

Second Sunday of Advent



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Juneau

Salem-Lowell

Horicon

Second Sunday in Advent

December 1 - 4, 2022

301 Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We rejoice, heavenly Father, that you have stirred up your might and have come to save us.

Our spiritual eyes turn toward Bethlehem, the birthplace of your Son, as foretold by the prophet Micah.

We accept with joy the fulfillment of your prophecy.

As John the Baptist recognized your Son before he was born, help us also to recognize him as your Son and our Savior.

In a most marvelous manner, you prepared a sacrifice for our sins in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

Send us your Holy Spirit that we may truly believe and accept this miracle of your love.

As we anticipate with joy the celebration of his birth,

Grant us your grace that we may see in him the greatness of your love for us.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another

Silence for self-examination

We confess, almighty God, that we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed our own ways and the desires of our hearts instead of your will and way.

We have broken your commandments and neglected your righteous decrees.

We have offended you, our mighty and eternal God.

There is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

For the sake of your great mercy, O Lord, forgive us. Spare us the just punishment our sins deserve according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

And grant that for his sake, we may live sober, upright and godly lives to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, our heavenly Father, has taken away your guilt and punishment. Because of the living and dying of God's appointed Lamb, our Lord Jesus Christ, he has forgiven you and restored you to your Father's house. May God grant you peace and joy as you await his return from heaven to gather his people home.

Amen.

Advent Litany

We light two Advent candles, remembering Jesus who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

We remember Jesus who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.

We hear his call to repent.

We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Two Advent candles are lit as the congregation sings

352 Joy Has Dawned

CW 352 sts. 1, 4



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion—
4 Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
What a Sav - ior! What a friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love— Je - sus born of Mar - y.
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, — now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

A shoot will spring up from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit. ² The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ He will be delighted with the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, nor will he render decisions based on what he hears with his ears, ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the poor, and he will render fair decisions in favor of the oppressed on the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath from his lips he will put the wicked to death. ⁵ Righteousness will be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his hips. ⁶ The wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, the calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf together, and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear will graze together, and their young ones will lie down together. The lion will eat straw like the cattle. ⁸ The nursing child will play near a cobra's hole, and the weaned child will put his hand into a viper's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ This is what will take place on that day. The peoples will seek the Root of Jesse, who will be standing like a banner for the peoples, and his resting place will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

130B Remember Your Mercy, O LORD

Psalm 130B

Refrain

Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O LORD;
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

Tone

Out of the depths I cry to / you, LORD;
Lord, / hear my voice.
Let your ears be at- / tentive
to my cry for / mercy.
If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, / who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, / serve you. *Refrain*
I wait for the LORD, my whole / being waits,
and in his word I / put my hope.
I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the / morning,
more than watchmen wait for the / morning.
Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full re- / demption.
He himself will redeem / Israel
from / all their sins.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Out of the depths I cry to / you, LORD;

Lord, / hear my voice.

Let your ears be at- / tentive

to my cry for / mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, / who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, / serve you. *Refrain*

I wait for the LORD, my whole / being waits,

and in his word I / put my hope.

I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the / morning,

more than watchmen wait for the / morning.

Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,

for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full re- / demption.

He himself will redeem / Israel

from / all their sins.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

Romans 15:4–13

Indeed, whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. ⁵ And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God. ⁸ For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God’s truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs. ⁹ He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: For this reason I will praise you among the Gentiles, and I will sing to your name. ¹⁰ And again it says: Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people. ¹¹ And again: Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples give him praise. ¹² And again Isaiah says: There will be a Root of Jesse, and he is the one who will rise up to rule the Gentiles; on him the Gentiles will place their hope. ¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Junior Choir 8:00 AM "O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort"
Adult Choir 9:30 AM "Come, Messiah!"

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

In those days, John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, ² “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near!” ³ Yes, this is he of whom this was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the wilderness, “Prepare the way of the Lord. Make his paths straight.” ⁴ John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem, all of Judea, and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him. ⁶ They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore produce fruit in keeping with repentance! ⁹

Do not think of saying to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰ Already the ax is ready to strike the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ I baptize you with water for repentance. But the one who comes after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather his wheat into the barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children’s Devotion

316 On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

CW 316

Sermon

Matthew 3:1–12

Stand

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore the human race as your children and heirs. Work in us during this Advent season so that we may rejoice in the coming of our Savior and long for his coming again.

Make us eager to receive the King who comes to save us.

Use the preaching of your holy law to rid us of all delusions that we can gain your love with our own efforts. Move us to realize how hopeless we are because of sin and to feel sorrow for what we have done wrong.

Lead us to be honest about our sinful status in your sight.

Lift up our hearts to see the King who comes to save. Reveal to us his willingness to take on our human form and stand in our place. Show us the power he extends in his Word and sacraments to make us your children and keep us in faith. Thrill us with his promise to come and take us to our eternal home to live with you forever.

Open our eyes to see and believe the wonders of the Savior's love.

As we live with Christ and trust in him, move us to turn away from sin day after day with the strength your Holy Spirit provides. When we fall, forgive us and renew us to love and serve you and all people.

Empower us and guide us to walk with Christ by faith.

Protect us from the distractions that come at this time of the year. Even in gift-giving and celebrating, keep our hearts focused on Christ and his forgiving love.

Give us joy at his coming at Christmas, his coming in the gospel, and his coming again.

Move us to share with others the most important gift of this season, the truth about Jesus. Even in busy times lead us to pray for those whose joy is diminished because of sickness, pain, or loss. [Especially bless... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give us opportunities to provide help to those in need.

May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Loving Lord, work in us during this Advent season so that our joy may be genuine and may rest in the promises of the King who comes to save.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

We join together and pray the prayer our Savior taught us.

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.

Offering

Stand

Hymn 750 We Give Thee But Thine Own

CW 750

**We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus
as stewards true receive
and gladly, as thou blessest us,
to thee our firstfruits give.**

Prayer

Lord Jesus, teacher and friend, fill the members of our congregation with a deep love for your Word and a desire to hear and learn it. Use our Bible classes for youth and adults as workshops of the Spirit. Nourish and strengthen the faith of many, so that we may grow together toward spiritual maturity.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Acknowledgments

Preacher: David Brandt

Liturgist: John Baumann

Organist: Dale Grulke / Becky Schultz

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Join us next as we continue our Advent celebration!

Humanity wants a made-to-order Messiah. Even faithful Christians face the temptation of a made-to-order Messiah. We want a Messiah who dispenses blessings liberally, to ensure that our life is blessed, as we would like to define it. Jesus reminds us that “blessed” is a term that he defines. Blessed people respond to adverse circumstances with patient waiting and confidence that, at just the right time, their Messiah will fix all that is broken in their lives. Join us to learn about Jesus as Messiah.



Advent by Candlelight – *there still is room!* See *signup sheet*.

This Sunday, December 4th at 4pm St. John's - Juneau Campus

St. John's will host a special Advent by Candlelight for the ladies of our congregation. We are currently looking for 6-8 ladies to volunteer to be a hostess for the event. A hostess will provide a table setting of dessert plates and napkins (cups are optional) for 8 ladies at your table along with a dessert to share. The tablecloths and advent wreath centerpieces will be provided. Please sign-up in the narthex at our campuses if interested. Please contact Heide Brandt if you have any questions at 989-574-5976. As the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season is upon us, let us take a few moments to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and praise God for His special gift.



Joint Advent Service:

Wednesday, December 7st at 7:00 PM, Good Shepherd, Beaver Dam

Please join St. Stephen's and Good Shepherd in Beaver Dam for a special Joint Advent Service. This service will include special messages from our pastors and music from our church choirs. This is a unique reflective Advent service designed to prepare our hearts for Christ's birth.



Food Drive: During this challenging year, it is more important than ever to support our local food pantries. Would you consider donating to help those in need? St. John's will host a food drive from this Sunday, December 4 – Sunday, December 11. Proceeds will go local food pantries. They are accepting non-expired non-perishable food items and monetary gifts. Please consider participating and bringing your donation to any campus.

Adopt a Seminary Family for Christmas!

The St. John's Ladies Aid is happy to again be sponsoring a seminary family this Christmas and as in the past we invite the members of St. John's to be part of this annual Christmas gifting opportunity. We have been given the name of a deserving family by the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary staff. A little bit about the family - John Wendland and his wife Taylor met while in China while serving for Asia Lutheran Seminary and Friends of China respectively, and John is now a first-year student at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. They have 2 children Konstantin (4) and Sophia (2). If you would like to participate, you'll find a tree in the St. John's Juneau narthex with their gift ideas on snowflakes hanging from the tree. Take the snowflake with you and once you purchase the item wrap it, include a card with Christmas wishes if you like or it can be anonymous, and bring it to church no later than 11:30am Sunday, December 18th. There will be a gift drop box in the St. John's Juneau narthex. (To find out more about the Wendland family please see the letter posted by the gift tree.) What a blessing it is to be able to help this young family working on their way into the ministry!

Call for an Associate Pastor: Pastor Joseph Lindloff, from Hope Lutheran Church in Irmo, South Carolina, has returned his call to our congregation and will remain serving our Savior in South Carolina. Therefore, St. John's will have a special call meeting on Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 pm at our Juneau Campus. Please keep our congregation in your prayers as we humbly ask Him to provide us with a new associate pastor.

Poinsettias

Once again, 35 poinsettias have been ordered from Robin's Countryside Gardens to be purchased by members for the Juneau Campus this Christmas. The cost for the plant is \$15. If you would like to donate a poinsettia to church for the Christmas season, please see the sign-up sheet in the Juneau narthex or call the church office by December 18th.



Snow Removal: It's not too early to start thinking about snow removal! If you'd like to help this year, please sign up in the narthex or call our church office. Thank you!

Care Packages for Soldiers: Our Military Support Committee will be assembling another round of care packages for our four out-of-the-area members in the military. If you would like to contribute anything for this round of packages, please bring it to church by Monday, December 5th at 5:30pm (when the packages will be assembled.) Your care and concern for our members in the military is greatly appreciated. This is a good way to show them some love and support and to let them know their home congregation cares about them. Cards, notes of encouragement, food/snacks, gift cards are all excellent options.



Family in Need:

Do you know a Family in Need this Christmas season? Would you like to purchase an item for a family in need? St. John's has a "Giving Tree" this Christmas at our Juneau Campus for those in need in our church and community. If you or someone you know would like some extra help to make this Christmas extra special, please contact Pastor Brandt **soon!** with the specifics of a gift, clothing sizes, etc. All requests will be kept confidential. Starting this weekend, our members have the opportunity to purchase needed items. Please email your requests to Pastor Brandt at pastorbrandt@live.com. If you purchase a gift, please bring it (along with the tag from the tree) to the Juneau Campus by December 18th. Thank you!

Christmas for Kids: St. John's School will again host Christmas for Kids! Please invite all the young people you know to our celebration reminding our children of the real reason for Christmas.

December 10th from 9-11am, ages 2 (potty-trained) through 6th Grade. Please pre-register on our St. John's website (bottom of the homepage.) Thank you!

Christmas Cards: Our St. John's Ladies Aid is again selling Christmas Cards. If you are interested in purchasing a box or more, please see the cards in the Juneau church basement. Please deposit cash or check (payable to St. John's Ladies Aid) into the box. Thank you!

Area WELS Seniors You are invited to a potluck dinner at Friedens in Randolph on Tuesday, December 13. The meal starts at 12:00 in the church basement. After the meal, we will head upstairs for a holiday sing-along. All are welcome to join us. Friedens is on the south side of Randolph. This will be the final gathering until spring.

St. John's School Piano Recital

Sunday, December 4th, at 1:30pm - Juneau Public Library

St. John's School Christmas Concert:

Monday, December 12th, at 1:30pm & 7:00pm - gym

Luther Preparatory School Christmas Concerts:

Sunday, December 11, at 3:00pm

Thursday, December 15, at 10:00am - gym

Lakeside Lutheran High School's Christmas

Concert:

Sunday, December 18th, at 4:00pm - gym



Volunteers (12/1-12/4)

Greeters:

6:30 PM Lee, Sara, Ian Fehrman, Linda Fehrman, Jill Fehrman

8:00 AM Rebecca Rennhack Family and Matt and Char Lober

10:30 AM Ockerlander Family

Ushers:

6:30 PM Neil Foch, Paul Schmidt

8:00 AM Rick Bassette, Ralph Kaul, Dennis Affeld, Sean Affeld

9:30 AM Don Gibson, Dan Becker

10:30 AM Tom Selchert, Marty Weinheimer, Mark Ockerlander,
Mason Ockerlander and Logan Ockerlander

Snow Removal: (Week of 12/5)

Team 1 Rick Leissring and Tony Colantonio

Statistics 11/17-11/20

Offerings given to our Lord

General	\$19,838.32
Debt	\$100.00
Improvement	\$139.00
Lakeside	\$95.00
Missions	\$1,536.90
Total	\$21,709.22

Attendance

409 (66, 30, 78, 68, 167)

At our Voter's Meeting, our congregation approved a weekly budget with an average total of \$19,490 (includes General, Lakeside and Missions) needed every week. Since the beginning of 2022, our congregation has gone from zero debt to drawing a total of \$106,101 from the line of credit. Please continue to support St. John's through your time, talents, treasures, and prayers. Thank you!

This Week at St. John's

Sunday (12/4) *Food Drive*

Worship	8:00 & 10:30 AM – J
Worship	9:30 AM – SL
Bible Class	8:15 AM – SL; 9:30 AM - J
Sunday School	8:30 AM – SL, 9:15 AM – J
Advent by Candlelight	4:00 PM – J
Elders	6:30 PM - J

Monday (12/5)

Readings Bible Class	6:30 PM – J
Board of Education	7:00 PM - J

Tuesday (12/6)

Jesus Cares	1:30 PM – J
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Wednesday (12/7)

Confirmation	5:00 PM - J
Trustees	6:30 PM - J
Joint Advent Service	7:00 PM – Good Shepherd, BD

Thursday (12/8)

Worship	6:30 PM – J
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Saturday (12/10)

Christmas for Kids	9:00 AM - School
Worship	5:00 PM – H

Sunday (12/11) *Food Drive ends today*

Worship	8:00 & 10:30 AM – J
Worship	9:30 AM – SL
Bible Class	8:15 AM – SL; 9:30 AM - J
Sunday School	8:30 AM – SL, 9:15 AM – J
Call Meeting	6:30 PM - J

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
Joel Luetke	920-285-1351
John Baumann	651-356-4104
Karl Christie	262-309-8901

Principal

Richard Cody	920-386-4644
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Staff Minister

Ryan Kummerow	608-345-1900
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Worship Services

(same service at all locations)

Thursday

6:30pm Juneau

Saturday

5:00pm Horicon

Sunday

8:00am & 10:30 Juneau

9:30am Lowell

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

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

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