



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
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

December 4, 2022; 2nd Sunday of Advent



Matthew 3:1-6

Prelude:

“Lift Up Your Hands”

Welcome

The Poinsettias on the Altar are sponsored by Tilleen Litterer & family in memory of Clarence Litterer.
The radio broadcast is sponsored by Dennis & Carol Brahn in memory of loved ones.

Music:

“Thankful”
“Here is Our King”

St. John Christian Preschool

Scripture Reading

Romans 15:4-6

Read by Alison Pettit

⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-6

³In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

“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.

His bed, little children, a manger with hay;
His Mother and Joseph in ecstasy pray,
The shepherds in wonder their glad worship bring,
While chorus of angels sweet Glorias sing.

Children’s Sermon

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

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 within.
 Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.

The Communion:

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.**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

“Rock of Ages”

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

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1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

December 4 - December 11

Sunday	2nd Sunday of Advent
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	9:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
	10:05 a.m. Education Hour
	11:00 a.m. 25 cent store: Parish Hall
Tuesday	6:00 p.m. Building & Grounds
	6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry
Wednesday	3:30 p.m. After School
	5:00 p.m. Supper
	6:00 p.m. Confirmation
	6:30 p.m. Tone Chime practice
	7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir
	7:00 p.m. Dartball at St. John
Sunday	3rd Sunday of Advent
	9:00 a.m. Sunday School program/Worship
	10:00 a.m. Cookie Reception - Parish Hall
	10:30 a.m. Youth board

Adult Bible study will meet again in January 2023!

The Congregational Meeting Will be today at 9:30 a.m. to vote on a proposed lift project.

The St. John books will close December 29th by 3:00 p.m.

THE 25 CENT GIFT STORE FOR KIDS is today, December 4th! Store hours are 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Music Sunday for Christmas
Will be December 18th at the 9:00 a.m. worship service! A cookie reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast 2023

On the glass case in the Narthex are the 2023 signups for Altar flowers and radio broadcasts! The radio broadcast is enjoyed by many of our St. John members who cannot watch it on YouTube or attend in person.

Wednesday Night Supper

Menu for December 7th:
Baked Chicken & Rice, Bean Bake
Casserole, Dessert
Supper is from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Cost: \$5.00 for adults, children through 12th grade free thanks to Kans for Kids

If you would like to sponsor Poinsettias for Christmas let Kathy know in the office, 228-3397.



The Sunday School Christmas program will be December 11th during the 9:00 a.m. worship service & will be followed by a “Cookie” reception in the Parish Hall!

Family Board is holding a Reverse Advent Calendar for the month of December!

Each day add an item to a box or bag & on Christmas Eve donate contents at church for the Blessing Box! A full list can be picked up in the Narthex on the glass case or the church office. To catch you up to today though...

- December 1st: Box of Cereal
- December 2nd: Peanut Butter
- December 3rd: Stuffing Mix
- December 4th: Instant Potatoes

Offering from the week of November 27, 2022

General Receipts:	\$4,981.70
Designated:	\$395.00
<i>General receipts of \$9,812.94 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget</i>	
Attendance:	147

Please keep the following in prayer:

Sue Ayers Linda Girken Brandie McDonald Ron Venz
Ryan Bailey Carl Johnson Carol Meader Marilu Wohlers
Joyce Boehmer Donald Knowlton Jerry Meader Bill Wohlers Jr.
Rodney Ellis Randy Kreger Calvin Schultz Carmen Wolf
B.J. Gifford

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

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 4, 2022, we'll have a shortened communion service at 9 AM, followed by a special congregational meeting at 9:30 AM to vote on a proposed Lift Project (more details are coming). Because the final Christmas Program rehearsal and the Children's 25¢ Store are both happening that morning, we will need to be done by 10 AM.

At the January 2022 Annual meeting council was asked by the congregation to look into possible costs of an elevator or lift system. Council began conversation on several locations and options were explored along with costs. The best option that physically worked with our building and made sense for accessibility to offices, parish hall, basement and parking lot was to put a lift or elevator where the current church office is now and to shift the church office to where the current work room is. Due to estimates for an elevator unit spanning the basement to the top floor and needed construction costs to complete that project coming in at an excess of \$400,000, the council shifted our focus to a platform lift system option.

A platform lift system and construction that goes from the parking lot to the main floor and the basement would cost approximately \$150,000. To go up to the third floor, a second lift would be required in the future, so construction on this project will allow room for a second lift to be added if that is an option the congregation wants to consider in the future. After responding to the original request at the January 2022 Annual meeting, the council is bringing the platform lift project to the congregation for a vote on Dec. 4. If the congregation votes to move forward with the lift project, the church council recommends that in order to get to the \$150,000 needed for the project we pay for it as follows:

- \$80,000 from Memorial Fund which currently sits at \$160,454
- \$45,000 from Kroneman - Capital Improvement Fund which currently sits at \$218,057
- \$20,000 from Sylvester Fund which are previously dedicated funds for this project
- \$1,188 form the Lift Fund
- \$4,000 raised from the 150th Anniversary Celebration

Cost estimates/quotes for the project include:

- Vertical Platform Lift: \$43,940
- Wedeking Electric Bid: \$9,622
- Randall Construction: \$67,625
- Artura Architecture: \$4,000
- Recommended contingency funds (19%): \$23,785.53
- TOTAL: \$148,972

We have applied for some grants that could bring in over \$10,000 and any additional donations we receive for the lift project would decrease the amount of money taken out of current funds. Please join with fellow St. John members on Dec. 4 at 9 AM for worship followed by a special congregational meeting to make this decision.

Josh Johnson
Council President