

St John's Lutheran Church - Bennington
Church 291-6225
Website: www.stjohnsbennington.com
Pastor Beth A. Olson 319-483-8135

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S

- Sunday: 23rd - Sunday School / Thankful Party - 9 AM
Worship // Baptism of Ahlgren Boys - 10 AM
Prestage decorations for next Sunday
- Monday: 24th - Pastor in Office - 10 AM
- Wednesday: 26th - Brenda in Office - 9 AM
Pastor in Office - 10 AM
No Confirmation
- Thursday: 27th - Happy Thanksgiving! // Office Closed
- Friday: 28th - Sages use Fellowship Hall
- Sunday: 30th - Sunday School - 9 AM (Christmas practice)
Worship - 10 AM
Decorate Church After Worship

***About today:** Every gathering for worship has elements of thanksgiving. When we are nourished with God's bounty in holy communion, when we partake of Jesus' word that gives life to the world, and even when two or three of us simply join our hearts in prayer to make our requests known to God, we do so "with thanksgiving." Let us give thanks to God, who is good and whose mercy endures forever. (Sundays and Seasons)*

Next Sunday the Sunday School kids will start practicing for the annual Christmas Program. Program will be on Sunday, Dec. 21,10 AM.

We will decorate the church for Christmas after worship next Sunday. Please stay to help as you are able! If a few people can stay today after worship to help get things out, that would be appreciated!

Dec. 7: SJB to lead Christmas Caroling on Dunkerton Community Christmas. Be at the hall by 5:30 to sing and then we'll also sing when the Christmas tree is lit at 6. **The community Christmas event goes from 5-7 and includes** a soup supper, Santa Claus, silent auction and activities for children and families. Also collecting personal care items and non-perishable food items for the Dunkerton Food Bank. Free will donation.

Poinsettias for the Christmas Eve worship service are \$13.00 this year. Please fill out a form in the manila envelope on the table outside the sanctuary and put your money along w/ the form back in the envelope **by December 15.**

Sunday School had their Thankful party today. A blessed Thanksgiving to all this year!

Prayer of the Day **11/23/25**
Holy God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Ministers of Worship

TODAY:	NEXT WEEK:
Accompanist: Sarah Best	Accompanist: Ahan Tandon
Lector: Jerry Mixdorf	Lector: Bob Hansen
Zoom Operator: TBD	Zoom Operator: TBD
Acolyte: Lillian Pierce	Acolyte: Kai Snyder
Ushers: Gayle Wolff	Ushers: Greg, Denise, Justin
Julie Mixdorf	Pierce

Fellowship

TODAY:	NEXT WEEK:
Aidan Hesse	Kristen Best
Family	Family

Attendance

Last Sunday's Attendance: 55 plus 3 Zoom
Last Month Attendance Average: 57

Today we welcome into the family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism Marcus Bjorn Ahlgren, born Jan. 10, 2020; Maximus Ignatious Ahlgren, born Nov. 12, 2021, and Marius Axel Ahlgren, born Jan. 22, 2024, in Waterloo to Travis and Jessica (Schwartz) Ahlgren. Sponsors are Elena Plium, Yevonna Ahlgren, Josh Leventhal and Ezra Ahlgren.

The St. John's WELCA Christmas Family tree is up in the narthex with tags for you to take and purchase items for a family in need. Please have the gift wrapped, the tag taped on the gift and returned by December 7. If you want the women to do the shopping, you can put money in the fish bowl beside the tree. Thanks for helping another families Christmas brighter!

Congratulations to Sarah and Keith Kuenstling on the birth of their twin girls, Lainey Rae and Lennon Elizabeth, on Thursday, Nov. 20!

Soon the office will begin working on the assignment rotation list for ushers, communion servers and lectors. Please let Brenda know your preferences. Thanks to all of you who helped in 2025!

St. John's continues to live out our faith by collecting cash and food donations for the Dunkerton Food Bank; collection wraps up next week.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving. —Psalm 100:4

Order of Service
Blue Book

Prelude

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song **ELW # 434**

#Greeting p. 46

#Scripture Song p. 47

#Prayer of the Day (see left)

Children's Message

WORD

Scripture Readings

First Lesson: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Lesson: Colossians 1:11-20

#Gospel acclamation p. 48

#The Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Sermon

Hymn of the Day **ELW # 660**

Sacrament of Holy Baptism p. 227

#Confession and Forgiveness p. 50

#Sharing the Peace

Offering

#Offertory Song p. 50

#Offertory Prayer p. 51

#Prayers of Intercession

#The Lord's Prayer p. 52

SEND

#Blessing p. 53

Sending Song: **ELW # 838**

Kids meet pastor in back during last verse of song to help; congregation response is "And have fun doing it!"

#Dismissal p. 53

#Postlude

- Please stand as you are able

WOV - Blue Book
ELW - Cranberry Book