

# *“What Child is This?”*



## **St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church** *A Family Connecting in Christ*

Pastor Kevin Raddatz  
Principal Jon Woldt  
501 West Park Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
847-362-4424  
[www.StJohnsLib.com](http://www.StJohnsLib.com)

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Masked

With the renewed mask mandate across Illinois, we now offer masked worship - Saturdays at 5 and Sundays at 9. If you have questions, please ask!

## To Our Guests

- We pray that you receive a warm welcome and are blessed by the message of God's Word in our lessons and hymns. If you have questions, please ask!
- Our service is designed to focus us on Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit does that by exposing our need for Christ and by showing us the wonders of God's grace in Christ – forgiveness and peace, help, and hope for life in this world, and life forever with God in heaven.
- Please join us after Sunday service for fellowship and Family Bible Hour.

## Our Communion Practice

We practice close communion, the Biblical and ancient practice of the church. We invite our congregation members and visitors from sister WELS or ELS congregations to join us, but ask Christians from other denominations to kindly respect our practice. Further explanation is in the pew racks or from our pastor.

## We Care about Your Children

We love to have children with us in worship.

- Children's worship bulletins and "church bags" (with paper, colors, and Bible story books) are available in the Narthex Gathering Area.
- If your children are crying loudly, our nursery, Gathering Area (back of church), and downstairs Fellowship Hall are audio-equipped for you and your young children. When your children are ready, come back so we can worship together.

## We Care about Your Special Needs

- **Large Print** Service Folders are available from an usher.
- **Hearing Assistance** for those with hearing aids is provided through our Hearing Loop or personal hearing devices available at the "sound table."
- A **wheelchair lift** is available for your assistance; please ask an usher.



## Our Facilities

Restrooms are in our Fellowship Hall, downstairs and to the right of the kitchen.

## Our Ministry

St. John offers an excellent preschool-8th grade school program. We are members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) - [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net).

Christmas 2021  
Candlelight Service

**What Child is This?**

*In the spirit of the evening,  
please be quieted when the music begins.*

**PRELUDE**

*Prelude on Greensleeves - Arranged by Austin C. Lovelace*

*What Child Is This - Setting by Kevin Hildebrand*

*Pastorale on Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising - Setting by Kevin Hildebrand*

*Once in Royal David's City - Setting by Kevin Hildebrand*

**OPENING HYMN** (*Please stand after vs. 2*)

*"Once in Royal David's City"*

**Hymn 343**

M: Dear people of God, in this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us—the Christ Child lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God who in his right time sent a Savior to deliver us for all time.

But first, let us pray for people all over the world who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ, and who would join with us in singing his praises. Let us pray for the people of Lake County and for all those in our own congregation.

And, because this would please our Lord, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who are sad, the lonely and the unloved, the elderly and the little children. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise him each day in his temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another. To sum up all these petitions, let us pray as Christ himself taught us.

#### 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.**

#### LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 20

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

Cursed are you above all the livestock  
and all the wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel." ...

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

**HYMN**

*"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"*  
Hymn 362 vs. 1-4, & 6

**LESSON**

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and peace  
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.

**HYMN**

*"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"*  
Hymn 345

**LESSON**

Micah 5:2-5a

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.”

Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor gives birth  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.  
He will stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they will live securely, for then his greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.  
And he will be their peace.

**HYMN**

*“To Shepherds as They Watched by Night”*  
**Hymn 335**

**THE CHRISTMAS LESSON – PART 1**

Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**HYMN**

*“Away in a Manger”*  
**Hymn 340**

THE CHRISTMAS LESSON – PART 2

Luke 2:8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

HYMN

*“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*  
Hymn 361

THE CHRISTMAS LESSON – PART 3

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

HYMN

*“What Child Is This”*  
Hymn 344

*Distribution of candles (See back page.)*  
**Once your candle is lit, always hold it upright.**

*Please stand*

HYMN

*“Silent Night! Holy Night”*

Hymn 337

Silent night, Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, Holy night!  
Son of God, love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

PRAYER

M: When all was still in the midst of the night, Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace, descended from the almighty throne to dwell among us. May we receive him in the peace of forgiven hearts and proclaim your gracious goodwill to all people on earth, for he is God with us, Emmanuel, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good, render to no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: **Amen.**



*Extinguish candles (please hold upright until the wax hardens)*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Joy to the World”*  
Hymn 353

**POSTLUDE**

*Joy to the World: Based on George F. Handel - Arranged by Norman Johnson*

**OFFERING – A Gift for Our Savior**

If you would like to leave an offering for your Savior, we have an offering plate near the front door and our old wood church in the Narthax.

*If you prefer online giving, you may scan this code with your mobile device.*



*Thank you to our choir and musicians this Christmas week!*

*Monica Wintrone: violin and keyboards; Beth Rockwell: keyboards;  
Justin Wintrone: trombone; Greg Haak: flute and recorder; Tim Samelson: guitar;  
Louis Luedtke: trumpet; Steve Lemerand: congas*

## **Join Us In Worship This Christmas Season!**

Christmas Day Worship - 9 am  
Sunday, December 26 - 9 am Worship  
New Year's Eve Service - 5 pm



## For Your Safety During the Candle Lighting in This Service

- The Village of Libertyville and the Libertyville Fire Department require us to follow some rules when using hand-held candles. This is for your safety and the safety of all who worship here.
- The ushers will hand out wax candles only to adults and teenagers. Children under 10 should not be allowed to hold a lit candle. LED candles are available for children and all who prefer them.
- Ushers will be stationed to observe the whole worship area while the hand-held candles are lit. They are ready with fire extinguishers should any problem develop.
- Note where the exits are. In case of a fire, calmly proceed to the nearest exit.
- **Once your candle is lit, always hold it upright.**
- Keep the flame away from hair and clothing.
- When the lights come on after the prayer, blow the candle out and hold it upright until you exit. After the service ushers will be waiting at the exits for candle disposal.
- Please keep pieces of wax from falling on the floor. It will make the after-service cleanup much easier.

*In the Peace and Joy of the Christ-child,  
Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year*

### Acknowledgments

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