



Songs of the Savior

Advent Worship Series

November 26-27, 2022

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Advent 1 | November 27, 2022

Service Elements taken from: Divine Service, Setting 3, Pew Hymnal (LSB) p. 201
For your convenience, all hymn lyrics will also be displayed on the screens at the front of the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN: *The Advent of Our King* LSB #331

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Opening Verses Screen
Confession/Gloria
Prayer of the Day
Old Testament Reading: Genesis 17:1-8 Worship Bible p.11
Epistle Reading: Galatians 3:7-14 Worship Bible p.973
Responsory Screen
Holy Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-17 Worship Bible p.807
Apostles' Creed

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* LSB #338

MESSAGE Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord* LSB #352

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER:

The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.

As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first, third, and fifth weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month.

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

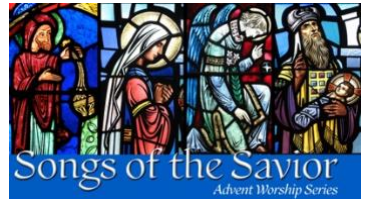
ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of November 27, 2022

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

SONGS OF THE SAVIOR | ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

It's that time of year again, a time of year when songs once again define and mark a season unlike any other! Songs fill the air in our homes, vehicles, and shops with the anticipation of Christmas! This, however, is nothing new. Songs have long marked the season of anticipation surrounding the Messiah's birth from the very beginning.



We welcome you to join us on the **Sundays and Wednesdays (at 4:15 PM and 7:00 PM)** of Advent, as we meditate on the often-overlooked Biblical songs of anticipation and fulfillment sung by the likes of Zechariah, Mary, Simeon, and the angels, as well as many of the timeless carols that are still celebrated in the Church today.

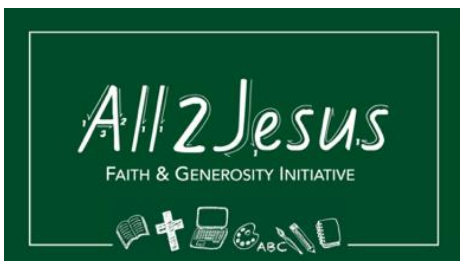
Weekly devotional booklets based on the Advent series *A Songs of the Savior* and written by our staff will be available beginning this weekend. The daily devotions will begin on Monday, November 28, as a way to prepare our hearts and minds in anticipation of the birth of our Lord and Savior.



HOLY BAPTISM – This weekend at the 9:30 AM worship service we celebrate the baptisms of Harper Susan McIntosh and Olivia Beth McIntosh, daughters of Jackie and Chris. May God richly bless Harper and Olivia and their family!

ALL2JESUS UPDATE: IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

As we've been reminded throughout the weeks of the All2Jesus Faith & Generosity Initiative, the Lord has truly given each of us a divine opportunity to fully engage in growing in our faith and respond boldly in generosity to make an eternal difference in His name by expanding our school ministry to reach more and more children and families! AND over the last two weeks hundreds of you have boldly stepped forward to do just that! Thank you beyond words to those who have responded so far to make an eternal impact!



We understand that some of you may still be processing and praying about how the Lord is leading you in this Initiative. As we prepare to announce and celebrate our All2Jesus Faith & Generosity Initiative results next weekend on December 3/4, Commitment Cards will **continue to be received through Tuesday, November 29**. Extra cards are still available at the All2Jesus information display in the Atrium. If the Lord is leading you to give, here are three ways to submit your All2Jesus commitment:

- Mail in your commitment card utilizing the confidential, pre-addressed envelope;
- Drop it off personally at the main office during the week; or
- Fill it out at worship this weekend (if you haven't brought it with you), and deposit it in one of the All2Jesus Commitment Card boxes located in both lobbies (look for the vintage school desks).

If you missed Pastor Marc's series-culminating message entitled, EveryONE (including the powerful testimony video from Kim Herman) that led up to our "everybody moment" in worship last weekend including important final details about the initiative, be sure to watch and listen to it online at All2Jesus.org. In the meantime, let's all continue to pray boldly as ONE in thankfulness for all that is ahead as All2Jesus commitments continue to be received throughout the coming days! We can't wait to announce what the Lord is doing among us!

SHARED LIFE

THE LUTHERAN CHORALAIRES | Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 PM

The Choralaires, a men's chorus under the direction of noted Detroit area composer and arranger Terry Herald, will present their annual Christmas Concert entitled "Sing To The Lord." The concert will be held on Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 PM, at St. John Lutheran Church with a repeat performance given on Saturday, December 10 at 4:00 PM at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church (1345 Gratiot Ave Detroit, MI 48207). Freewill donations will be taken at the door. For more information, please visit www.lutheranchoralaires.org.

ADVENT WEDNESDAY SERVICES & LIGHT DINNER

November 30, December 7, 14, & 21, 2022

The Advent Midweek worship services provide an additional opportunity for prayerful pause in the busyness of the season. Family dinners will be served between services in the Gym from 5:30–6:30 PM. Dinners are provided by various groups and a freewill offering will be collected each week to cover expenses.



- November 30: Hosted by the Elders; serving chili, a Frito salad, rolls, and cookies for dessert
- December 7: Hosted by High School Youth; serving hamburgers with all the fixings
- December 14: Hosted by LifeGroups; menu is to be determined
- December 21: Hosted by the Vestry; menu is to be determined

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE | Due By Monday, December 12

Now is the time to order or renew your subscription of *THE LUTHERAN WITNESS* for 2023! *The Lutheran Witness* is the official periodical of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and is published 11 times a year. It provides stories and information that complement congregational life, foster personal growth in faith, and help interpret the contemporary world from a Lutheran Christian perspective. It also includes the *Michigan in Touch* supplement. The new subscription year begins March 2023 and orders need to be turned in to the Pastoral Office by Monday, December 12 to take advantage of a discounted rate of \$12.00/year. Checks should be made to "St. John Lutheran Church" with "Lutheran Witness" written on the memo line. Please contact the Pastoral Office at 248-402-8020 or church@stjohnrochester.org for more information.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL will be held today, Sunday, November 27 as our leaders and volunteers take a little break over Thanksgiving weekend. Classes will resume on Sunday, December 4.

Sunday School is offered weekly at 9:30 AM in the school classrooms. All children ages 3 (toilet trained) through 6th grade are welcome to attend. No registration is required and there are no attendance requirements. We look forward to seeing your children and sharing with them the love of Jesus!

LIGHTHOUSE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 PM

Lighthouse and High School Youth will not be meeting on Sunday, November 27.

Lighthouse is for students in grades 6-8, and all are welcome! Lighthouse meetings are on Sundays 6:00 - 8:00 PM. For more information, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8006.

The High School Youth meetings are on Sundays from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, in the Youth Room or offsite. All high school students are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship! For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett, Director of High School Youth Ministry, at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8008.



SCHOOL NEWS: Save the Date to enroll for the 2023-2024 school year

- Kindergarten Information Night: January 12, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, for parents only
- Preschool Information Night: January 17 from 6:30 – 7:30 PM, for parents only
- School Open House: January 22 from 12:00 – 1:30 PM, for the whole family
- Current student re-enrollment/congregation early enrollment: January 17 – 27
- Open Enrollment for the community starts February 1

For more information or to schedule a personal tour, visit stjohnrochester.org/school or feel free to contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, 248-402-8012 or bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FOOD DRIVE

St. John's annual "Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive" has been underway. We have had an amazing response, and our local community and mission partner pantries will greatly benefit from your generosity. This is the time of year the pantries are depleted, and St. John families are the resource that restocks these pantries. We have already heard from Mission Partners that pantries are already in need. All is a blessing! These items will be delivered after Thanksgiving.



**GIFTS FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN | SIGN-UP NOW!
MANY CHILDREN ARE STILL AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR!**

We are once again partnering with GFAGC, one of our St. John Mission Partners, to supply **Christmas gifts for at-risk children** in local urban areas. Here are the ways you can support this mission:



- **Sponsor a child:** Purchase 6 gifts from a child’s list of needed items and bringing the wrapped gifts to St. John the weekend of December 4/5.
- **Donate any number of gifts (less than 6) for a child:** Purchase an item(s) from a child’s list of needed items and bring the wrapped gifts to St. John the weekend of December 4/5.
- **Monetary Donation:** Make a financial donation to the GFAGC organization.

An email message was recently sent out with all the details on how to participate in this giving program. You can also sign up here: giftsforallgodschildren.org/stjohnrochester. If you need any additional information, please contact church@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8020.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

“We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing!” 2 Thessalonians 1:3



GENERAL MISSION & MINISTRY OFFERINGS (as of 11/20/2022)

Offerings for week ending November 20	\$ 52,708
Y.T.D. Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 993,594
Y.T.D. Actual Offerings:	<u>\$ 991,934</u>
Y.T.D. Variance to Budget:	\$(1,660)
<i>(St. John’s fiscal year is 7/1/22 through 6/30/23.)</i>	
Budget to Actual for the week of November 20	83%
Year-to-Date Offering Budget to Actual	99%

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **Greeter-Hospitality Team:** Join the team who is the welcoming face of St. John as they greet everyone who enters our doors for worship services. If you can share a smile, this is the team for you. Please contact Linda Winter at linray12@yahoo.com to sign up.
- **Rides to Church for Seniors:** We currently have two (2) seniors in need of a ride to and from St. John for worship. One senior is located at Maple & Telegraph and needs a ride during the winter months to the 10:45 AM Modern Praise service. The second senior is located off Old Perch and would like to attend the 8:00 AM Traditional Praise service. If you can help get our friends to and from church, please contact Jennie Eller, Director of Mission Mobilization at Jeller@stjohnrochester.org.

CONSTANT PRAYER

WE WOULD LOVE TO PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

You can submit a pray request at any time via our website or by sending an email to prayer@stjohnrochester.org. Your prayer requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (unless otherwise requested) to be included in the weekly prayer list that is sent out to our prayer warriors and included in weekend worship.



RECEIVE WEEKLY PRAYER UPDATE EMAILS

Each Monday, an email message is sent to those who have subscribed to receive Prayer Updates. This update includes additional prayers received through the weekend that were not able to be included in the Connection (due to the timing of printing). If you would like to subscribe to the Prayer Update email list, just go to our website stjohnrochester.org, click at the bottom on “Stay Connected with Email” and chose Prayer Updates. For more information, please contact the pastoral office at 248-402-8020.



Worship Celebration Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays @ 8:00 AM (also online), 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays @ 5:00 PM | Sundays @ 10:45 AM (also online)