Divine Service



The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Zion Lutheran Church Kearney, Nebraska

H Warm Welcome to Our Guests!

Please sign our guest book in the narthex or a pew card so we can know how we can best of serve. If you are a member in good standing of a sister LC-MS congregation, we invite you to commune with us. Members of other church bodies with whom we are not in confessional fellowship are asked to please refrain from communing. Our pastor will be happy to explain how our desire for Christian care and unity is shown in our communion practice. All communicants need to register in the narthex prior to the service. Those not communing are invited to come to the altar, cross your arms in front of you, and bow your head to receive a pastoral blessing.

## The Lord Builds a House for David: Jesus Christ Who Comes in the Flesh

When King David "lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies," he piously supposed that he would build a house for God (2 Sam. 7:1-2). But the Lord would turn it around: He would establish a house for David and an everlasting throne. This He has done not only for David, but also for all His people, in the Son of David, Jesus Christ, "conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary" (Apostles' Creed). That holy child, the incarnate "Son of the Most High," receives "the throne of his father David" and begins to reign "over the house of Jacob forever" (Luke 1:32-33). Having given Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, His body is the true and eternal temple of God in which His people have their own place of peace and rest. That is "the mystery that was kept secret for long ages" but is now "made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God" in order that we may have faith and life in Christ (Rom. 16:25-26).



The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- G Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Introit

## Service of the Word

#### Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\* let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.\*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*

and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\* and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

#### 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.

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\* let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

#### Kyrie

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



LSB 152

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



#### 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Refrain
- ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



sts. 5, ref

#### **Old Testament Reading**

# <sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"" 8Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup> from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

<sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Gradual

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

#### Epistle

#### Romans 16:25-27

Zechariah 9:9: Psalm 118:26. alt.

<sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

#### Stand



#### Holy Gospel

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

#### Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Luke 1:26–38

#### 356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came The an - gel Ga bri - el from heav en came, 2 "For know bless ed moth thou shalt а er be, -3 Then gen - tle Mar y meek ly bowed her head; 4 Of Em - man her, u - el. the Christ, was born With wings as drift - ed snow. with eyes as flame: gen - er - a - tions laud All and hon thee: or "To me be as it pleas - eth God." she said. In Beth - le - hem all on Christ mas morn, а "All hail to thee. 0 low - ly maid - en Mar у, fore -Thv son shall be Em - man - u - el,by seers told, "My soul shall laud and mag-ni - fy God's ho name." ly Chris-tian folk through-out the world will And ev er say: Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy." Glo ri - a! fa-vored la - dy." Most high-ly Glo ri - a! fa-vored la - dy, Most high-ly Glo ri - a! "Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy." ri - a! Glo

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924 Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent.Text and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

#### Stand

#### **Apostles' Creed**

С I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

### Prayer of the Church

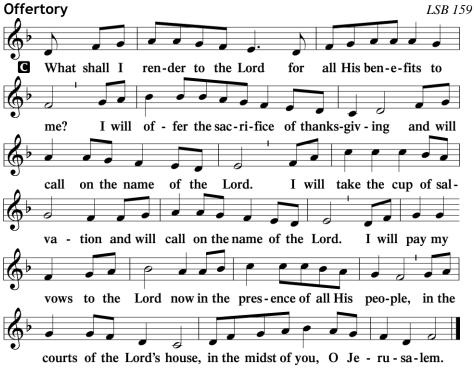
## Sharing the Peace

Following the prayers, you may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you,".

Sit

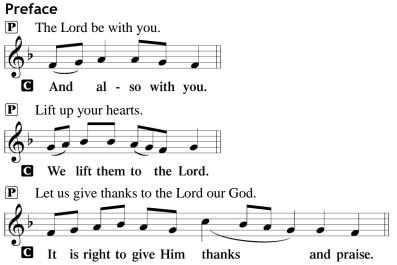
#### The Offering

The altar is set for the Lord's Supper as the offering is gathered. You may use the prayers in the front of the hymnal or meditate on a communion hymn as you prepare to receive the sacrament.

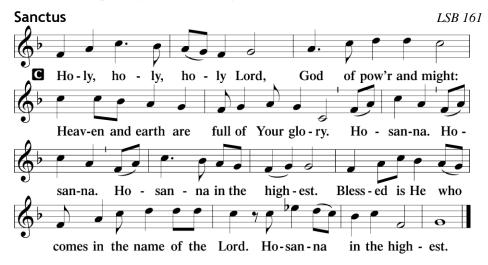


Stand

## Service of the Sacrament



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



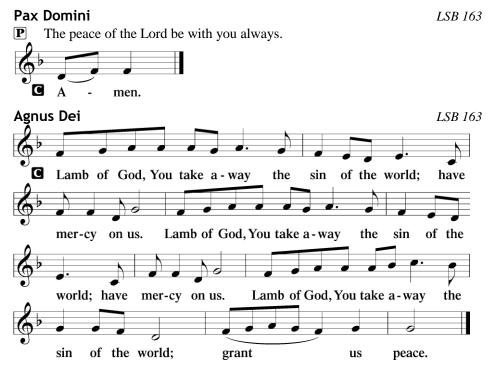
Lord's Prayer

 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.

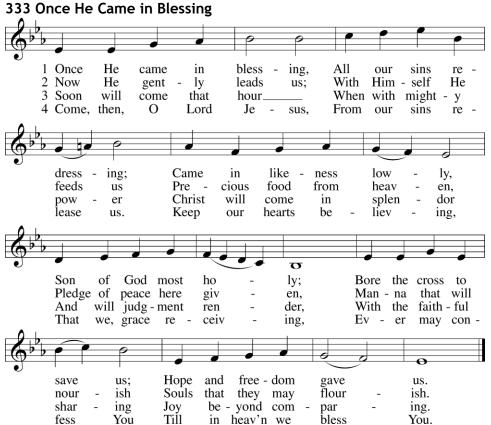
### The Words of Our Lord

 Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



#### Distribution



fess You Till in heav'n we bless You. Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490-1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; (sts. 2-3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480-1534 Text (sts. 2-3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003744 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain



Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85, alt. Tune: French, 17th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People 0 1 "Com - fort, fort My peo - ple, Speak thus com ye ye peace," 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot ting each out her - ald's voice is 3 Hark. cry - ing the des - ert the In 4 Make ve straight what long was crook - ed: Make the rough - er saith our God; "Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness, Mourn-ing that well de-served His an - ger dark mis-deed; All He no Call - ing Since far and near. sin - ners to re - pen-tance, the plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem heed. Sĥe will hath suf - fered man - y a day, more see or here. 0 that warn - ing King - dom now is cry o - bey! reign. For the Lord fits His ho lv the glo - ry of Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her Now griefs have passed God will change her her a - way; Now pre - pare for God Let the val leys a way; shed Now o'er earth is a - broad, And all flesh shall I war - fare o - ver." And sins cov - er her now is pin - ing sad - ness ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness. In to to meet Him hills bow down rise And the to greet Him. to - ken His Word see the That is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; rr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

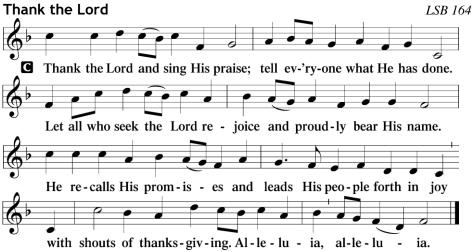


Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt. Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain

#### The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 
  ↓ in peace.
- **C** Amen.

Please stand



#### Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in lovingkindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



LSB 166

354 Arise, O Christian People 0 Chris - tian ple! 1 А rise, peo Pre - pare your - selves to -2 Pre the be fore Ĥim; pare way Pre - pare for Him the 3 The heart God rais hum - ble and low ly es up on my 4 Pre pare heart. Lord Je sus; Turn not from me a -~ Sav Who takes your day; Pre - pare greet the ior, to what would of - fend Him, This great, this best. Cast out high: Be - neath His feet in ter ror The haugh - ty side. And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed То a - lone The sins way. by grace a us Make straight, make plain The heav'n-ly guest. the way: soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come light The truth and were giv prom - ised Lord from en: low ly val - leys rais The heights of pride ing, a heeds God's in - vi - ta tion And makes true \_ prep a dwell with - in I'll Your now to me; sing prais es heav То all the world is shown. en His bas ing, path all e ven lay. tion-It is the Lord's de light. ra glad ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt. Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, 1598, Hamburg, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

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Prayers for Our Members	
Norm Abels (Brookestone Meadows-Elkhorn)	Hospice
Judy Ahrens	Healing
DyAnn Altwine	Healing
Lyle Colsden (Mother Hull)	Healing
Fred Flessner	Healing
Pat Flodine (Cambridge Court)	Healing
Jade Florang	Healing
Marilyn Fuqua	Healing
Jan Hatfield	Healing
Ruby Hatfield	Healing
Evelyn Heiden (Mother Hull)	Healing
Lennis Hodgson	Healing
Linda Luhn	Healing
Norrine Rockwell (Kinship Pointe)	Healing
Debra Schinkel	Healing
Don and Gretchen Trampe (Prairie View)	Healing
Diane Plummer	Healing
Ivan Bombeck	Cancer
Bertha Marienau	Cancer

#### ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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Church Office

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Prayers for Our Members' Family & Frier	nds
Makenzie Brooks (Bruce and Joni's daughter-in-law)	Expecting
Tenaya Nuttelman (Jared's wife)	Expecting
Amy Nuttelman (Chris' wife)	Expecting
Naomi Wollberg (Matthias Wollberg's wife)	Expecting
Andrew Powers (Kim Wilkens' brother)	Military
Roger Young (Tiffany Davis' father)	Parkinson's
Don Axeman (Bartels' friend)	Healing
Joan Bentley (Kreutzer's friend)	Healing
Norm Erickson (Jackie Zehendner's father)	Healing
Jerry Foote (Carol Herron's friend)	Healing
Randy Fritson (Carol Herron's friend)	Healing
Lorin Hartmann (Marla's father)	Healing
David Heapy (Janel Lange's father)	Healing
Roger Hoffman (Marc's father)	Healing
Luetta Lammers (Ruby Hatfield's sister)	Healing
Michelle Lewis (Joni Brooks' friend)	Healing
Paisley Mitchell (Bartels' great-granddaughter)	Healing
Tim Powers (Kim Wilkens' brother)	Healing
Randy Solomon (Beth Rosenthal's father)	Healing
Joanne Staton (Kristian Arevalo's grandmother)	Healing
Emily Zimmer (Leah Baker's friend)	Healing
Diane Brandt (Junge's and Helmbrecht's friend)	Cancer
Glenda Fichtner (Ruby Hatfield's niece)	Cancer
Ron Halvorsen (Jeff's dad)	Cancer
Lynda Kreutzer (Rich & Carol's sister-in-law)	Cancer
Helen Lange (Bartels' friend)	Cancer
Sharon Mulhair (Pam Uhlir's cousin)	Cancer
Lindsey Muniz (Steve & Fran's niece)	Cancer
Milton Naprstek (Marilyn Fuqua's brother)	Cancer
Tyrone Uhlir (Pam's nephew)	Cancer

#### Response to the Gospel

Date: 12/17/2023 Offering: \$9,322.30 Weekly Need: \$7,500

#### Offering Options:

To worship the Lord with your offering:

1) Place your offering in the offering plate.

2) Go to zionkearney.churchtrac.com/give

3) Go to zionkearney.com and click on the ChurchTrac icon

4) Mail your gift to Zion Lutheran Church, 2421 C Ave, Kearney, NE 68847

Today's Radio Broadcast by, In memory Of Lawrence and Velma Fritz.

Today's Altar Flowers are sponsored by those who purchased poinsettias.

Sunday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> - 9:00a			
Usher: Mike Wilkens			
Engineer: Eric Rosenthal			
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &			
Shirley Helmbrecht			
Sunday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> - 5:00p			
Engineer: Eric Rosenthal			
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &			
Shirley Helmbrecht			
Sunday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> - 7:00p - Christmas Eve			
Usher: All Captains			
Engineer: Eric Rosenthal			
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &			
Shirley Helmbrecht			
Monday, December 25 <sup>th</sup> - 10:00a - Christmas Day			
Usher: Mike Wilkens			
Engineer: Zach DeLoach			
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &			
Shirley Helmbrecht			
Sunday, December 31 <sup>st</sup> - 9:00a			
Usher: Steve Junge			
Engineer: Zach DeLoach			
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &			
Shirley Helmbrecht			

<u>This Week at Zion</u>		
Sun 12/24	9:00a	Divine Service
	10:30a	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30a	Radio Broadcast
		1460AM & 92.1FM
	5:00p	The Eve of Our Lord's Nativity
		(Communion Service)
	7:00p	
Mon 12/25	10:00a	The Festival of Our Lord's Nativity
	Birthdays	Justin Ronning
Tues 12/26	Birthdays	Jana Flessner
		Lyn Hoffman
Wed 12/27	5:30p	Advent Meal - Stewardship & Youth
	7:00p	Advent Service
	8:00p	Adult Choir
	Anniversaries	Fred & Jana Flessner
	Birthdays	DyAnn Altwine
		Allison Wilkens
Thurs 12/28	Birthdays	Zachariah DeLoach
	-	Don Engel
		Jakie Zehendner
Fri 12/29	Birthdays	Chelsea Herrera
Sat 12/30	Birthdays	Betty Mustard
Sun 12/31	9:00a	Divine Service
	10:30a	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30a	Radio Broadcast
		1460AM & 92.1FM
	5:00p	Divine Service

## Announcements for December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

<u>Office Closed</u>: The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday for the Christmas holiday, as well as New Year's Day.

<u>Bible Reading Cards</u>: A new set of Bible reading cards for the New Year can be picked up in the church entryway. Each card is a tool to keep track of your Bible reading progress as you mark each chapter you have read in 2024. God works through His word.

**Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers:** The sign-up sheets for the 2024 radio broadcasts and flowers are on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. If you want a certain date, sign up ASAP.

**1st Quarter Missions:** The first quarter (January-March) missions will support Lutherans for Life. To donate to this worthy cause, you give online via ACH or use a specially marked envelope located in the narthex. Either way, please clearly designate your gift to this mission.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**<u>24-25 Registration</u>**: A Google form was sent out for 24-25 registration for any students who will be 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> next year. Contact Holly if you need the link. Registration will open to the public on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Christmas Sorvius

Christmas Eve Divine Service With Holy Communion Sunday, December 24th–5pm

Children's Christmas Eve Candlelight Sunday, December 24th -7pm

The Festival of Our Lord's Nativity Monday, December 25th-10 am



Ham