

St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Second Sunday After Christmas
January 5, 2025

Serving Us Today:
Pastor Rob Schrader
Organist: Amanda Tetzlaff
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org

Large Print Bulletin

COMMUNION STATEMENT... To Our Guests: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, please speak with the Pastor before service. Please note that there are cups in the middle of each tray which contain wine diluted with water for those who prefer.

AS WE GATHER... The end of a calendar year and the beginning of a new set of months brings a special opportunity to look at our lives. What has been most memorable in our lives in the past weeks and months? How might our priorities change in the next months? The calendar does not always bring two Sundays after Christmas. Wisdom is waiting to be found by each of us here in this place today as we hear God's Word and seek His kingdom in this New Year of grace. God's wisdom is here to bless us each time we gather for worship!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If

needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Bells

The Welcome

Confession and Absolution

397 As with Gladness Men of Old

- 1 As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee.**

- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.**

- 3 As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,**

**All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.**

**4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

**5 In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.**

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Text: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their
Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

**But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

**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.**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Kyrie

LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 10:1–7

¹Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. ²She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. ³And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her. ⁴And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ⁵the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more breath in her.

⁶And she said to the king, "The report was true that I heard in my own land of your words and of your wisdom, ⁷but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 12:1–2

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia *LSB 190*

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Luke 2:40–52*

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group

they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances,⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

Children's Sermon

399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

- 1 The star proclaims the King is here;
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
For He who offers heav'nly birth
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.**

- 2 The eastern sages saw from far
And followed on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to light they trod
And by their gifts confessed their God.**

- 3 Within the Jordan's sacred flood
The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood**

**That He, of whom no sin was known,
Might cleanse His people from their own.**

**4 And oh, what miracle divine,
When water reddened into wine!
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed
In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.**



**5 For this Thy glad epiphany
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon “Worshipping Like the Wise Men”

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Lord’s Prayer *LSB 196*

**ALL: 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.**

**C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

**C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the
world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the
world, have mercy upon us.**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

362 O Sing of Christ

1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known

The kindness of the Lord,

Eternal Word made flesh and bone

So we could be restored.

Upon our frail humanity

God's finger chose to trace

The fullness of His deity,

The icon of His grace.

2 What Adam lost, none could reclaim,

And Paradise was barred

Until the second Adam came

To mend what sin had marred.

For when the time was full and right

God sent His only Son;

He came to us as life and light

And our redemption won.

3 He came to that which was His own,

But He was not received;

Yet still through Him God's glory shone,

And some His name believed.

To these He gave the right to be

The heirs of heav'n above,

**Born not of human ancestry
But born of God in love.**

**4 Lord Jesus Christ, You deigned to dwell
Among us here on earth
As God with us, Emmanuel,
To bring this holy birth.
Though rich, You willingly became
One with our poverty,
That we might share Your wealth and name
For all eternity!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Text: © 1996 Stephen P. Starke,
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375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

**1 Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.**

**2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending
And in love our race befriending;
In our need His help extending,
Saved us from the wily foe.**

**3 Jacob's star in all its splendor
Beams with comfort sweet and tender,**

**Forcing Satan to surrender,
Breaking all the pow'rs of hell.**

**4 From the bondage that oppressed us,
From sin's fetters that possessed us,
From the grief that sore distressed us,
We, the captives, now are free.**

**5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.**

**6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.**

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

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Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

**C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and + give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

**ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

**1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain**

**2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain**

**3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain**

Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; (ref): African American spiritual Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Attendance Last Week: 555

General giving last week: \$15,839.00

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

8 Wednesday	Senior Choir	6:30 pm
9 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
11 Saturday	Un-Decorate the Church	10:00 am
12 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
12 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
12 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:15 am

PASTOR ROB'S NUMBER: If you or a loved one are hospitalized or going through something difficult and need to speak with a pastor, please call or text Pastor Rob at any time at (920) 539-4603. He would be happy to speak with you and set up a time to visit.

DOOR COLLECTION FOR HUMAN CARE: Today a free will collection will be taken at the door. All funds collected will be used by the St. John Human Care Committee to assist in the various ministries they are involved in.

MINISTRIES AT ST. JOHN BOOKLET: Our Savior, Jesus, came to serve us by dying on the cross. Inspired by what he has done, the Bible encourages us to likewise serve our neighbors. If you're looking for a way to follow God's command, pick up our NEW "Getting Involved" ministry booklet in the rack in the back of church to see the different ways that you can serve in and through our church and school! Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP: The next youth group event will be January 18th at 1:00 pm. We will be going ax throwing in Oshkosh. Waivers will be available soon and parents are welcome to join us. It promises to be a fun activity for all.

February will have an outdoor activity on the 22nd. It will depend on how much snow we have. Either sledding at Zobel Hill or snow tubing Nordic Mountain. We would plan again for around 1:00 pm and go for 2 hours. If we buy tickets online ahead of time, they will be \$20.00. At the hill, they are \$35.00.

If you have a suggestion of something for future activities, please let me know. I am available via email tpett@stjohnberlin.org or 262-470-2152.

TITUS 2 WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Titus 2 is a women's group dedicated to building Christian relationships between different generations. Their next gathering is January 11th from 5:00-8:00 at River Shores Church. If you are mature in your faith, please bring advice, wisdom, or scripture to share with others. If you're younger or new to your faith, please bring a dish to pass and any questions you have! Please RSVP or direct any questions to Rachel Cassidy (920) 290-4459.

YOUR 2025 GIVING ENVELOPES ARE IN YOUR CHURCH

MAILBOX: Please take a look! Your nametag is BELOW the slot with your mail. Please take a look right away when you pull out your box to make sure it matches your name. If you do not have envelopes or you have the wrong box, see Pastor, an Elder, or Cathy in the office ASAP. **Only 1 box will fit in a mailbox slot. If your family has additional boxes, please look on the table in the Church Library.