



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
Rev. Anita Nuetzman, Visitation & Preaching Pastor
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

December 12, 2021; 3rd Sunday of Advent

St. John Sunday School Christmas Program



Prelude: Hazel Hansen, piano: “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”; Quincy Johnson, piano: “Jolly Old St. Nicholas; Graham Hansen, cello: “Jingle Bells”; Dax Johnson, piano: “Go Tell it on the Mountain”; Quincy Johnson, trumpet: “Jingle Bells”; Annemarie Hansen, piano: “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”

Welcome

The Poinsettias on the Altar are from Tilleen Litterer & family in memory of Clarence Litterer
 The radio broadcast is sponsored by Larry Tjaden in memory of Mary Tjaden & Jerry Mead

Gathering Hymn:

“The First Noel”

(vs. 1, 2, 4) #300

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - erent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain
 night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The Christmas Story
“Away in a Manger”
“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Offering
Offering Song

“What Child is This?”

#296

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Program:
3rd - 7th Grade

A New Star

What's Christmas?...

Song:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

(vs 1-3) #279

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

No room at the inn...

Song:

“Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”

Visits from Shepherds and kings...

Song:

“We Three Kings”

The Christmas Star...

The Prayers(P) Lord in your mercy...

Response: **hear our prayer.**

Please Keep the following in prayer:

James Grob	Sandra Link	Marilu Wohlers
Jim Jensen	Al Manning	Bill Wohlers, Jr.
Cliff Kelly	Leon Mulford	Cal Wood
Dale Lamprecht	Skip Ward	

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Mackenzy Bilharz, Alex Buenger, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Robson Shankland

The Prayer List: Names will be kept on the list for 3 weeks. Family members can request a name be left on longer. The office number is 228-3397.

Sending Hymn:

“Joy to the World”

#267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Postlude:

“In Dulci Jubilo”

Participants:

Participating: PreK – 2nd

Narrator 1: Savannah Baldus
Narrator 2: Bennett Hansen
Mary: Anna Mehmen
Joseph: Cam Lessin
Gabriel: Addison Merrifield
Angels: PreK – 2nd Grade Girls
Shepherds: PreK – 2nd Grade Boys
Kings: Quincy Johnson
Laker Kubik
Marron Murray
Herod: Nathan Korbel

Directors:

Laurie Heidebrink, Marcia DeVore, Lydia Johnson

Organist:

Melanie Johanningmeier

Pianist: Susan Leeper

Flute Solo: Taylor Quade

Vocal Solo: Ben Hammond

Participating: 3rd – 7th

Old Star: Quinn Heidebrink
New Star: Jady Van Horn
Mary: Riley Quade
Joseph: Caleb Streich
Gabriel: Jackson Mehmen
Elizabeth: Sierra Hinz
Caesar: Talan Eckhoff
Caesar's Official: Hailey Rule
Shepherd 1: Dax Johnson
Shepherds: Blair Walker,
Xander Chase

Herod: Cooper Holm

Priest: Owen Prichard

Scribe: Jonah DeVore

Kings: Ben Hammond

Ajay Johnson

Meghan Korbel

Multitude of Angels: Kynsie Eckhoff,

Lela Hammond,

Hazel Hansen,

Saeli Chase,

Alesia Garden,

Addisen Lantz

Please join us after the program in the Parish Hall for cookies, hosted by the St. John Youth Board

REMINDER: There will be NO Sunday School December 19th, 26th or January 2nd. Classes will resume January 9, 2022

Thank you for coming to the St. John Christmas program! We are delighted that you have come to support the youth of St. John, as they have worked hard in their preparation to share the Christmas story with you, and we are confident that you will enjoy their presentation.

Thank you to all the teachers, staff, and parents for all your hard work!



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

December 12 - December 19

Sunday **3rd Sunday of Advent**
9:00 a.m. Worship/Sunday School Christmas program
10:00 a.m. Cookie reception - Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. Youth board

Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Council

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters
3:30 p.m. After School
5:00 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Confirmation
7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir
7:00 p.m. Dartball at St. John

Sunday **4th Sunday of Advent**
Music Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Coffee & a treat in the Parish Hall

December 24, 2021
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Worship services
Will be at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
The 6:30 service will also be
live streamed!

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast
Call the office at 641-228-3397 to sign up to
sponsor altar flowers &/or radio broadcasts
in 2022

If you would like to donate
to the **Poinsettias** for Christmas, call
the office at 641-228-3397

The worship service at St. John has gone LIVE!!!

Our 9:00 a.m. worship service is now live! To watch the service go to www.stjohncharlescity.org. On the front page click on the Live Streaming Link post or go to the Worship & Sermon tab & click on YouTube. You can also go to YouTube and in the search box type St. John Charles City IA to find our channel. You can subscribe to the channel (free) & you will get alerts when something new is posted.

The service is recorded as it streams & will be available after 10:00 a.m. to watch at any time.

St. John Books will close
December 29th at 3:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, December 22nd
Evening activities are cancelled due to NO public school that day. The Confirmation Food Drive is also cancelled.

The St. John office will be closed
December 27, 28 & 31st.

Offering from the week of
December 5, 2021

General Receipts	\$ 14,755.70
Designated offering	570.00


General receipts of \$9,757.00 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.
Attendance: 166


Wednesday Night Supper
December 15th: Pork loin, cheesy potatoes, green beans, cottage cheese, "Pokie" cake
Adults \$4.00 Students - Preschool - 12th grade free courtesy of Stewardship Board's "Kans for Kids" project


Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. They are often used on [Christmas Trees](#) in Churches and Christians homes. They were first made by Frances Kipps Spencer at the [Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia](#), USA. She also thought of the word, Chrismon, which is a combination of Christ and monogram (meaning symbol). The idea quickly spread to other churches. It is traditional that Christian groups can make their own Chrismons with their favorite symbols on. Each year a 20ft (6 meter) Christmas Tree is decorated in the Ascension Lutheran Church, as Mrs. Spencer intended, and visitors come and the hear the story of Jesus explained through her original Chrismons and a few gifts from around the world. Chrismons are traditionally colored white and gold. White is the liturgical (or Church) color for Christmas and symbolizes that Jesus was pure and perfect. Gold symbolizes His Majesty and Glory. Chrismons can be made from nearly anything, but paper and embroidered ones are the most widely used.


Below are some symbols that are common Chrismons and what they represent to Christians.

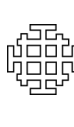
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 **The Cross** symbolizes that Christians believe Jesus Christ died for everyone on a Cross.


 **The Latin Cross**, also sometimes called the Roman Cross. The base of the Cross has three steps that symbolize faith, hope, and love.


 **The Irish or Celtic Cross** is a normal cross with a circle in the middle to symbolize eternity.


 **The Triumphant Cross** represents the earth with the cross on top. It symbolizes Jesus is triumphant over anything we can face in the world.


 **The Jerusalem Cross** was worn by the crusaders going to Jerusalem. It can symbolize the Four Gospels in the Bible, the spread of the Gospel to the four corners of the earth or the five wounds of Jesus when he died on the cross.

 **The Eastern Cross** is used by many Eastern or Orthodox Churches.


 **The Furca or Upsilon Cross** comes from the Greek letter Y. It is also called The Thieves' Cross from the two robbers who were crucified on each side of Jesus. It also symbolizes the choice between good and evil


 **The Anchor Cross** reminds Christian's that Jesus is the anchor of their faith.


 **IHS** are the first three letters of 'Jesus' in Greek, this has been used to represent Jesus from the third century. From the middle ages, they also were used in the latin phrase "Jesus Hominum Salvator" which means "Jesus, Saviour of men". And in English they can mean "In His [Jesus's] Service". I've added them on a Cross as it looks more interesting!


 **A Five Pointed Star** represents the five wounds of Jesus on the cross.


 **An Eight Pointed Star** represents baptism and regeneration.

 **The Star of David**, sometimes called the Star of Creation, is a symbol that Jesus was a Jew and a descendant of King David.


 **The Fish** is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus), stand for Jesus (I), Christ (X), God (Q), Son (Y), Savior (S).


 **The Nativity Star** is the symbol of [the Star of Bethlehem](#) or Epiphany, when the [Wisemen](#) visited Jesus.


 **Alpha and Omega** are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Used together, they are the symbolize that Christians believe Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.

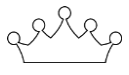
 Both of these symbols represent the Christian 'Trinity' of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Triquetra is made of three loops making a triangle representing the three parts of the trinity. The Trefoil (at the bottom) is three equal circles intertwined to form a whole.





 **The Ship** is also a symbol of the Church, sailing towards heaven.


 **The Chi-Rho** looks like a 'P' with an 'X' on top of it. These two letters are the first two letters of the Greek word 'Christos' which means Christ.


 **Babe / Manger** represents Jesus as a baby at Christmas.


 **The Crown** is the symbol that Jesus in King. It shows that Christians believe Jesus is ruler over heaven and the earth.


 **The White Rose** is a symbol for purity and can represent Mary.

 **The Shepherd's Crook or Staff** remembers that Jesus sometimes called himself a shepherd. It can also represent the shepherds who were the first people told about the birth of Jesus.

 **The Keys** are a symbol for the Church in all the world. Jesus told his friend Peter that "I will give you keys to heaven", so this means that Christians have to tell other people about Jesus.

 **The Lamb** is a symbol for Jesus who is sometimes called 'The Lamb of God'.

 **The Butterfly** is a symbol for transformation and the immortal soul.

 **The Dove** is the symbol of peace and the Holy Spirit. It is shown pointing down to represent the Holy Spirit that appeared as a Dove when Jesus was baptized.