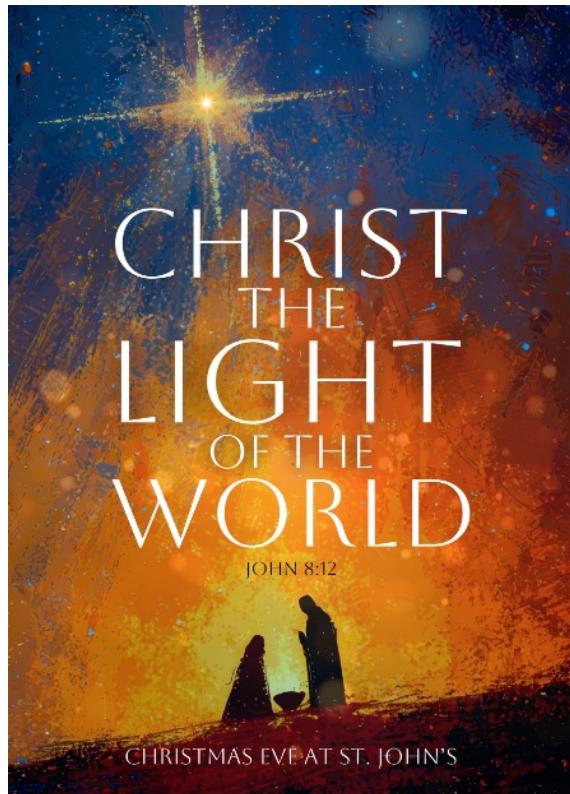


Christmas Eve



December 24, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church
stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert
4409 Saint Johns Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh
groh.stjohns@gmail.com

Note of Welcome: A warm welcome to everyone tonight as we gather to hear the account of our Lord's birth, who came to this earth in order to bear our sins upon the cross, giving to all who believe the free gift of everlasting life!

Service Note: *Out of respect for the sacred space of this sanctuary, refrain from taking pictures during the service. Opportunity for pictures will be given at the closing.*



Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Bell

Processional: LSB 379 “O Come All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him Born the king of angels:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Welcome by the Pastor

The Christmas Program

The Creation of the World

TLH 98 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (stz. 1, 3, 4)

Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

This is He whom Heav'n-taught singers Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the Long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

The Fall into Sin

Psalmody Responses – Children

TLH 95 “Savior of the Nations, Come” (stz. 1, 5, 6)

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Thy home!
Marvel now, O heav’n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

Thou, the Father’s only Son, Hast o’er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall Thy kingdom be; When shall we its glories see?

Brightly doth Thy manger shine, Glorious is its light divine.
Let not sin o’ercloud this light; Ever be our faith thus bright.

Isaiah Foretelling Christ

TLH 106 “The People That in Darkness Sat” (stz. 1, 4, 5)

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is given,
And on His shoulder ever rests All power in earth and heaven,
All power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor. The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.

The Lord Remaining Faithful

TLH 62 “Oh Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

(Hand Bell Choir plays first, and then congregation sings)

Oh, come, Oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save And give them vict’ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Oh, come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav’nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.

Gabriel Visits Mary

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Bethlehem Town"

The Birth of Christ

Children's Bells and Children's Choir "Away in a Manger"

The Shepherds Hear of Christ's Birth

TLH 94 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (stz. 1, 3)

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim. "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail, the heav'nly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild, He leaves His throne on high, Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth,
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

The Shepherds Go and See

LSB 368 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.



REFRAIN: Glo - - - ria in Excelsis Deo; Glo - - - ria in Excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? **REFRAIN**

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **REFRAIN**

The Visit of the Magi

TLH 131 "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here (stz. 1, 2)

The star proclaims the King is here; But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
He takes no realms of earth away Who gives the realms of heav'nly day.

The wiser Magi see from far And follow on His guiding star;
And led by light, to light they press And by their gifts their God confess.

Christ, Who is the Light of Light

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Holy Innocents

LSB 370 “What Child Is This” (stz. 1)

What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Christ Went to the Cross for You and Me

LSB 370 “What Child Is This” (stz. 2)

Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: For sinners here The silent Word is pleading:
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne, for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Christ’s Resurrection on Easter Morning

LSB 370 “What Child Is This” (stz. 3)

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king, to own Him!
The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high! The Virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Traditional Candlelight

(Pastor lights his candle from the Christ Candle and then the light spreads to the congregation)

Reading of John 1



“Silent Night” (First stanza in German)

Stille Nacht; Heilige Nacht; Alles Schlaft, einsam wacht,
Nur das heilige eltern paar, Das im stalle zu Bethlehem war,
Bei dem Himmlichen Kind, Bei dem Himmlichen Kind.

Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, All is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav’ly hosts sing, Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent Night! Holy Night! Son of God, Love’s pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

(Candles remain lit)

Versicles

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, **All:** The light no darkness can overcome.

Pastor: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, **All:** And the day is almost over.

Pastor: Let Your light scatter the darkness **All:** And illumine Your Church.

“Phos Hilaron”

Pastor: Joyous light of glory:

All: Of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ: may His Word be a lamb to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Prayers

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the light of God's Holy Word, that it may be freely shared throughout a world that dwells in darkness, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the hearts of those hardened to Christ, that the Lord would soften their hearts and that they would be brought to saving faith, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

All: Alleluia.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

(Silence for individual prayers.)

Pastor: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

All: To You, O Lord.

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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

(Candles extinguished)

Message from Pastor

Benediction

Ringing of the Bell

Pictures

*Thank you to everyone who helped and participated
in making this evening's service possible!*

Have a Blessed and Safe Christmas!



*Schubert Christmas Day
with Communion
December 25th 10:00 am*

CRUDELIS HERODES, DEUM REGEM VENIRE QUID TIMES?
NON ERIPIT MORTALIA, QUI REGNA DAT CÆLESTIA.



C RUEL HEROD, WHY DOST THOU FEAR THE COMING
OF THE DIVINE KING? HE TAKETH NOT AWAY EARTH-
LY KINGDOMS, WHO BESTOWETH HEAVENLY ONES.

Christmas Poinsettias Given To The Glory of God

Poinsettias are given by:

Keith Bohl in memory of Ken & Evelyn Bohl & Linda Fritsch

Linda Brenner in memory of Loved ones

Martha Brenner in memory of Bob Brenner

Jeannette Essen in memory of John Essen

Jim and Kay Forbis in memory of Esther & Howard Forbis

Mike and Karen Forbis in memory of Russell Gross

Jennifer and John Hanes in memory of Loved ones

Mary Kuhlmann in memory of George Kuhlmann

Gabe Schubert in memory of Mom, Dad and family

Ronda Williams in memory of Loved ones

