

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster



Saturday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack

716-848-9683

1st Saturday of Advent
November 26, 2022

The Prelude
The Greetings
The Invocation

Opening Hymn

ELW 252

Each Winter As the Year Grows Older



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever.
Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch, a living sign.
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
You have put on + Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

The Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise (*Sing x2*)



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

The First Reading
Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122
(Read Responsively)

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

**Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.**

Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

**For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.”

The Second Reading
Romans 13:11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel Reading
Matthew 24:36-44
Glory to you, O God.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood

came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon
Rev. Jamie Retallack

Hymn of the Day

ELW 436

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



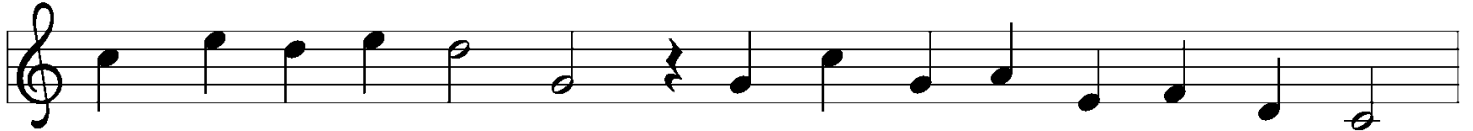
1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



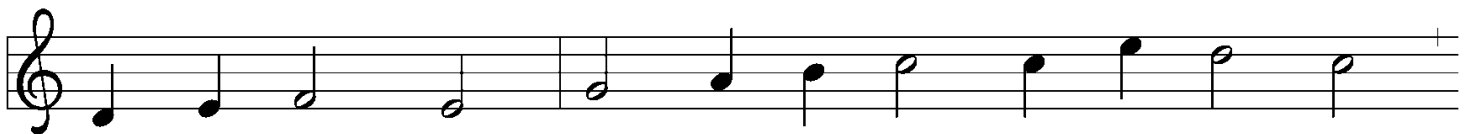
Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



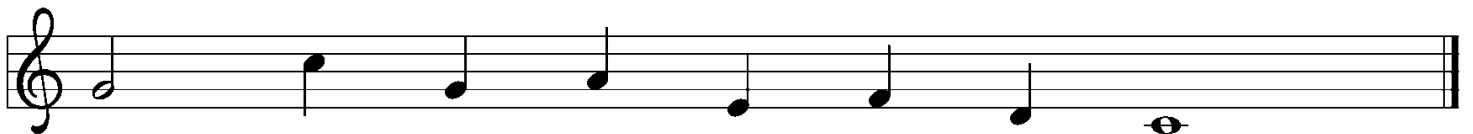
thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Prayers of Intercession

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth (other places of conflict may be named). God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of loving kindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (especially Elliana Meyers, Flip Roth, Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna Mann, Jackie Engelbach-Ugale, George Stubblebein, Tom Donhauser, Bernie Lewis, Jim Moon, Nanci Schnebly, Gloria Richards, and the family and friends of Art Plant). God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (especially). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the Church

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

...God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

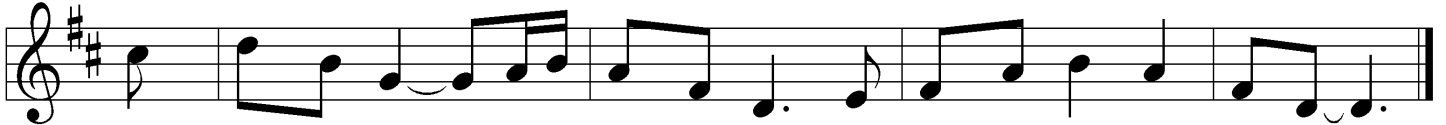
The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Gathering of the Gifts



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

The Offertory Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. You comforted Your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom You will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Invitation

The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Lord remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray...*

**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.**

The Sending Prayer

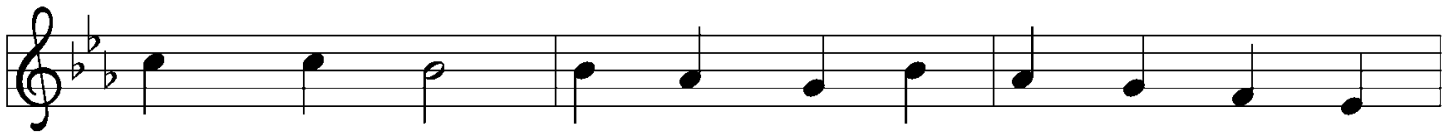
Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Benediction

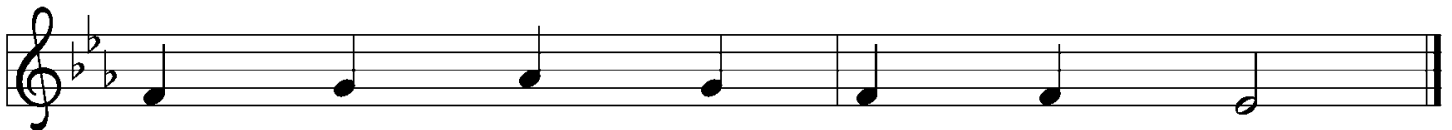
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is near,” we
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth’s bond - age
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. “Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
 down from heav’n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
 and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!”
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 one and all, to be for - giv’n;
 and with words of love draw near.
 while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

The Sending
 Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

The People of St. John's Welcome You to Worship Today!

If you would like a pastoral visit for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday	11/27	9:00am	In person/Streamed Service Sunday School
Sunday	11/27	10:00am	Joysingers
Sunday	11/27	10:30am	In person/Streamed Service
Monday	11/28	4:30pm	Guiding Eyes
Monday	11/28	7:30pm	Chordsmen
Tuesday	11/29	9:30am	Quilters
Tuesday	11/29	7:00pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Tuesday	11/29	7:00pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	12/1	1:00pm	Bible Study
Thursday	12/1	6:30pm	Handbell Practice
Thursday	12/1	7:30pm	Choir Practice
Friday	12/2	7:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Saturday	12/3	5:30pm	In person Service
Sunday	12/4	9:00am	In person/ Streamed Service Sunday School
Sunday	12/4	10:00am	Joysingers
Sunday	12/4	10:30am	In person/ Streamed Service

Altar Flower Arrangements are \$30 (for 2). Available dates: 12/11, 1/1, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19

We lift up Elliana Meyers, Flip Roth, Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna Mann, Jackie Engelbach-Ugale, George Stubblebein, Tom Donhauser, Bernie Lewis, Jim Moon, Nanci Schnebly, Gloria Richards, and the family and friends of Art Plant.

Spaghetti Dinner

Income	1513.00
Expenses	467.37
Profit	1045.63

QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to St. John's donation page where you can make a one-time or recurring offering! Thank you for giving to St. John's Lutheran!



We are again participating in **The Salvation Army Angel Tree** program, bringing joy to children this Christmas season! Please take a tag from the tree and replace it with a star. You can purchase the gift listed (or something similar) and then place presents in a gift bag with the tag securely attached to the outside. Gifts should be returned to church **by Sunday, Dec. 11th!** Additional gifts may be purchased. The greatest need is for infant toys and board games for 10-12 year-olds. Envelopes are hanging on the trees for cash or check donations (made payable to Salvation Army). Please place in the offering plate. Let's continue to share our blessings! If you have questions, call Carol Schwertz at 716-861-1619.

The flowers on the altar this week are in honor of her grandson Zach Massino's birthday from Gloria Jakubowski, and in memory of her mother Marie Miller from Diane Wnek.

Collecting Dash's Register Receipts

Save your Dash's receipts
and deposit them in the boxes
in the Memorial Lounge or The Chapel
To benefit Niagara Lutheran Health Services

Lutheran Disaster Response

Checks or money orders can be sent to:

Lutheran Disaster Response

P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Write "Hurricane Ian" on your memo line

Give by phone 800-638-3522 (M-F, 8a.m.-5p.m. CT) or online.

11/13/2022

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Altar Guild

Cheryl Helwig & Kathy Snyder

Deacons

9am Sam Miller

10:30am Kathy Konstabel

Ushers

9am David Rice & Greg Wildridge

10:30am Bev Hess &

Rick Tomaszewski



Holiday Worship Schedule 2022-23

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24th
@ 6:30pm and 10:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY


Sunday, December 25th
NO SERVICES

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday, December 31st
NO SERVICES

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sunday, January 1st, 2023
@ 9:30am.



Therefore
you also
must be ready,
for
the Son of Man
is coming
at an hour
you do not expect.

Matthew 24:44



MISSION STATEMENT

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides
an inviting environment for spreading God's Word
through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address
the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!*

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia
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Congregation Council

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Janet Sincebaugh, Vice-President
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Linda Dean
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