



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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Come, Lord Jesus!

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## Welcome to Worship!

This morning, we continue in our Advent theme of “Come, Lord Jesus!”

When Jesus comes back as judge, everyone will face one of two outcomes: either they will be judged righteous and experience the peace and joy of heaven, or they will be judged wicked and suffer unquenchable fire. Such judgment is inevitable. How do we prepare for that day, for seeing Christ's second coming with joy rather than fear? By listening to the words of John the Baptist, who pointed to the One who serves both as judge and Savior. For those who fail to repent, the second coming of Jesus brings certain doom. But for us, for those who have faith in Christ, we see his coming as Judge like a banner on the hilltop, rallying us to his glorious side.

## Worship Notes

It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders and assisted listening devices—please ask one of our ushers. Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area. Small children can be taken into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed during the worship service. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.

During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or located online at [www.sjtosa.org/Connect](http://www.sjtosa.org/Connect)). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

## Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in our worship today. Scripture tells us that the Lord's Supper is an expression of unity in God's Word and a privilege reserved for those who have publicly confessed their oneness in faith. Therefore, we ask guests who are not members of WELS or ELS congregations to refrain from communion until such oneness can be established. We do not intend to be exclusive and unloving. Rather, we desire to faithfully carry out the teaching of Scripture and further explore God's Word with you in the hope that we may eventually enjoy such “communion fellowship” together. For more information, please speak with one of our pastors.

# The Second Sunday in Advent

## December 3 & 4, 2022

Come, Lord Jesus! As Judge

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### Prelude

*Please stand*



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light.  
O Je - sus, let your Word be a lamp to light my way,  
to show me how to please you, to guide me ev - 'ry day.

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**(sung) I lay in fetters, groaning, you come to set me free;  
I stood, my shame bemoaning, you come to honor me;  
a glory you do give me, a treasure safe on high,  
that will not fail or leave me as earthly riches fly.**

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**(sung) Sin's debt, that fearful burden, let not your souls distress;  
your guilt the Lord will pardon and cover by his grace.  
He comes, for you procuring the peace of sin forgiv'n,  
his children thus securing eternal life in heav'n.**

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

We light two Advent candles and remember Jesus, the One who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death as the promised Messiah.

**We remember Jesus, the coming Lord whose way John the Baptist prepared.**

We hear his call to repent.

**We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell among us.

**Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*The Advent candles are lit during the sung response.*

**(sung) Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.  
Oh, love beyond all telling that led you to embrace  
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race!**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(sung)* Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,  
who mourn o'er joys departed and tremble at your doom.  
despair not; he is near you, he's standing at the door  
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Be seated*

## The Word

### First Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

*Another King would come from the family tree of Jesse  
to judge the world with righteousness and establish an everlasting kingdom.*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.  
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—  
and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.  
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;  
but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.  
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.  
Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.  
The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.  
The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.  
The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.  
They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.  
In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him,  
and his resting place will be glorious.

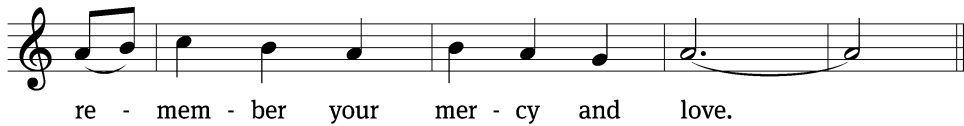
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day

Psalm 130

## Refrain



## Tone



Out of the depths I cry to / you, LORD;

Lord, / hear my voice.

Let your ears be at- / tentive

to my cry for / mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, / who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, / serve you. *Refrain*

I wait for the LORD, my whole / being waits,

and in his word I / put my hope.

I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the / morning,

more than watchmen wait for the / morning.

Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,

for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full re- / demption.

He himself will redeem / Israel

from / all their sins.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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## Second Reading

Romans 15:4–13

*Because God has raised up the Root of Jesse as our Savior,  
God's people face the coming judgment not with fear but with hope.*

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name.”

Again, it says,

“Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.”

And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him.”

And again, Isaiah says,

“The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations;  
in him the Gentiles will hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

And all people will see God's salvation.

Alleluia.



*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Tone*



Your words are my joy and my heart's de - light.

*Refrain*

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## Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12<sup>+</sup>

*God sent John the Baptist, a voice in the wilderness calling for repentance,  
to prepare us for the coming judgment.*

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

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**†Matthew:** The author of the first Gospel is Matthew the apostle, a tax collector who answered Jesus’ call to follow him. Matthew was likely written to Greek-speaking Jews. He emphasizes Jesus as the fulfiller of Old Testament prophecy. The genealogy at the beginning of his book traces Jesus’ ancestry back to Abraham, thus establishing Jesus as a legitimate heir of David. Although Matthew was likely writing to Jewish readers, he also emphasizes the universality of God’s grace. This can be seen in the inclusion of four women in his genealogy of Jesus, the recounting of the visit by the Magi (Gentiles), and the extending of the Great Commission to all nations.



But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Anthem (Sunday)**

*Junior Choir*

The Redeemer Will Come

*by David Angerman and Michael Barrett*

The Redeemer will come unto Zion,  
and the people will gather and clap their hands.  
The Redeemer will come unto Zion,  
and the glory of God, the glory of God will be known.

The Messiah will come unto Zion,  
and the people will gather and clap their hands.  
The Messiah will come unto Zion,  
and the glory of God, the glory of God will be known.

Alleluia, come lift your voice on high. Sing alleluia.  
Your redemption draweth nigh.

Savior of the nations, our hearts are open wide.  
And with great anticipation, we lift our songs on high.  
Lift up ye gates; break forth in endless praise.  
Lord of all creation, come to us, we pray.

Alleluia, come lift your voice on high. Sing alleluia.  
Your redemption draweth nigh.

The Redeemer will come unto Zion,  
and the people will gather and clap their hands.  
The Redeemer will come unto Zion,  
and the glory of God, the glory of God will be known.

Sing well all, Noel,  
come, Emmanuel, Savior, come!

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## Hymn of the Day

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry  
*Christian Worship 316*

## Sermon

Matthew 3:1-12

*As We Watch and Wait*

*Please stand*

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

*The minister says the Prayer of the Church*

*Be seated*

## **Offering**

*Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit [www.sjtosa.org/offering](http://www.sjtosa.org/offering).*



*Please stand*

## **The Sacrament**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,  
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
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, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## Lamb of God

## Agnus Dei



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, grant us peace.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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*Be seated*

The Scriptures teach us that receiving the Lord's Supper is a public declaration of shared belief. Therefore, we ask our guests who are not members of a WELS or ELS congregation to refrain from receiving the Lord's Supper until they have had the opportunity to talk with one of our pastors about our beliefs and practice.

To receive communion, please proceed down the center aisle and exit via the side aisles. Grape juice is available in the center of the individual cup tray for those unable to receive wine. Personal prayers for communion can be found on pg. 18 of the service folder.

## **Distribution Hymns**

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying  
*Christian Worship 308*

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied  
*Christian Worship 304*

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior  
*Christian Worship 659*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.  
Go + in peace.

*Please stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Closing Hymn**

Behold, a Branch Is Growing (sts. 1, 3)

*Christian Worship 360*

## **Announcements**

## **Postlude**

## **Acknowledgments**

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## Serving at Worship

**Preacher**

Pastor Joel Leyrer

**Presiding Minister**

Senior Vicar Christian Willick (Saturday)

Pastor Eric Schroeder (Sunday)

**Musicians**

Carmen Rupprecht, piano (Saturday)

Lisa Eggebrecht, organ (Sunday)

**Junior Choir Director**

Mandy Treder

**Communion Assistants**

Dave Leyrer & Greg Martin (8:00 a.m.)

Andrew Duncan & Jeff Scheibe (10:30 a.m.)

## Worship Notes

- The flowers are placed by Scott and Samantha Daley in celebration of their 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and by Pete and Lorrie Hansen in celebration of their 43<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary.

## In Our Prayers

- Emily Gapinski and Nate Bruckschen, who were married at St. John's on Saturday, December 3.
- Joseph & Sullivan Newbauer, who became members of St. John's through private baptism on Saturday, December 3.
- Sawyer Sweet, who is recovering from successful intracranial surgery at Children's Hospital on Tuesday, November 29.
- Bob and Vicky Schaller, who are both hospitalized at West Allis Memorial Hospital.

## Personal Prayer for Before Communion

Merciful Lord, I come here to your table trusting in your measureless grace and not in my own goodness. Even though I am not worthy to eat the crumbs under your table, you are always rich in mercy. Gracious Lord, grant pardon and peace through the body and blood of this sacrament. Amen.

## Personal Prayer for After Communion

Faithful God, in baptism you have adopted me as your child and made me a member of the body of Christ. I thank you for the forgiveness of sins present in this Sacrament. As I leave the table, empower me by your Spirit to witness and serve in your name. Amen.



Readings for the Week of Advent 2		
M	Luke 12: 35-40	Isaiah 26:1-12
T	2 Thessalonians 3:1-5	2 Peter 1:3-11
W	Revelation 2:1-5,7	Zechariah 2:10-13
R	Mark 13:5-13	Haggai 2:1-9
F	Luke 17:20-25	Revelation 1:4-8
S	Revelation 3:14-22	Isaiah 35:1-7

## Holiday Worship Opportunities

**Wednesdays, December 7 & 14**

Midweek Advent Worship

3:30 & 6:45 p.m.

*Fellowship meal from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.*

**Saturday, December 17**

Early Learning Center Christmas Service

9:00 a.m.

**Saturday, December 24**

Children's Christmas Eve Service

4:00 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran High School

**Saturday, December 24**

Service of Lessons & Carols

7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 25**

Christmas Day Festival Worship

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, December 31**

New Year's Eve Worship

5:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**

New Year's Day Worship

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, January 8, 2023**

Epiphany Worship

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

*Bible Study & Sunday School resume*

# The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

## Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

## Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

## Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer*  
[joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org](mailto:joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org)

*Pastor Eric Schroeder*  
[eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org](mailto:eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org)

## Chinese Outreach

### Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu*  
[joshua.yu@sjtosa.org](mailto:joshua.yu@sjtosa.org)

## School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf*  
[dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org](mailto:dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org)

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