

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

**Luke 3:4**

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
December 8, 2024*

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870  
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com  
Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m.

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

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December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent/Healing Service

Welcome to Worship! Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bell

Prelude

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* Arr. by Myra Schubert  
Arr ©1983 by Lillenas Co. All rights reserved.

Welcome and Announcements

## Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Please stand*

## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

*“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

Charles Wesley 1744, Rowland Prichard, 1830 arr. Ralph Williams, 1906 Public Domain

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Am Dm7 Gm C7 Dm7 C7 F Dm Am Gm Csus C

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

F Bb C7 F G7 C Bb C7 F F7 Bb F Bb F C7 F

dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard (1811-1887); arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

HYFRYDOL  
8.7.8.7.D.

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## Advent Candle Lighting

## Advent Prayer

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.

You fasten righteousness around your waist  
and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.

Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,  
and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.

We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

**Amen.**

*(Light the second candle in the Advent wreath as we sing.)*

## Advent Hymn

“*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*” (vs. 2)

ELW 240

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress

- 2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*Please be seated*

## First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from Malachi.

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.*

<sup>1</sup> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.  
The word of the Lord.      **Thanks be to God.**



## **Psalm: Luke 1:68-79 (Read responsively)**

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup> from the hands of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
**free to worship you without fear,  
<sup>75</sup> holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## **Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11**

A reading from Philippians.

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

<sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

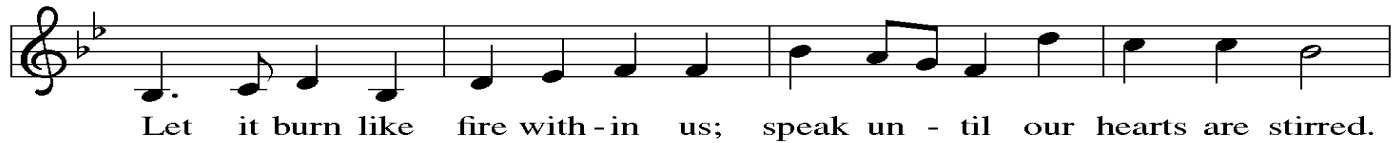
<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may

be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

<sup>1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;  
6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Youth Time**

*“Jesus Loves Me”*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868 Public Domain

**Sermon**

**Laying of Hands and Anointing**

Those in need of healing may come forward as the ushers direct – If you are not able to come forward and would like a prayer for healing, please let the ushers know. We will come to you.

As you come forward please state your name, and your specific need for prayer if you feel comfortable sharing. Otherwise simply state your name and remain silent, and a prayer will be offered.

**Healing Hymn**

*“Healer of Our Every Ill”*

ELW 612

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Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. Refrain

2 In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love. Refrain

3 Give us strength to love each other,  
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. Refrain

4 You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. Refrain

**Healing Hymn**

*“There Is a Balm in Gilead”*

ELW 614

Text: African American spiritual Music: African American spiritual Public Domain

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. Refrain



2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all." Refrain

3 Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. Refrain

## Healing Hymn

*"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"*

ELW 608

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909 Music: Will L. Thompson Public Domain

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me.  
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
mercies for you and for me? Refrain

Refrain  
"Come home, (Come home,)  
come home! (come home!)  
You who are weary, come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

3 Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,  
promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me. Refrain

*Please stand*

**Prayers of the people:** Lord in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

## Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

## Offering

*"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"*

Arr. © 1955, 1983 E.H. Freeman, Ltd., admin. Glenwood Music Corp.

*Please stand*

## Offertory

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### *Offering Song*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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### **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **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 our thanks and praise.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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**

## Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*Please be seated*

## Distribution



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## Distribution Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

ELW 631

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887 Public Domain

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit  
into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit;  
let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

**Distribution Hymn:**

*"We Come to the Hungry Feast"*

ELW 479

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a word of peace.  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied  
the love of God is not denied.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

2 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a world released  
from hungry people of ev'ry kind,  
the poor in body, poor in mind.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

3 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry that the hunger cease,  
and knowing, though we eat our fill,

the hunger will stay with us; still  
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

*Please stand*

**Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen**

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, constant source of all healing, we give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain, help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## Blessing

The God of all consolation bless you in every way, grant you hope all the days of your life, restore you to health and grant you salvation, fill your heart with peace, and lead you to eternal life. Almighty God bless you the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## Sending Hymn

*“Hark, the Glad Sound!”*

ELW 239

Text: Phillip Doddridge, 1702-1751 Music: Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820 Public Domain

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,<br>the Savior promised long;<br>let ev'ry heart prepare a throne<br>and ev'ry voice a song.   | 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,<br>in Satan's bondage held.<br>The gates of brass before him burst,<br>the iron fetters yield.  |
| 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,<br>the bleeding soul to cure,<br>and with the treasures of his grace<br>to enrich the humble poor. | 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,<br>your welcome shall proclaim,<br>and heav'n's eternal arches ring<br>with your beloved name. |

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*“Hark, the Glad Sound!”*

Text: Phillip Doddridge, 1702-1751 Music: Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820 Public Domain

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:

***“A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known”***

**And a congregation of the**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)**



## PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor  
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday  
Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary

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E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Ushers: Ray Witt

Lay Reader: Paula Hoffman Laws

Audio/Visual Tech.: Rich & Kathy Schlessman

Communion Assistant: Paula Hoffman Laws

Website: [www.stjohnlcsandusky.com](http://www.stjohnlcsandusky.com)

Att.: Dec. 1 – 114

Like us on Facebook: St John's Lutheran Church Sandusky

**2024 the Year of Story Memory Verse.**

**"So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God"** Hebrews 4:9

**The altar flowers** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ruth Deehr by Bill and Connie Deehr.

**Council asks the congregation to pray** in this season of Hope, to pray that all people are united in sharing, giving, and loving.

**St. John's Audio Visual Team** is looking for two or three people who would like to help with streaming worship. Team will mentor you! Please contact Melinda Zorn, 412-639-5477, Jon Baaske, 440-915-5071, or Ann Voigt, 419-357-8483.

**New Ministry Lists are posted on the bulletin board for the first quarter of 2025. If you are looking for an opportunity to help with ushering, lay reading, help serve communion or help with streaming our worship, see all the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board.**

**Communion Clean-up today: Paula Hoffman Laws**

Dec. 15 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben      Cleanup – Elizabeth Libben (Youth Program)

Dec. 22 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender      Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

Dec. 24 – Set-up – Toni Nossaman      Cleanup – Toni Nossaman

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

**The Giving Tree is up! St. John's will help with the needs of families in Erie County! Please take a tag and have your gifts and supplies back by Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**2025 Calendars:** Have you received a 2025 calendar or an abundance of calendars that you don't need? Please bring in your 2025 calendar and place in the basket in the back of the sanctuary and they will be taken to the nursing homes. Thank you.

**Handbell Equipment:** As we begin our handbell ministry, a few items will be needed to make this ministry happen. If you, the members of St. John's, would like to help donate a monetary gift to help purchase these items, your support would be greatly appreciated. Place your donation in the offering plate and write on memo line for handbell equipment.

**Needed equipment:**

**2 - six-foot tables - \$60.00 each**

**2 - foam pieces to cover tables - \$50.00 each**

**5 - Music binders - \$20.00 each**

**7 - pairs of gloves - \$5.00 each**

**Christmas Worship Opportunities:**

**Youth Christmas Program:** Our youth will share the Christmas story "The Nazareth Evening News" on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. This year's program and worship will be held back at the barn at Zorn Acres 604 Scheid Rd. Don't miss this special worship opportunity!

**Christmas Eve:** Two opportunities to worship on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with worship service at **2:00 pm and 5:00 pm**. The two services will be essentially the same, featuring both Holy Communion and candlelight. The 2:00 pm service will be live streamed to Facebook. Spread the word; invite family and friends to come for Christmas Eve worship!

**Sunday, December 29: Lessons and Carols** will be a Joint Worship at Zion Lutheran Church, Huron at **9:00 am**. No worship at St. John's.

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THESE SPECIAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO PREPARE YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD!**

**Happy Birthday** to Myrna Schlessman, Mike Babiuch and Lori Stacy.

## ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> THRU DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, December 8	9:15 am 9:30 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Youth Play Practice Worship
Tuesday, December 10	10:00 am	Book Discussion chapters 5 & 6
Sunday, December 15	9:00 am 10:30 am	Youth Practice Youth play and worship at Zorn Acres
Sunday, December 22	10:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, December 24	2:00 pm 5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
Sunday, December 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Joint Worship at Zion Huron</b>

**Weekly Verse: So, God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation – Genesis 2:3**

Dec. 8 – Take a nap today.

9 – Tend to the space where you rest. Remove distractions.

10 – Silence your devices for one hour. Breathe.

11 – Do something that will bring peace to someone else.

12 – Bake or cook something to share with someone else.

13 – Today is St. Lucy Day. Bring food to someone to celebrate.

14 – Donate your time or money to something you believe in.

### **Community Christmas Program Opportunities:**

**“Christmas Carols & Candlelight”:** The Firelands Chorus Inc, will be presenting their 66<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas program titled, *“Christmas Carols & Candlelight”* on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church, 503 Columbus Ave. Sandusky. Doors open at 7:00 pm with the program beginning at 7:30 pm. Both concerts are free and a Freewill Offering will be collected. Be sure to attend and start your Holiday Season with the chorus.

**“Breath of Heaven”:** Please join the members of St. Matthew, Bethany and Grace Lutheran Churches as we share our 27<sup>th</sup> presentation of “Breath of Heaven.” It is our honor to share a portrayal of that Holy Night when Jesus was born. Our Shepherd tour guides will take you through the city, where you will meet the residents of Bethlehem, and the Holy Family surrounded by live animals. The presentation is free to the public.

Please bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food banks.

Performances by the Firelands High School Select choir. St. Matthew Lutheran Church 15617 Mason Rd. It will be held on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM through 8:00 PM. Walk-trough presentations approximately every 15 minutes.