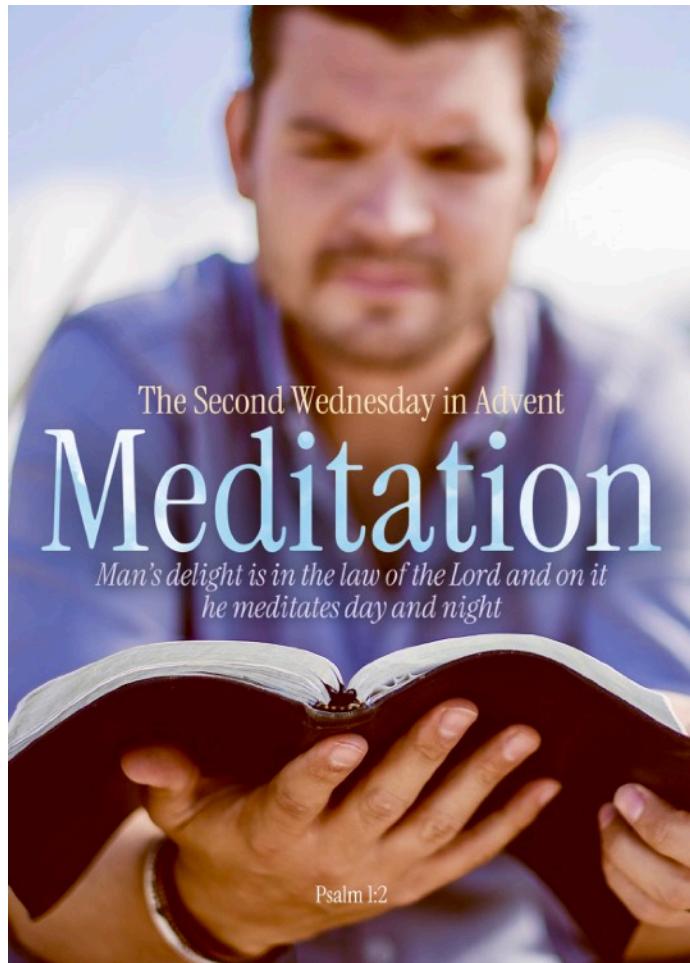


## *Meditatio - Meditation*



Wednesday, December 10, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church, Schubert

[stjohnslutheranjc.com](http://stjohnslutheranjc.com)

4409 Saint Johns Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101

**Pastor:** Rev. Ryan Groh - [groh.stjohns@gmail.com](mailto:groh.stjohns@gmail.com)

*Midweek Advent Services*

*Prayer, Meditation, and Affliction: The Life of the Christian*

**Are My Children Welcome?** Our Lord says, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Yes, your little ones are more than welcome! We are delighted to have them with us in the service!

**Visitors:** Welcome to St. John's! If you have not already done so, please fill out the visitor's book outside of the sanctuary. If don't yet have a church home, or have any questions about what we believe, teach, and confess, feel free to speak with Pastor; he would be happy to talk with you!

## Ringing of the Bell

### Prelude

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn TLH 288 "Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain"

**Lord, help us ever to retain The Catechism's doctrine plain  
As Luther taught the Word of Truth In simple style to tender youth.**

**Help us Thy holy Law to learn, To mourn our sin, and from it turn  
In faith to Thee and to Thy Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One.**

**Hear us, dear Father, when we pray For needed help from day to day  
That as Thy children we may live, Whom Thou in Baptism didst receive.**

**Lord, when we fall and sin doth stain, Absolve and lift us up again;  
And through the Sacrament increase Our faith till we depart in peace. Amen.**

### Opening Versicles

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C: And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

**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.**

### Introit (P: Pastor C: Congregation) Psalm 1

P: Blessed is the man

    who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

C: nor stands in the way of sinners,

    nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

P: but his delight is in the law of the Lord,

    and on his law he meditates day and night.

C: He is like a tree

    planted by streams of water

P: that yields its fruit in its season,

    and its leaf does not wither.

C: In all that he does, he prospers.

P: The wicked are not so,

    but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

C: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

    nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

P: for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

    but the way of the wicked will perish.

## Reading – Psalm 119:1-32

### Aleph

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord!  
<sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,  
who seek him with their whole heart,  
<sup>3</sup> who also do no wrong,  
but walk in his ways!  
<sup>4</sup> You have commanded your precepts  
to be kept diligently.  
<sup>5</sup> Oh that my ways may be steadfast  
in keeping your statutes!  
<sup>6</sup> Then I shall not be put to shame,  
having my eyes fixed on all your  
commandments.  
<sup>7</sup> I will praise you with an upright heart,  
when I learn your righteous rules.  
<sup>8</sup> I will keep your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me!

### Beth

<sup>9</sup> How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.  
<sup>10</sup> With my whole heart I seek you;  
let me not wander from your commandments!  
<sup>11</sup> I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.  
<sup>12</sup> Blessed are you, O Lord;  
teach me your statutes!  
<sup>13</sup> With my lips I declare  
all the rules of your mouth.  
<sup>14</sup> In the way of your testimonies I delight  
as much as in all riches.  
<sup>15</sup> I will meditate on your precepts  
and fix my eyes on your ways.  
<sup>16</sup> I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.

### Gimel

<sup>17</sup> Deal bountifully with your servant,  
that I may live and keep your word.  
<sup>18</sup> Open my eyes, that I may behold  
wondrous things out of your law.  
<sup>19</sup> I am a sojourner on the earth;  
hide not your commandments from me!  
<sup>20</sup> My soul is consumed with longing  
for your rules at all times.  
<sup>21</sup> You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones,  
who wander from your commandments.  
<sup>22</sup> Take away from me scorn and contempt,  
for I have kept your testimonies.  
<sup>23</sup> Even though princes sit plotting against me,  
your servant will meditate on your statutes.  
<sup>24</sup> Your testimonies are my delight;  
they are my counselors.

### Daleth

<sup>25</sup> My soul clings to the dust;  
give me life according to your word!  
<sup>26</sup> When I told of my ways, you answered me;  
teach me your statutes!  
<sup>27</sup> Make me understand the way of your  
precepts,  
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.  
<sup>28</sup> My soul melts away for sorrow;  
strengthen me according to your word!  
<sup>29</sup> Put false ways far from me  
and graciously teach me your law!  
<sup>30</sup> I have chosen the way of faithfulness;  
I set your rules before me.  
<sup>31</sup> I cling to your testimonies, O Lord;  
let me not be put to shame!  
<sup>32</sup> I will run in the way of your commandments  
when you enlarge my heart!

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

### **Sermon Hymn TLH 261 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word"**

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word; Curb those who fain by craft and sword  
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son And set at naught all He hath done**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Thy pow'r make known, For Thou art Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Thy Christendom that we May evermore sing praise to Thee.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth.  
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life. Amen.**

### **The Sermon**

### **Offertory Hymn TLH 644 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

**△ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **Magnificat**

P: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

C: **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations  
will call me blessed.**

P: For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those  
who fear Him from generation to generation.

C: **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their  
hearts.**

P: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

C: **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**

P: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to  
Abraham and to his seed forever.

C: **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.**

### **Prayers**

#### **Kyrie**

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.      C: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**      P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### **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.**

#### **Salutation**

P: The Lord be with you.      C: **And with thy spirit.**

#### **Collects**

## The Benedicamus

P: Bless we the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

## The Benediction

**Closing Hymn TLH 285 "How Precious is the Book Divine"**

**How precious is the Book Divine, By inspiration giv'n!  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine To guide our souls to heav'n.**

**It's light, descending from above Our gloomy world to cheer,  
Displays a Savior's boundless love And brings His glories near.**

**It shows to man his wand'ring ways And where his feet have trod,  
And brings to view the matchless grace Of a forgiving God.**

**O'er all the straight and narrow way Its radiant beams are cast;  
A light whose never weary ray Grows brightest at the last.**

**It sweetly cheers our drooping hearts In this dark vale of tears.  
Life, light, and joy it still imparts And quells our rising fears.**

**This lamp through all the tedious night Of life shall guide our way  
Till we behold the clearer light Of an eternal day. Amen.**

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**Cover pic artwork:** Allan Forbis

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 288: Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17; Her Gott, erhalt uns für und für; Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain; Author: Ludwig Helmbold (1594);  
Translator: Matthias Loy (1880, alt.); Tune: Herr Jesu Christ, mein's; Source: "As Hymnodus Sacer", Leipzig, 1625.

Hymn #261: Scripture: John 8:31; Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort; Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word; Author: Martin Luther, 1541;  
Translator: Catherine Winkworth, 1863; Tune: "Geistliche Lieder"; Wittenberg, 1543.

Hymn #644: Psalm 150:1; Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow; Author: Thomas Ken (1695); Tune: Old Hundreth; Source:  
Geneven Psalter," 1551.

Hymn # 285: Scripture: Psalm 119:105; How Precious Is The Book Divine; Author: John Fawcett (1782); Tune: Walder; Composer:  
Johann J. Walder (1788).

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*Schubert Midweek Advent Services:*

*December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm*

*December 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm*

*Prayer, Meditation, and Affliction:  
The Life of the Christian*