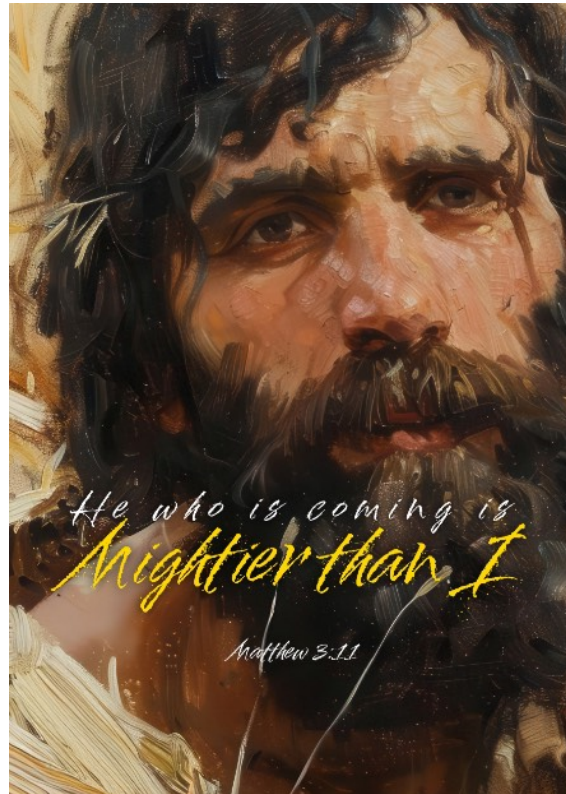


## Second Sunday in Advent



December 7, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Churches  
stjohnslutheranjc.com

**Schubert**

4409 Saint Johns Road  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**Babbtown**

7075 Highway P  
Westphalia, MO 65085

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

**About This Service:** The heart of Christianity is not what we do for God but what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. We call our service the "Divine Service" because the Divine One, our Lord Jesus, promises to be present to serve us by His Word and with His body and blood.

**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!

**Communion:** We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us. If you are not a communicant member of the LC-MS, please cross your arms when you come up to the communion rail to receive a blessing.

## **Ring of the Bell**

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

### **Opening Hymn TLH 60 "Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding"**

**Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is nigh!" we hear it say;  
"Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day!"**

**Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.**

**Lo, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heaven.  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiven,**

**That, when next He comes with glory And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He may shield us with His mercy And with words of love draw near.**

**△ Honor, glory, might, dominion, To the Father and the Son,  
With the everlasting Spirit, While eternal ages run! Amen.**

## **The Order of Worship, Page 15 TLH**

### **Invocation: TLH Page 15 [Responses Sung]**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**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.  
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 Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

### **Confession of Sins TLH Page 16**

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

### **Absolution TLH Page 16**

**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 Ghost.

**C: [Sung] Amen.**

**Introit** (P: Pastor C: Congregation) *Psalm 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b*

P: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**C: Seek the Lord and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!**

P: Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

**C: O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

P: He is the Lord our God;  
his judgments are in all the earth.

**C: He remembers his covenant forever,  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

**Gloria Patri:** *TLH Page 16 [Sung]*

**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.**

**The Kyrie:** *TLH Page 17 [Sung]*

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

*(During Advent, it is customary for the Church to forgo the Gloria in Excelsis until Christmas.)*

**Salutation and Collect**

*TLH Page 19*

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

*(prayed together)* – **Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son,  
that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus  
Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Response: [Sung] Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 11:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

#### **Epistle Reading – Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,  
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

<sup>11</sup>And again,  
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,  
"The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope."

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**Gradual** (*Pastor speaks, congregation responds with "Hallelujahs!"*)

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

**C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings...*

**C: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD!**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

*The Gospel ended, the congregation sings...*

**C: PRAISE BE TO THEE, O CHRIST!**

**The Nicene Creed** *TLH Page 22*

**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.**

**Sermon Hymn TLH 64 “Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes”**

**Jesus, Thy Church with longing eyes For Thine expected coming waits,  
When will the promised Light arise And glory beam from Zion’s gates?**

**E’en now, when tempests round us fall And wintry clouds o’ercast the sky,  
Thy words with pleasure we recall And deem that our redemption’s nigh.**

**Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew, Our foes repel, our wrongs redress,  
Man’s rooted enmity subdue, And crown Thy Gospel with success.**

**Oh, come and reign o’er every land; Let Satan from his throne be hurled,  
All nations bow to Thy command, And grace revive a dying world.**

**Teach us in watchfulness and prayer To wait for the appointed hour  
And fit us by Thy grace to share The triumphs of Thy conquering pow’r. Amen.**

**The Sermon**

**Offertory**

*TLH Pages 22-23 [Sung]*

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers**

*TLH Pages 23-24*

**ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Preface:** *TLH Page 24 [Responses Sung]*

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And with thy spirit.**

**P: Lift up your hearts.**

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.**

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

**P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee,  
holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... therefore with angels and archangels and with all the  
company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:**

**The Sanctus:** *TLH Page 26 [Sung]*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory;**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,**

**Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Lord’s Prayer:** *TLH Page 27*

**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;**

**[Sung] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**The Words of Institution:** *TLH Page 27*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**The Pax Domini:** *TLH Page 27*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *[Sung]* A - - - - men.

**The Agnus Dei:** *TLH Page 28 [Sung]*

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. A - - - - men.

**The Distribution** *(We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us.)*

**Distribution Hymns TLH 306** "Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Hast Prepared"

Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast prepared A feast for our salvation,  
It is Thy body and Thy blood; And at Thy invitation  
As weary souls, with sin opprest, We come to Thee for needed rest,  
For comfort, and for pardon.

Although Thou didst to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,  
And in Thy presence they behold Thy glory, all excelling,  
And though Thy people shall not see Thy glory and Thy majesty  
Till dawns the Judgment morning.

Yet, Savior, Thou art not confined To any habitation,  
But Thou art present ev'rywhere And with Thy congregation.  
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring hand  
Or subtle craft and cunning.

We eat this bread and drink this cup, Thy precious Word believing  
That Thy true body and Thy blood Our lips are here receiving.  
This word remains forever true, And there is naught Thou canst not do;  
For Thou, Lord, art almighty.

Though reason cannot understand Yet faith this truth embraces;  
Thy body, Lord, is everywhere At once in many places.  
How this can be I leave to Thee, Thy Word alone sufficeth me,  
I trust its truth unfailing.

Lord, I believe what Thou hast said, Help me when doubts assail me;  
Remember that I am but dust And let my faith not fail me.  
Thy Supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears  
And is my priceless treasure.

Grant that we worthily receive Thy Supper, Lord, our Savior,  
And, truly grieving o'er our sins, May prove by our behavior  
That we are thankful for Thy grace And day by day may run our race,  
In holiness increasing.

For Thy consoling Supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!  
Preserve it, for in every place The world against it rages.  
Grant that this Sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me  
When living and when dying. Amen.

TLH 59 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, And rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth,  
And joy and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go  
And righteousness, in fountains, From hill to valley flow.

Arabia's desert ranger To Him shall bow the knee,  
The Ethiopian stranger His glory come to see;  
With offerings of devotion Ships from the isles shall meet  
To pour the wealth of ocean In tribute at His feet.

Kings shall bow down before Him And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all peoples sing;  
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend,  
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever, — That name to us is Love. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

*TLH Pages 29-30 [Sung]*

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.



**The Thanksgiving: TLH Page 30**

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: *[Sung]* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

**The Thanksgiving Prayer: TLH Pages 30-31**

P: ...through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: *[Sung]* **A- - - - men.**

**The Benedicamus: TLH Page 31**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: *[Sung]* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Benediction: TLH Page 31**

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

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

**Closing Hymn TLH 72 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"**

**Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear!  
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising, And soon He draweth nigh;  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle! At midnight comes the cry.**

**The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go meet Him as He cometh, With hallelujahs clear.  
The marriage-feast is waiting, The gates wide open stand;  
Up, up, ye heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand!**

**Ye saints, who here in patience Your cross and suff'rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory The Lamb ye shall behold;  
In triumph cast before Him Your diadems of gold!**

**Our Hope and Expectation, O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, Desire of nations, O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption, That brings us unto Thee! Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Announcements**

***Have A Blessed Week!***

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**Cover pic artwork:** Allan Forbis

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

Hymn #60: Scripture: Romans 13:11; Vox clara ecce intonat ; Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding; Latin text, c. 900; Translator: Edward Caswall, 1849. Tune: O der alles; Source: "Neues geistreiches Gesangbuch", Halle, 1705.

Hymn # 64: Scripture: Revelation 1:7; Jesus, Thy Church With Longing Eyes; Author: William H. Bathurst (1831 ab.); Tune: O Jesu Christ Mein'; Source: "Nurnbergereisches Gesangbuch", (1676).

Hymn #306: Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:26; Herr Jesu Christ du hast bereit't; Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Hast Prepared; Author: Samuel Kinner (1638); Translator: Emmanuel Cronenwett (1880, ad.); Tune: Herr Jesu Christ du hast bereit't; Composer: Peter Sohren (1668)

Hymn #59: Scripture: Psalm 72; Hail to the Lord's Anointed; Author: James Montgomery (1821); Tune: Freut euch, ihr lieben; Composer: Leonhart Schroeter (1587).

Hymn #72: Scriptures: Matthew 25:6; Eumuntert euch, ihr Frommen; Rejoice, Rejoice Believers; Author: Laurentius Laurenti (1700, cento); Translator: Sarah Findlater (1854, alt); Tune: Valet will ich dir geben; Composer: Melchior Teschner (1613).

**Bible Readings:** The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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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*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Daily Bible Reading:**

- **Monday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 9
- **Tuesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 10
- **Wednesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 11
- **Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 12
- **Friday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 13
- **Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 14
- **Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>:** Luke 15

*During the season of Advent, we will be corporately reading through the Gospel of Luke. Join us!*

### **Catechism Recitation for the Week: The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed**

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.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.