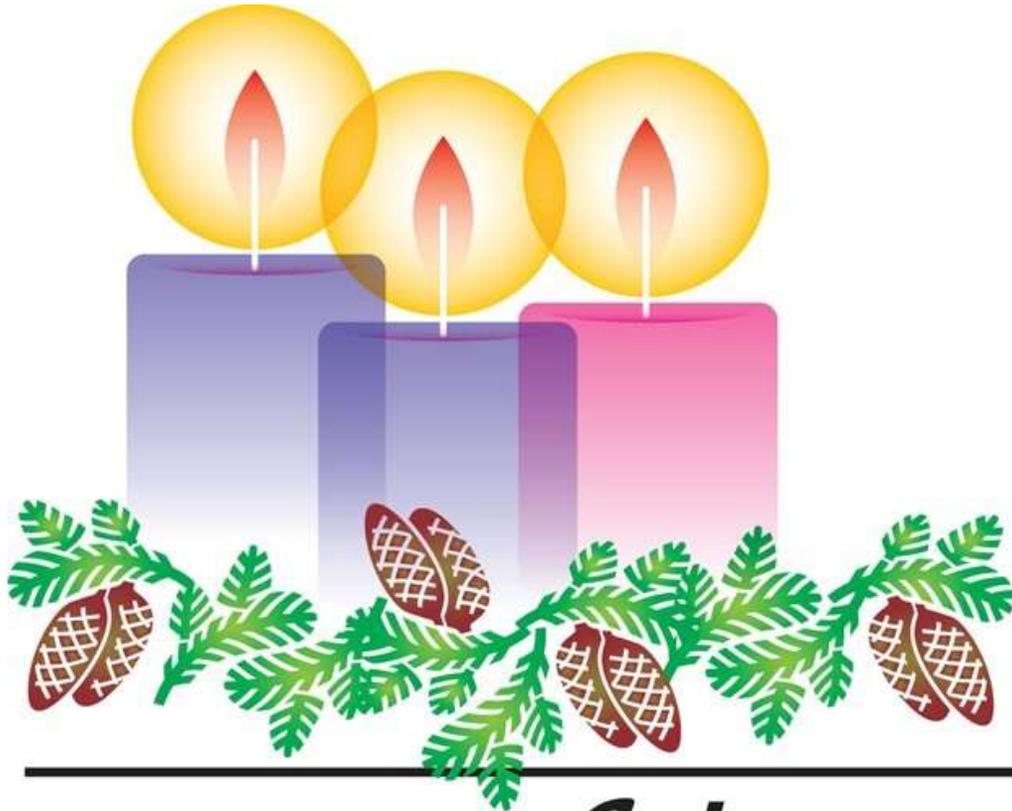


Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

www.stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

After hour emergency: (443) 844-9314

Office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*The Image of God in You/Together (Park/Strader. Arr. Sun Ahn)
Violinist: Yoon-Mee Chong*

(© Chung-Kwan Park)

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ✚ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267 (vv. 1, 2)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing. | 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy. |
|--|---|

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: English Melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240 (v. 1-3)

- 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.
- 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.
- 3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

(Text: Wayne L. Wold; Music: Yiddish folk tune; Text © 1984 Fortress Press)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL

Luke 1:8-25

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur." Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

- 1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning. Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing. Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together, he opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.
- 2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing, his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing; music to heal the broken soul and hymns of lovingkindness, the thunder of his anthems roll to shatter all hatred and blindness.
- 3 In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring. Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.
- 4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless, the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless. Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story; may God fill ev'ry day we share and bring us at last into glory.

(Text and music: Marty Haugen; Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.)

NICENE CREED

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

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 truly 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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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

We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

(© 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

Savior of the Nations, Come

Douglas E. Wagner

*An offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of God's Church.
Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERING HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW 884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

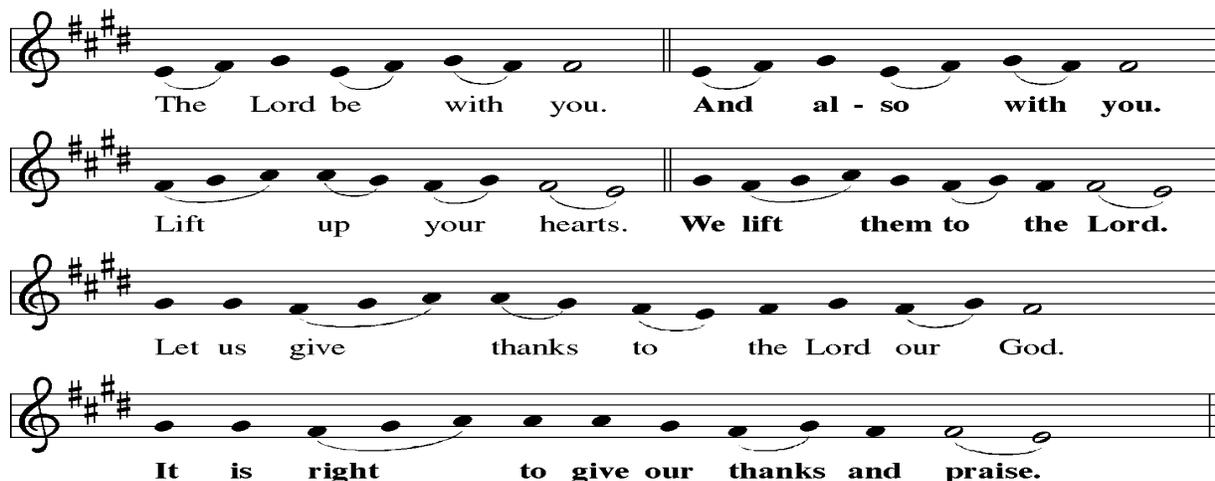
(Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

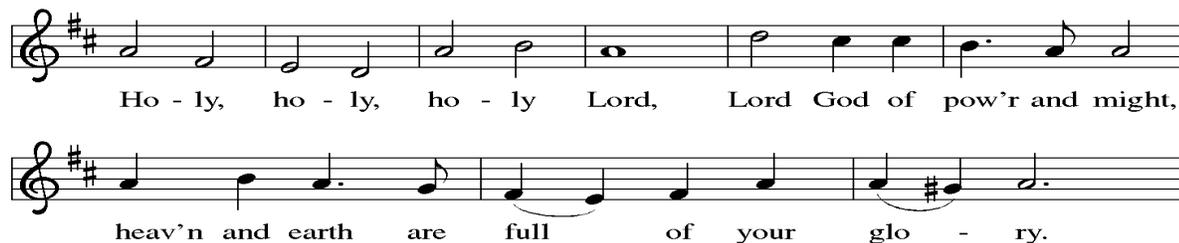


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

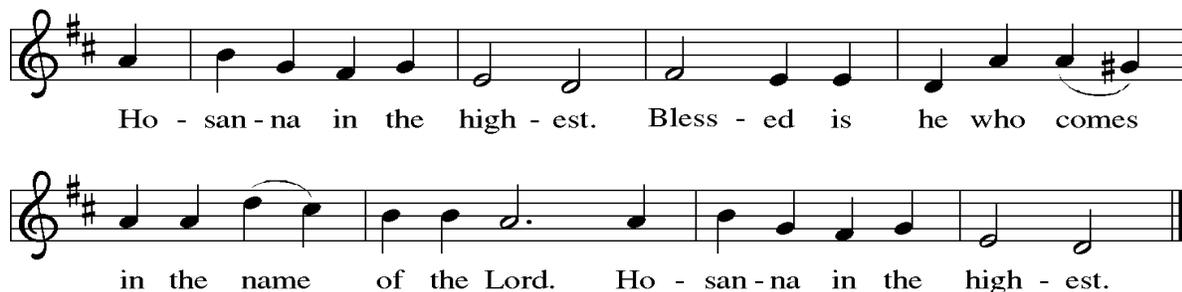
PREFACE

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 everliving 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



EUCARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he come. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor in yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Let us pray together.

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.

FRACTURE

The breaking of the bread.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

COMMUNION

The body and Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven,
loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall in love
laid down for me, in love laid down for me. | 2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all
are fed, the new community of love in Christ's
communion bread, in Christ's communion bread. |
| 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
proud division ends. The love that made us,
makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends. | 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever
near, is in such friendship better known, alive
among us here, alive among us here. |
| 5 Together met, together bound by all that God
has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one, the love that makes
us one. | |

(Text: Brian A. Wren; Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; Text © 1971, ren. 1995 Hope Publishing Company)

What Feast of Love

ELW 487

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 What feast of love is offered here, what banquet
come from heaven? What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ
the king, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna
given! | 2 What light of truth is offered here, what
covenant from heaven? What hope of
everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down
from heaven. Oh, see and hear and sing! The
Word of God is given! |
| 3 What wine of love is offered here, what crimson
drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting
life, what precious blood is given? This, this is
Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is
given! | |

(Text: Delores Dufner, OSB; Music: English ballad, 16th cent.; Text © Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications)

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
Amen.

BLESSING

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus from whom we wait. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING HYMN

People, Look East

ELW 248 (vv. 1, 3)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way. | 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Star, is on the way. |
|---|--|

(Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965; Music: French carol, arr. Barry Rose; Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates; Arr. © 1999 Novella & Co., Ltd., London)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

People, Look East

Robert Lau

(© 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

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Advent and Christmas 2021 Worship Schedule

Advent Services

December 19th - 4th Sunday of Advent w/Christmas Cantata - 10 am*

December 21st – The Longest Night Service - 6:30 pm (A service of remembering our losses, acknowledging the darkness and celebrating the hope and light of Jesus)

Christmas Eve Services

December 24th - Christmas Eve Worship w/Holy Communion—11 am*

Family Service— 4 pm (outside)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30 pm*

Christmas Eve Online Service (Livestreamed on YouTube) – 7:30 pm

December 26th—Lessons and Carols—10 am

**Services with Holy Communion*

Announcements

****Help needed! We are in need of helpers to assist with the 4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service and readers for the Lesson & Carols Service on December 26th at 10 am. Please see Martha or email her at mreuard1@gmail if you can help.****



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in remembrance of Bob Baxter's birthday by Linda Farrell.

We are taking flower dedications for 2022. The dates available are: January 2nd, February 6th and 27th, March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, April 3rd, 10th and 17th, May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Thank You to our St. John's family for your donations and support of the Shoebox Ministry. Your donations allowed us to fill 70 shoeboxes for children in need at the Eastside Shelter through C.A.N. A special thanks to Ravens Roost 82 at McAvoy's, for their help in filling and wrapping the boxes. We also want to thank the Busy Bees for their donations of 30 quilts and bags of toiletries that also went to Eastside Shelter. The staff at Eastside Shelter were so appreciative of the donations from St John's.



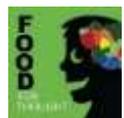
If you have taken a tag from the tree in the Narthex in support of a local Senior, please return your wrapped gift by Sunday, December 12th with the tag attached to the outside of the gift. You can place your gift under the tree or bring it to the church office. Thanks for your support!

The 2022 Offering Envelopes are here! Please pick up your envelopes from the counter outside of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings or come to the office weekdays to pick them up.



The Busy Bees invite you to participate in their Jelly and Jam Sale. Order forms are on the third floor counter, in the weekly emails, and on the website. You may also contact the church office to place your order.

Social Ministry is participating in the "Food For Thought Program". With your help, we are providing weekend take home food bags for children in need. **Our greatest need at this time is Chef-Boyardee single serving meals, chicken & tuna salad kits and white and chocolate shelf stable milk.**



Are you doing any online Christmas shopping? Is so, support St. John's when you shop. Go to: smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6012034 and Amazon donates to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Parkville Inc

Those Serving Today	10 am
Assisting Minister	Lee Smith
Crucifer	James White
Acolyte (s)	Brody & Landry Evans
Lector	Donna McDonough
Communion Assistant	Donna McDonough

This week's schedule		
Today	9 am	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.		
Tues.	7 pm	Executive Meeting (Music Room)
	7 pm	Men in Mission (Youth Room)
	7 pm	Trinity Circle (Smith Building)
Wed.	6:45 pm	Handchimes Rehearsal (Music Room)
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.		

Prayer List



Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Kathy Barnes, Richard Hoerner, Julie Hastings, Kelly Sanford, Bett Murphy, Laurie Krieger, Mike McDonough, Dave Kocan, Debbie Miller, Pat Denk, Sandy Scott, John McLaughlin, Tony Jasinski, Patty Schwab and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Richard Koch, Pat Turkin, John Bielat, Linda Fliegel, Mary January, Roy Kline, Michael Albrecht, Rose Alexander, Cynthia Schepler, Rita Brady, Anna Meyers, Norma Weber, Lou Ermer, Helen Marcomin, Rosemay Balmos, Roberta Wiessner, Helen & Don Bender and Doug Adams

For the military and their families: Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Lance Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Larry Mueller, Urban Francis and Jay Snyder

For St. John's Caring Friends: Trudy Anderson, Helen Baker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Patricia Sollanek, Cass Tracey, Emma Volz and Doris Warfield.

STAFF

Joseph Lettrich, Interim Pastor	M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon
Carol Erpenstein, Church Secretary	Martha Requard, Director of Music

Scott Becker, Sexton



stjohnsparkville



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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