

**ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**

JUNEAU • HORICON • SALEM-LOWELL

the  
word  
made  
flesh

christmas 2021



St. John's  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2021

**W**elcome! We are glad that you have joined us to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

- ∞ **Restrooms:** We have numerous facilities. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- ∞ **Infants Room** If you have a young child or nursing infant and are in need of a cry-room, you will find it off of the narthex.
- ∞ **Prayer before worship** Father, open my heart to hear and believe your word, so that through faith your Son may take his rightful place not just in the manger, but also within my heart. In his name I pray. Amen.

## WORSHIP THEME

Welcome to our Christmas Day service here at St. John's! On Christmas we marvel, and stand in wonder, that our God became one of us. Jesus is the Lord who has taken on human flesh and was placed in a manger. It is fitting to praise our God and marvel at this great mystery, so thank you for being here. In addition to special music, there will also be a couple of special things in this service. The Gospel (today about the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us) will be read among us – from the aisle in the middle of church, symbolizing the truth that Jesus came among us to save us. We will also celebrate Holy Communion today. The Lord's Supper is especially fitting on Christmas since in it Jesus still comes to us in a special way to give us his body and blood (the very body and blood he took on when he became one of us and then shed on the cross) and with it the promise of forgiveness, life and salvation. The Lord bless our time together today with his presence and peace.

# + ORDER OF SERVICE +

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HYMN

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY (CW 80)

*STAND*

## DIALOGUE OF PRAISE

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. You have set your glory above the Heavens.**

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, to him who alone does great wonders, who by his understanding made the heavens, who spread out the earth upon the waters, who made the great lights – the sun, to govern the day, the moon and stars to govern the night.

**Great is the Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.**

But our iniquities have separated us from our God; our sins have hidden his face from us, so that he will not hear. We look for light, but all is darkness; for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows. We look for deliverance, but it is far away.

**For our offenses are many in his sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our sins.**

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

**From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord our Righteousness.”

**Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.**

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

**Let the name of the Lord be praised forever and ever. Alleluia!**

HYMN

REJOICE, REJOICE THIS HAPPY MORN (CW 49)



Re - joice, re - joice this hap - py morn! A Sav - ior



un - to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry.



His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels



from on high pro-claim And sing re-demp - tion's sto - ry.



My soul, Ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless him ev - er For



sal - va - tion. Give him praise and ad - o - ra - tion.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BE SEATED**

## FIRST LESSON

Exodus 33:18-23, 34:5-7 (EHV)

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

<sup>19</sup> The LORD said, “I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” <sup>20</sup> He said, “You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live.”

<sup>21</sup> The LORD also said, “Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. <sup>22</sup> It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen...”

<sup>5</sup> The LORD came down in the cloud. He took his stand there with Moses and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> The LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed: “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and overflowing with mercy and truth, <sup>7</sup> maintaining mercy for thousands, forgiving guilt and rebellion and sin. He will by no means clear the guilty. He calls their children and their children’s children to account for the guilt of the fathers, even to the third and the fourth generation.”

## SECOND LESSON

## Hebrews 1:1-9 (EHV)

In the past, God spoke to our forefathers by the prophets at many times and in many ways. <sup>2</sup> In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact imprint of the divine nature. He sustains all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

The Son Is Superior to the Angels

<sup>4</sup> The Son became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say:  
You are my Son. Today I have begotten you?

And again:  
I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.

<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brought his firstborn into the world, he said:  
Let all God's angels worship him.

<sup>7</sup> About the angels he says:  
He makes his messengers winds and his ministers flaming fire.

<sup>8</sup> But about the Son he says:  
God, your throne is forever and ever,  
and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom.  
<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.  
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of joy  
beyond your companions.

## CHOIR ANTHEM

"Gloria"

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Galatians 4:4,5a (NIV)

**Alleluia. When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law. Alleluia.**

**STAND**

## GOSPEL

John 1:1-18 (EHV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup> They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup> John testified about him. He cried out, "This was the one I spoke about when I said, 'The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup> For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father's side, has made him known.

**BE SEATED**

HYMN

PEACE CAME TO EARTH (CWS 707)



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night  
 2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held  
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,  
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And  
 The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The  
 In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In  
 How else could I have loved you, O my God! How



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but  
 wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but  
 bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but  
 else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp:	Im - man - u - el!	Who could but sing:	Im - man - u - el!
sigh:	Im - man - u - el!	Who could but shout:	Im - man - u - el!
see:	Im - man - u - el!	Who could but thrill:	Im - man - u - el!
pray:	Im - man - u - el!	Who could but praise:	Im - man - u - el!

*STAND***NICENE CREED**

The world we live in wants to be politically correct by saying that it doesn't matter what god you believe in and pray to. How can we as children of God respond?

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

Suppose someone you know says they think Jesus was a good man but nothing more—what might you tell them about what Christians believe about Jesus?

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

In witnessing to your neighbor, she says that she has heard that there is a Holy Spirit, but she doesn't know anything about him—or it. What could you say Christians know about him?

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*BE SEATED***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

**Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

**Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.**

In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

**Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

**Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**

Please stand and sing together the Lord's Prayer.

**STAND**

**OFFERING & LORD'S PRAYER**

**TUNE: AWAY IN A MANGER (CW21 340)**

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name  
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same  
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:  
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;  
As we forgive others, our sins take away;  
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;  
From evil deliver your children most dear.**

**For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.  
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.  
To you be the glory, resounding again  
From all of creation forever! Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.** (*spoken*)

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

## HYMN

### Now Sing We, Now Rejoice (CW 34:1&4)

**1 Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!**

**4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.  
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.** (*spoken*)

## HYMN

## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM (CW 65:3-4)

**3 How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts To human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will Receive him still, The dear Christ enters in.**

**4 O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin And enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, Abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**

### *BE SEATED*

*Holy Communion expresses our oneness in faith and confession. To commune with us is the same as declaring, "I believe everything this church teaches." Before communing together, we need to study God's Word together to ensure that we are united in belief and confession. Therefore, we respectfully ask other Christians to receive instruction before communing with us. We welcome to the Lord's Table those who confess unity in faith with us by their membership in another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). If you have any questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.*

## DISTRIBUTION

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

A Great and Mighty Wonder (CW 36)

To Shepherds as They Watched By Night (CW 53)

## THANKSGIVING

### THANK THE LORD



**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with**



**shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!**

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

May he who by his incarnation  
gathered things earthly and heavenly into one,  
fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge  
of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

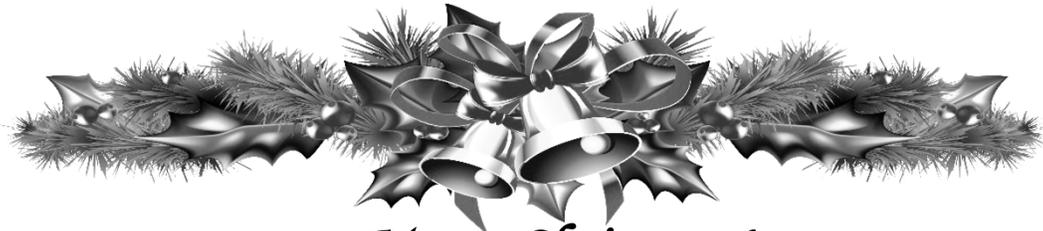
And the blessing of God Almighty  
— the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit —  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

BE SEATED

HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD (CW 62)



## *Merry Christmas!*

*The Faculty and Staff at St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church and School wish each of you a very blessed Christmas. We wish to thank each of you for the many prayers, well wishes, good cheer, and faithful service you have given to your congregation. May God bless and keep you, not only at Christmastime, but every day of your life.*

*Glory to God in highest heaven,  
Who unto us his Son has given!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.  
(CW 38:15)*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Pastor: David Brandt

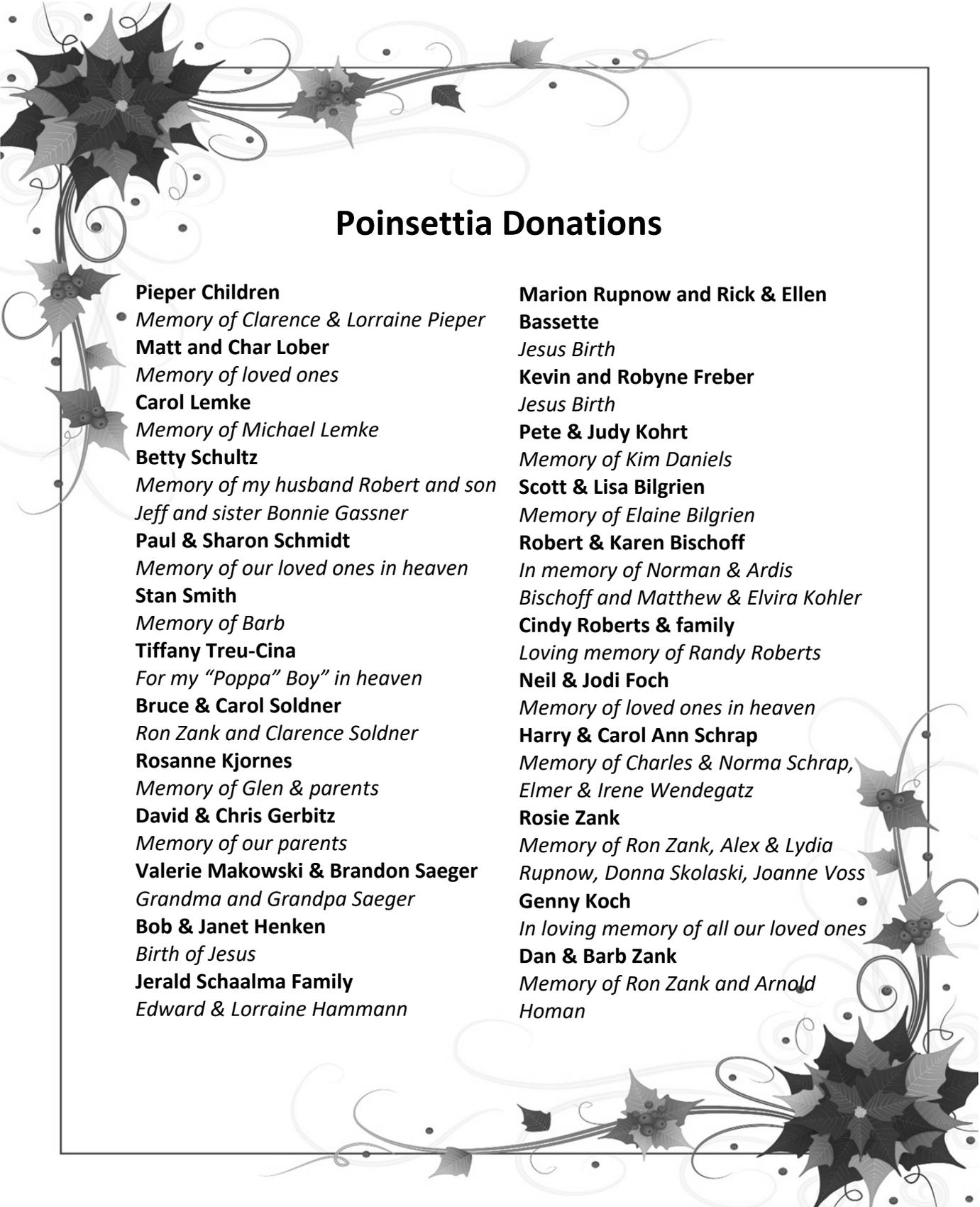
Organist: Becky Schultz

Instrumentalists: Rick Leissring, Dennis Affeld, Beth Guenther, Hailey Brandt,

Michel Krebs III, Randy Mohr, Mason Braun, Matt Lober, Rachel Tolkinen

Choir Director: Matt Lober

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## Poinsettia Donations

**Pieper Children**

- *Memory of Clarence & Lorraine Pieper*

**Matt and Char Lober**

*Memory of loved ones*

**Carol Lemke**

*Memory of Michael Lemke*

**Betty Schultz**

*Memory of my husband Robert and son*

*Jeff and sister Bonnie Gassner*

**Paul & Sharon Schmidt**

*Memory of our loved ones in heaven*

**Stan Smith**

*Memory of Barb*

**Tiffany Treu-Cina**

*For my "Poppa" Boy" in heaven*

**Bruce & Carol Soldner**

*Ron Zank and Clarence Soldner*

**Rosanne Kjornes**

*Memory of Glen & parents*

**David & Chris Gerbitz**

*Memory of our parents*

**Valerie Makowski & Brandon Saeger**

*Grandma and Grandpa Saeger*

**Bob & Janet Henken**

*Birth of Jesus*

**Jerald Schaalma Family**

*Edward & Lorraine Hammann*

**Marion Rupnow and Rick & Ellen  
Bassette**

*Jesus Birth*

**Kevin and Robyne Freber**

*Jesus Birth*

**Pete & Judy Kohrt**

*Memory of Kim Daniels*

**Scott & Lisa Bilgrien**

*Memory of Elaine Bilgrien*

**Robert & Karen Bischoff**

*In memory of Norman & Ardis*

*Bischoff and Matthew & Elvira Kohler*

**Cindy Roberts & family**

*Loving memory of Randy Roberts*

**Neil & Jodi Foch**

*Memory of loved ones in heaven*

**Harry & Carol Ann Schrap**

*Memory of Charles & Norma Schrap,*

*Elmer & Irene Wendegatz*

**Rosie Zank**

*Memory of Ron Zank, Alex & Lydia*

*Rupnow, Donna Skolaski, Joanne Voss*

**Genny Koch**

*In loving memory of all our loved ones*

**Dan & Barb Zank**

*Memory of Ron Zank and Arnold*

*Homan*

# Welcome to St. John's

## WELCOME

We are so glad you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today! St. John's is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership at any of our campuses. Please join us again soon!

## PERSONAL PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in paths of righteousness, that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Amen.

### Pastors & Assistant

David Brandt 608-343-2206  
Paul Schupmann 920-344-9839  
Joel Luetke 920-285-1351  
Tommy Welch 920-740-1370

### Principal

Richard Cody 920-386-4644

### Staff Minister

Ryan Kummerow 608-345-1900

### Worship Services

*(same service at all locations)*

#### Thursday

6:30pm Juneau

#### Saturday

5:00pm Horicon

#### Sunday

8:00am Juneau

9:30am Lowell

10:30am Juneau

### Bible Classes

#### Sunday

Juneau Campus

9:30-10:15

Salem-Lowell Campus

8:15-9:00 AM

#### Monday

Juneau Campus

6:30 PM

#### Tuesday (2nd, 4th, 5th)

Juneau Campus

6:30 PM

#### Wednesday

Juneau Campus

9:00 AM (Ladies Bible Study)

### St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

#### Juneau Campus

920-386-3313

400 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

#### Horicon Campus

920-386-3313

716 Clinton St.

Horicon, Wisconsin

#### Salem-Lowell Campus

920-386-3313

105 Juneau Rd.

Lowell, Wisconsin

#### School Office

920-386-4644

402 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

[www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com](http://www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com)

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