from the Book of Isaiah Chapter 35 vs 1-10

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: Our Psalm today is Psalm 146, verses 5-10

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are
bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

A: The Second Reading comes from James Chapter 5 verses 7-10

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Sunday School Christmas Program

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11th Chapter

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

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 715 Christ Be Our Light

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

A: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

A:God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

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

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offering Prayer

P: Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

C: **Amen.**

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

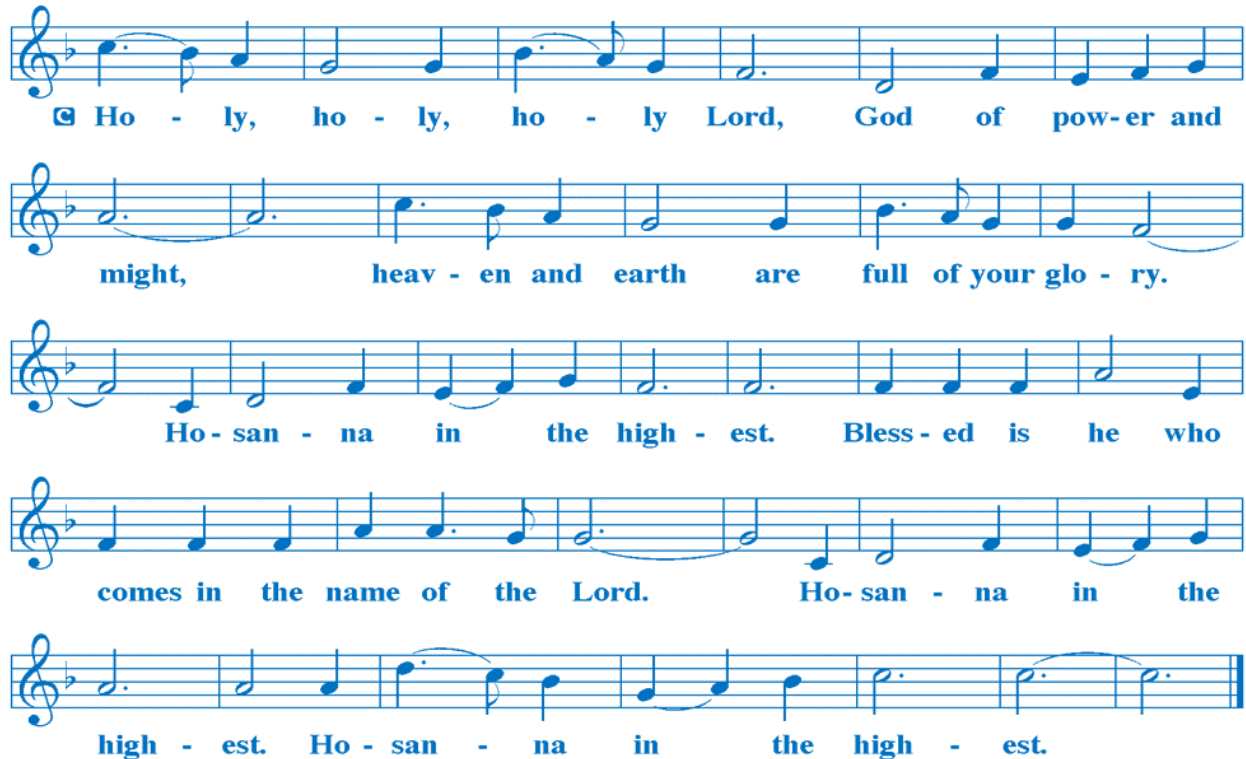
P: Lift up your hearts.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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: Gathered at and around the Lord's table, we remember with thanksgiving that "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, say-

ing: '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.'"

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray together 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: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

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

Holy Communion is served.

Prayer after Communion

A: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

P: May God who comes among us, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ELW 279 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28510

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.