



# ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**SELC**  
**LCMS**



**Sunday, December 29, 2024, at 9am**



**Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
6<sup>th</sup> & N. Vine St., Hazleton, PA 18201  
570-459-6423 [stjohnshazleton@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnshazleton@gmail.com)  
[stjohnshazleton.org](http://stjohnshazleton.org)

**Rev. Gordon Naumann - *Pastor***  
**Karen Ann Kowalczyk - *Organist***  
**Chuck Zschunke - *Deacon***  
**Maci Evancho - *Acolyte***  
**Stephen Adamoyurka III - *Crucifer***

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY!**

**It is a joy to worship our Savior, Jesus, with you! In the pews there are blue cards for guests and members. Please fill one out and the ushers will collect them after the offering. And if you are looking for a church home, you've just found it!**



## To Our Visitors



### What is Communion/the Lord's Supper?

As members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, members of St. John's Lutheran Church hold to the biblical and historic understanding of holy communion; that in this sacrament the bread and wine, having been consecrated, are Christ's real, risen, and glorified body and blood, just as Jesus really said, 'Take, eat, this is my body', and 'take, drink... this is my blood' (Matthew 26:26 ff). Holy Communion is received for the forgiveness of sins, for unity with Christ, and for the unity within the 'body of Christ' – that is His Church. This is why it is reserved for those who hold a common confession of faith. Those who share with us in this Holy Supper must be members of a congregation of the LCMS, or of a congregation in full fellowship with the LCMS, thus bearing public witness that they agree with our teaching in general and with the following two teachings in particular:

1. When consecrated, again, the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, given to us for the remission of sins.
2. Those baptized and confirmed Christians who come to Holy Communion in repentance and faith, grateful for God's forgiveness, are also committed to offering their personal forgiveness to all others.

Guests communing with us for the first time should see the pastor or an elder before the service when possible, to confirm that we are in fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a communicant member or if you have any questions regarding our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor.



## **First Sunday after Christmas**

**Processional Hymn: 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory**

**Confession and Absolution - *LSB p.151***

Stand

## Service of the Word



**Introit** - Psalm 93:1, 3–4; antiphon: vv. 5, 2

- P** Your decrees are very trustworthy;
- C** **Holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**
- P** Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.
- C** **The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; strength is his belt.**
- P** Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.
- C** **The floods have lifted up their voice, O LORD, with roaring.**
- P** Mightier than the thunders of many waters,
- C** **Mightier than the waves of the sea is the LORD on high!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** Your decrees are very trustworthy;
- C** **Holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

**Kyrie** - *LSB p.152*

**Hymn of Praise: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

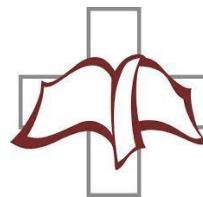
*Sit*

## **First Reading** - Isaiah 11:1–5

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



## **Gradual** - Psalm 45:2a, 1b

**L** You are the most handsome of the sons of men;

**C** Grace is poured upon your lips.

**L** I address my verses to the king;

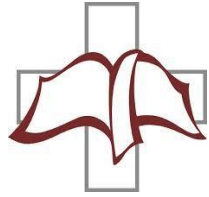
**C** My tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

## **Epistle Reading** - Galatians 4:1–7

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



**Alleluia and Verse - LSB p. 156**

**Holy Gospel – Luke 2:33-40**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

<sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

*After the lesson is read from the nave:*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Apostles’ Creed - LSB p. 159**

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: 370 What Child Is This**

**Sermon: “Five Gold Rings!”**

*Stand*

**Offertory - LSB p.159**

*Sit*

**Offering**

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**



**Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface - LSB p.160**

**Sanctus**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**The Words and Declaration of Our Lord**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Pax Domini**

**Agnus Dei**



*Sit*

**Distribution (546 O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild,  
359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)**



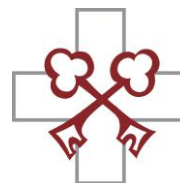
*Stand*

**Thank the Lord - LSB p.164**

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

**Recessional Hymn: 376 Once in Royal David's City**



*Announcements*

**P** Go with God and serve the Lord

**G** Thanks be to God.

**Now Join us for Bible Study and Sunday school!**

### **This Week at St. John's**

**Friday, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>** - The Naumann Epiphany House Party at 5pm

**Sunday, Jan 5<sup>th</sup>** - Epiphany Service (Observed) at 9am

- Bible Study and Sunday school after the service

### **Looking Ahead at St. John's:**

**Tuesday, Jan 7<sup>th</sup>** - Elders Meeting at the Drummonds at 7pm

**Thursday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup>** - Family Games Night at 6pm

**Sunday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>** - Installation of St. John's Officers and Trustees

- Council Meeting after the service

**Monday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** - Caring and Sharing at 10 am

## **Mission/Vision Statement**

“We are Followers of Christ:  
Receiving His Grace, Growing in Faith, and Sharing God’s Love”

## **Prayer Chain Request?**

Contact: Lucille Adamoyurka - (570) 956-1678

## **Prayers for Members**

We encourage you this week to pray for:

Frank Gilham, Robert Gould, Pauline Onder, Lucille Adamoyurka,  
Tom, Sylvia, Stacy, and Sherry Wargo, Patti Zschunke, Peter Panco,  
Irene Beishline, Bob & Pat Onder, Bob Mandak, John Chladon,  
Lorraine and Jack Ross, and Bob Drummond

May the Lord continue to unite and bless us in the faith.

## **Our Stewardship at a Glance**

Sunday Worship: 31 Faithful Servants

Christmas Eve Service: 37 Faithful Servants

Christmas Day Service: 33 Faithful Servants

Caring and Sharing: Faithful Servants

Altar Workers: Jolene Evancho and Chuck Zschunke

Communion Assistant: Chuck Zschunke

Counters: Chuck Zschunke and Mike Marsayda

Flowers: In Memory of Husband, John Onder. From Pauline Onder



# St. John's Readings Every-Day-of-the-Week Checklist:

## From Portals of Prayer:

- Sunday:** Psalm 78:1-7, and Isaiah 55
- Monday:** Psalm 89:1-4 & 14-18, and Isaiah 58
- Tuesday:** Psalm 111:1-6 & 10, and Isaiah 60
- Wednesday:** Psalm 119:1-8, and Isaiah 1 Corinthians 1:1-17
- Thursday:** Psalm 119:9-16, and 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- Friday:** Psalm 119:17-24, and 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
- Saturday:** Psalm 119:25-32, and 1 Corinthians 2:6-16



## From the Catechism:

- Augsburg Confession: Article IV & V.**

### Article IV: Of Justification.

1 Also they teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for 2 Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. 3 This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Rom. 3 and 4.

### Article V. Of the Ministry.

1 That we may obtain this faith, the Ministry of Teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted. For through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, 2 the Holy Ghost is given, who works faith; where and when it pleases God, in them that hear 3 the Gospel, to wit, that God, not for our own merits, but for Christ's sake, justifies those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ's sake.

4 They condemn the Anabaptists and others who think that the Holy Ghost comes to men without the external Word, through their own preparations and works.

*(Source: [bookofconcord.org/augsburg-confession](http://bookofconcord.org/augsburg-confession))*

# Orgelkids

*Orgelkids Organ-building Workshop*

*February 17, 2025*

*10 am*

*St. John's Lutheran Church*

*621 N. Vine St. Hazelton, PA 18201*

*Contact Marta Naumann for information at*

*917-794-9844*

Only  
\$5 pp

In this workshop, Vincent Ryan will show the group how to build a pipe organ with a focus on teambuilding, history, archeology, science, organization skills, and music. Ages 5-95, the project's difficulty will depend on the age group.





**POINTSETTIAS**



In memory of Husband, Steve Adamoyurka, from Lucille Adamoyurka

In memory of Loved Ones from Steve, Leanne, Stephen & David Adamoyurka

In memory of our Parents from Bob & Diane Drummond

In honor of our children and grandchildren from Bob & Diane Drummond

In memory of our Mom, Mary Anne Gilham, from Dana, Gena, Paula & Allyn

In memory of our Grandparents from Dana, Gena, Paula & Allyn

In memory of Husband, Paul Kowalczyk, from Karen Ann Kowalczyk

In memory of Father and Grandfather, Paul Kowalczyk, from Kevin Kowalczyk, Krista, Chris & Emma Mashack and Brandon, Kelly, Charlotte & Gregory Weiss

In memory of Loved Ones from Bob & Pat Onder

In memory of Husband, John Onder, from Pauline Onder

In memory of Father, John Onder, from Bill & Lorraine Ray

In memory of Parents, from Bill & Lorraine Ray

In memory of Parents, Andrew & Kathryn Onder, Edward & Barbara Trovitch, and Brother, Rev. Ronald Onder from Dave & Nancy Trovitch

In memory of Godfather, John Onder, from Nancy Trovitch

## **This week's Bible Study questions on John 14**

1. What unique thing does Jesus say he will do for his disciples in v.2?

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2. And then what does Jesus promise in v.3? How comforting is this?

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3. When Jesus says He is the Way, what does He want us to do, if anything?

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4. Is Jesus saying in v.6 that we can somehow earn salvation through Him?

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5. Would a prophet like Moses ever say what Jesus says in v.10-11?

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6. Jesus speaks of what we can do in v.12. Is this for salvation? What is the difference, then, between salvation and believing in Jesus to work in us?

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7. So in v.16, though not for salvation, why do we need the Spirit to help us?

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8. If Jesus is in the Father and vice versa, and He is with us, what could go wrong? Why do we need His peace in v.27? Is He ever not with us?

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