



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S Main St
Charles City, Iowa 50616
641-228-3397
www.stjohncharlescity.org

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor
Beth Hurt, Intern
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

Sunday, December 3, 2023
1st Sunday of Advent



Mark 13:24-37

Key: L = Leader, C = Congregation

Prelude:

“Joyous Morning”

Gerald Peterson

Music:

“No Greater Gift” & “Here is Our King”

SJCP

Welcome

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Yolanda & Paul Van Ausdall in memory of Ken & Marge Van Ausdall.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness:

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



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

Apostolic Greeting:

L: 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.**

Hymn of Praise

“Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
 His name is called Emmanuel.
 God with us, revealed in us,
 His name is called Emmanuel.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Read by Eric Johanningmeier

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

“O Come, Little Children”

O come, little children, come, one and come all,
O come to the manger in Bethlehem’s stall
And see what our Father in heaven above
Has sent to us all on this earth with his love.

O see in the manger so meek and so mild,
O see in the soft light the heavenly Child,
In swaddling clothes folded, his beauty more sweet
Than angels whose voices his lowly birth greet.

Children’s Sermon

Gospel Song

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia:

L: The Holy Gospel according to **Mark 13:24-37**



Mark 13:24-37

²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Pastor Russ Leeper

Song of the Day

“Light of The World”

Lauren Daigle, Video

The Apostles’ Creed

**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.**

The Prayers (L): Lord in your mercy,

Response: **hear our prayer.**

Please keep the following in prayer:

Deb Watkins

Arlene Hollar

Linda Girken

Marilyn Isakson

Colleen Ortmayer

Bill Wohlers Jr.

Imani Sande

Ruth Farmer

Noa Mulholland

Don Knowlton

Lorna Scrimger

Skip Ward

Marilu Wohlers

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland

The Offering Hymn:

“He Came Down”

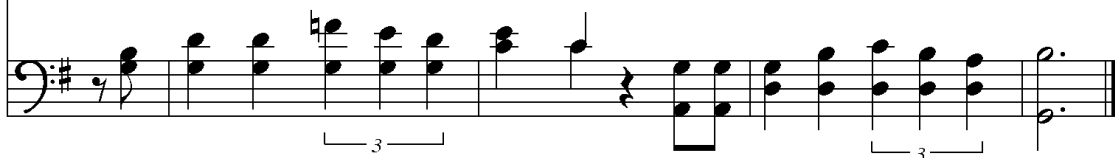
#253



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;



***Response**

“Feed Us Now”

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray

The Words of Institution

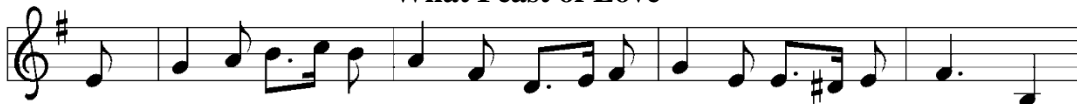
The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Invitation

“What Feast of Love”

#487



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.

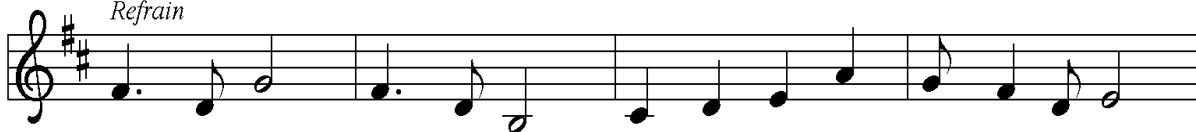


Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

#492

Refrain



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.

Refrain

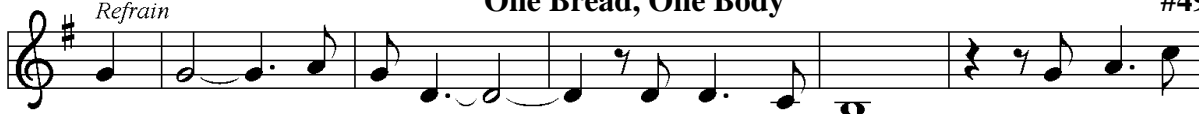


in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.
Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

“One Bread, One Body”

#496

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

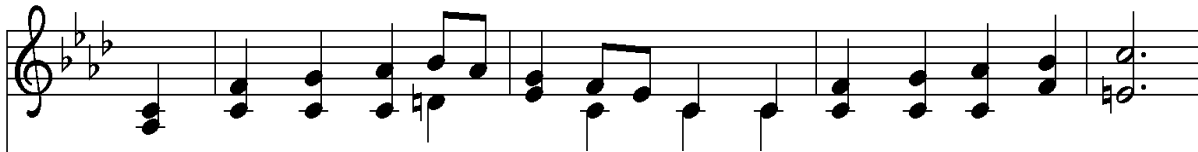
Refrain

Communion Blessing & Benediction

Sending Hymn

“The King Shall Come”

#260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.



L: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude:

“The Power of the Word”



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
 200 S Main St Charles City, Iowa 50616; 641-228-3397

December 3--December 10

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion 1st Sunday of Advent
	10:00 AM	After Worship Social Time
	10:05 AM	Sunday Morning Schedule Pick up Advent Activity
	11-12:30	<i>Kids 25¢ Store</i>
Monday	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
Tuesday	6:00 PM	Building & Grounds
Wednesday	9:00 AM	Do Day Quilters
	5:00 PM	Wednesday Night Supper & Activities
Thursday	8:00 AM	Foster Grandparents (PH)
Friday	5:00 PM	Girl Scouts
Sunday	9:00 AM	Children Christmas Program 1st Sunday of Advent
	10:00 AM	After Worship Social Time
	10:05 AM	Sunday Morning Schedule Return of "Angel Tree" gifts due

Wednesday Night Menu

****December 6****

Chicken Strips, Tater Tots,
Jello Salad and Bars

Supper is from

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 for adults

Children through 12th grade

free thanks to

Kans for Kids

(Menu subject to change)

Offering from the week of:

November 26, 2023

General Receipts: **\$4,578.96**

Designated: **\$80.00**

Total \$4,658.96

General Receipts of \$9,580.03 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.

Sunday Attendance: 137

Worship Services on Sunday, December 24th:

****9:00 AM - 4th Sunday in Advent (*no communion*)**

****4:00 PM & 6:30 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Services (*with communion*)**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
SUPPERS

HELP NEEDED

in the kitchen during the months of

February & March.

To Volunteer...

Contact: Shirley Holm OR Sandie Quade

Wednesday Night Schedule

3:30 pm	After School
5:00 pm	Supper
5:30 pm	Kids Choir
6:00 pm	Confirmation
6:00 pm	Tone Chime Choir
7:00 pm	Trinity Choir
7:00 pm	Dartball

(((((((TODAY...TODAY...TODAY)))))))))



Kid's 25 cent Gift Store

December 3rd
11:00a.m. -
12:30p.m.
In the Parish Hall

If any kids are interested in providing prelude music, please contact Melanie by **Dec. 3rd**. We would love to feature the kids on piano or other instruments

“Advent Activity Take and Make”

Pick up kits: December 3rd in the Parish Hall

Stephen Minister Training

Stephen Minister Training will be happening at St. John on Tuesdays from 6:00 to 8:30 PM, starting January 16, 2024. The deadline for signing up is January 2nd. If you are interested in being a Stephen Minister or would like to learn more about it, please contact the church office and we will get you in touch with one of our Stephen Leaders

Join us for Worship on
December 10th

as

The ABC's of Christmas
&
Twases of Christmas



"Angel Tree"

**Reminder: Items for the
Angel Tree program are
due back on Sunday,
December 10th.**

Music Sunday:

Sunday, December 17, 2023

**Come and join us for a
service of music and word.**

**"Rejoice, Your Light Has
Come"**

**featuring: Trinity Choir,
Kids Choir, Tone Chime
Choir, and other special
music.**

Blue Christmas Service

December 21st at 5:30pm

**Gentle service of expression
and reflection
for those who are grieving,
experiencing loneliness or
loss this holiday season.**



Poinsettias for Christmas

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to sponsor the poinsettias.

You may also call the office to have your name and message added to the sign-up sheet at (641) 228-3397



Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast 2024

On the glass case in the Narthex are the 2024 sign-up sheets for Altar Flowers and the Radio Broadcast.

The radio broadcast is enjoyed by many of our St. John members who cannot watch it on YouTube or attend in person.

After Worship Social Time

Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday!!

*****Special Note*****

We need volunteers to sign up to bring treats. There is a sign-up sheet by the Narthex doors.

(To assist in planning for this...we currently plan for “approximately” three (3) dozen treats.)



Please help support...
St. John Christian Preschool

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards and the preschool receives 5% of the face value!!

Please contact Whitney or Toni if you are interested.



GriefShare is a 13-week grief support group that is beginning again at St. John. Join us to find help and encouragement after the death of a loved one.

Tuesdays at 6:30***January 23 through April 16

Register at GriefShare.org or call the church office at 228-3388.

See Susan Leeper for more information.



Charles City Community Blood Drive

Messiah Lutheran Church
705 3rd Ave. | Charles City

Friday, December 22

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeserve.info/schedule



The Charles City mobile food pantry is an equal opportunity provider.



Mobile food pantry needs your help

Delivery of food from the Northeast Iowa mobile food pantry by the St John bus is off to a wonderful start! This is a greatly needed service in our community because there are many people that qualify for food from the pantry but have mobility or transportation limitations and are unable to come to the fairgrounds to pick it up. Unfortunately, the St John bus is at its capacity and cannot fit anymore deliveries. There are many people on the waiting list. We are in need of people that can deliver food with their personal vehicles. The mobile food pantry is held the first Wednesday of the month at the Floyd county fairgrounds. Delivery vehicles will be loaded up at 6:00 pm. Deliveries are limited to within a 5 mile radius of

Charles City. If you are interested in helping, call Jen Burton the mobile food pantry coordinator at 641-220-1769. Depending on the size of your vehicle, 2-4 households worth of food will likely fit in in a personal vehicle. Even if you are not able to deliver every month, we still can use your help. You do not need to be a St John member to help, anyone can help.

Thank you for your support of this ministry!