

**St. John's Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022**



**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

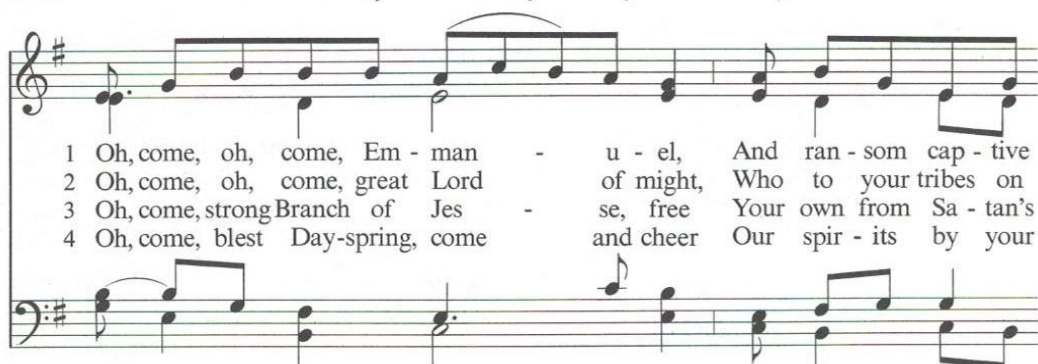
After a holiday celebrating thanksgiving for all God provides for us: beauty, nurturance, friends, and family we move into Advent. “We remain in a time of unprecedented change - grieving what has been lost, unsure of our futures, struggling to find steady footholds. Advent leads us into a time of expectant waiting, a time when our faith can find its foothold despite our unsteady world.” (Terri McDowell Ott)

Following our Advent devotions and the stories of Mary, Joseph, the Roman leaders, angels, shepherds, and the Christ Child we may take a step each day in the way towards Christ.

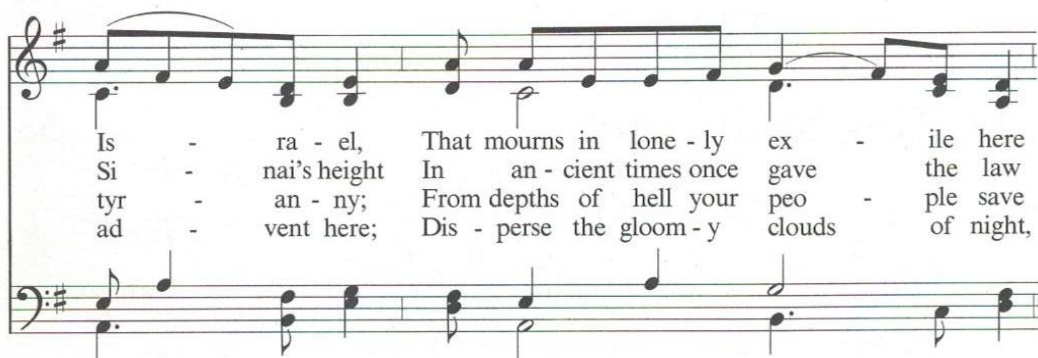
ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING SONG ~ Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel**

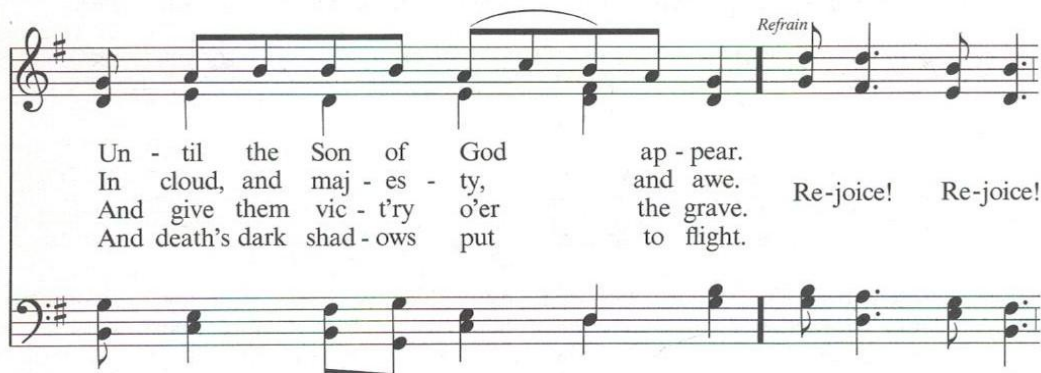
LBW # 34

34 Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel


1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on
 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by your



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times once gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 In cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 Oh, come, O 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*

LIGHTING the ADVENT CANDLE

Today on this first Sunday in Advent we celebrate Hope
A scripture reading from Romans chapter 15 verse 13:

May 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.

Let us pray:

God of Hope, the hope incarnate in the Virgin Mary, be the center, the focus of our lives always, and particularly at this Advent time.

We lift the light of hope!

(We light the first purple Advent Candle)

(Congregational response sung to the tune of *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name*)

We lift the light of hope, O God,

Your presence burning bright.

In praise we sing the gift You bring:

Our hope complete in Christ.

In praise we sing the gift You bring:

Our hope complete in Christ.

***GREETING**

P In the beginning was the Word,

C and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P In the Word was life,

C and the life was the light of all people.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

***SCRIPTURE SONG**

☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.



☐ Great and won- der- ful are your deeds, O God of the u- ni- verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na- tions.



Who can fail to hon- or you, Lord, and sing the glo- ry of your name?



☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.



☐☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



for your just and ho - ly works have been re- vealed.



☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.

***PRAYER of the DAY ~ (*in unison*)**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray...

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 2:1-5

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122 ~ *with response*

Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 13:11-14

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip- tures.



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

*GOSPEL READING

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN ~ Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn

WOV # 633

633 Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn

1 A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing,
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing,
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.

Continued on next page

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in -
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less

D G D Em Am D

geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and

Em D7 G C B7 Em

lives now in - side us for ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Am7 D7 G C G

***RESPONSE to the WORD**

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal
of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P 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, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C **Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.
Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you
in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***THE PEACE**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

PRAYER SONG

Deep Peace

INVITATION to the OFFERING

OFFERING ~ you may leave your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews.

***OFFERTORY**



G Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

**C you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature.
With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care.
Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ *Found in Celebrate

P As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

***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**

***THE BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

***SENDING SONG ~ Lo, How a Rose Is Growing**

LBW # 58

58

Lo, How a Rose Is Growing

1 Lo, how a rose is grow - ing, A bloom of fin - est
 2 The rose of which I'm sing - ing, I - sa - iah had fore -
 3 The shep - herds heard the sto - ry The an - gels sang that
 4 This flow'r, so small and ten - der, With fra - grance fills the

grace; The proph - ets had fore - told it: A branch of Jes - se's
 told. He came to us through Mar - y Who shel - tered him from
 night: How Christ was born of Mar - y; He was the Son of
 air; His bright - ness ends the dark - ness That kept the earth in

race Would bear one per - fect flow'r Here in the
 cold. Through God's e - ter - nal will This child to
 light. To Beth - le - hem they ran To find him
 fear. True God and yet true man, He came to

cold of win - ter And dark - est mid - night hour.
 us was giv - en At mid - night calm and still.
 in the man - ger As an - gel her - alds sang.
 save his peo - ple From earth's dark night of sin.

Continued on next page

5 O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt all human woe;
O Savior, king of glory,
Who triumphed o'er our foe:
Bring us at length, we pray,
To the bright courts of heaven
And into endless day.

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

***POSTLUDE**

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

Today

Altar Care: Joy Byler; **Flower Delivery:** Deb French

Greeter: Jane Fultz; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

Sound: Jay Byler;

Next Sunday, December 4

Altar Care: Carol Fultz and Sandra Metz

Flower Delivery: Carol Fultz; **Greeter:** Michele Harshbarger

Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger; **Sound:** Ed Bilich

Church Office: 935-2032; **Email us at** secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

*We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share
the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

Our Vision Statement

*To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community
through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.*

The Altar flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God
by Jami Zook in honor of Pastor Ela and Bill.

Please remember in prayer ~ Richard Byler (brother of Jay Byler), Desa Keiser (8 yr old granddaughter of Carol Fultz's cousin, Roxanne Treaster Kauffman), Kathy Eckley (friend of Carolyn Conner), Miriam Williamson (now at home), Charles Royer (now at home), Fred Rodgers, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, (Seulki's mother), Bob Treaster, Andrea Kauffman, Don F. Smith, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa), Don Wolfe, Carol Yoder (VVH).

Advent devotionals are available in the narthex. If you know of others who would enjoy having one to use as part of their daily devotions, please feel free to take for them.

The congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 11 following the worship service. Information pertinent to the meeting can be found in member mailboxes. Any envelopes remaining after the service today will be mailed out.

Poinsettia order forms can be found in the narthex. There is no set price again this year. We will not be using the poinsettias trees. A total of **24** will be purchased and placed in the sanctuary and narthex.

Since Christmas falls on a Sunday they will **remain until after the worship service that day**. You can take yours at that time.

Sign-up sheets can be found in the narthex for anyone who would like to place Altar flowers next year. We will once again refrain from using them during Lent beginning Sunday, February 27 through Palm Sunday, Sunday, April 2.

Please remember to notate whether you would like to keep the flowers or have them delivered. Currently, the cost remains at \$40.00.

January 1 thru November 23, 2022

Last week's attendance ~ 34 Offering ~ \$1,530.00

St. John's ~ Income \$142,331.74 Expense \$148,677.70
Net Income - \$6,345.96

Daycare ~ Income \$304,161.89 Expense \$327,390.72
Net Income -\$23,228.83

*(Net income figure is result of required
2021/22 ARPA grant spending)