

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.



Artwork by Ian M. Welch. Copyright 2015 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. paramentics.com

Advent 1 ☞—November 27 & 29, 2022

“Welcome Visitors and Members!”

(Visitors, you may find helpful information on the back cover.)

Focus: Keep watch! The Lord will come unexpectedly.

319 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring CW 21



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy when our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant when the heav'ns shall



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 pass a - way. Je - sus comes a - gain in glo - ry;



low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 to an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer, Al - le - lu - ia!
 lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 let us, then, our hom - age pay, Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 ev - er sing - ing till the dawn of end - less day.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, abr., alt.

Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698

Text and tune: Public domain

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
 they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

This is the message that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²This will take place in the last days:

The mountain of the House of the LORD will be established as the head of the mountains.

It will be raised above the hills,

and all nations will stream to it like a river.

³Many peoples will come and say,

*“Come, let us go up to the Mountain of the LORD,
to the House of the God of Jacob.*

*Then he will instruct us about his ways,
and we will walk in his paths.”*

For the law will go out from Zion,

and the word of the LORD will go out from Jerusalem.

⁴He will judge between the nations,

and he will mediate for many peoples.

Then they will beat their swords into plowshares,

and their spears into blades for trimming vines.

Nation will not lift up sword against nation,

nor will they learn war anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob, come,

and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Psalm 18

Refrain



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

Psalm tone



The LORD is my rock, my fortress and by deliverer;*
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

He reached down from on high and took hold of me;*
he rescued me from my powerful enemy.

He brought me out into a spacious place;*
he rescued me because he delighted in me. **Refrain**

You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;*
my God turns my darkness into light.

You save the humble*
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

You give me your shield of victory,*
and your right hand sustains me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. **Refrain**

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Second Lesson: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh.

Verse of the Day: Revelation 22:20

Alleluia! The one who testifies about these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



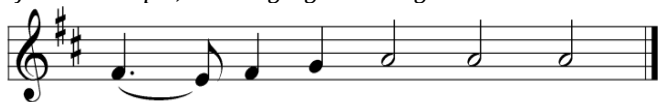
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶"No one knows when that day and hour will be, not the angels of heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when the Son of Man returns. ³⁸In fact, in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the very day that Noah entered the ark. ³⁹And they did not realize what was coming until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man returns.

⁴⁰"At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²So be alert, because you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: If the master of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴You also need to be ready for this reason: The Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

307 *When the King Shall Come Again* CW 21



1 When the King shall come a - gain, all his pow'r re - veal - ing,
 2 In the des - ert trees take root, fresh from his cre - a - tion;
 3 Strength-en fee - ble hands and knees, faint - ing hearts be cheer - ful!
 4 There God's high - way shall be seen where no roar - ing li - on,



splen - dor shall an - nounce his reign, life and joy and heal - ing,
 plants and flow'rs and sweet - est fruit join the cel - e - bra - tion.
 God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fear - ful.
 noth - ing e - vil or un - clean walks the road to Zi - on.



earth no long - er in de - cay, hope no more frus - trat - ed.
 Riv - ers spring up from the earth, bar - ren lands a - dorn - ing.
 Deaf ears, hear the si - lent tongues sing a - way their weep - ing;
 Ran - somed peo - ple, home - ward bound, all your prais - es voic - ing,



This is God's re - demp - tion day long - ing - ly a - wait - ed.
 Val - leys, this is your new birth; moun - tains, greet the morn - ing!
 blind eyes, see the life - less ones walk - ing, run - ning, leap - ing.
 see your Lord with glo - ry crowned; share in his re - joic - ing!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938

Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547

Text: © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716538

Tune: Public domain

SERMON TEXT: Romans 13:11-14
A LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty.**

From there 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.**

OFFERING



The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry, but please use this QR code to fill out a short form giving us a digital record of your attendance.

Visitors can also sign our guest register in the entryway by the drinking fountain.

8 Come, O Precious Ransom, Come

1 Come, O pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly Hope for
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
 4 Hail, ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Help, Lord; hear our

sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
 ceive, I pray you. Ev - er - more, as best I can,
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let your king - dom, scep - ter, crown

O - pen are to you all por - tals. Come, your beau - ty
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay you, And in faith I
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion That for - ev - er

let us view; Anx - ious - ly we wait for you.
 will be mine When you are my guest di - vine!
 will em - brace, Lord, your mer - it through your grace.
 we may sing Hail, ho - san - na! to our King.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtsches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours
 now and forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

318:1,3,4 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding CW 21



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
3 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the
4 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion to the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
world is wrapped in fear, he will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son with the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, all you chil - dren of the day."
with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
last - ing Spir - it while e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of The Word © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations taken from the Evangelical Heritage Version. Copyright by the Wartburg Project 2019. EHV (Evangelical Heritage Version) is a registered trademark of the Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. All music is used by permission under OneLicense.net #716538-A; CCLI Print License #5428473.

This Week at St. John's: Nov. 27, 2022

SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Jean Goetz & Virginia Marg

Ushers: Team 4- Rex Roehl's team

Altar Guild: Lynda Urban

Donating Bulletins: Gloria Hamm

Donating Website in November: Ray & Sharon Wetzel in
thankfulness for our Savior

SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY

Greeters: Judith Quicker & Nancy Hagedorn

Ushers: Team 1- Joel Zschernitz' team

Altar Guild: Linda Biebert & Megan Allard

~OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW & SERVE~

Sunday Nov 27:

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class	10:15 a.m.

Monday Nov 28:

Dartball vs. Globe/Christie	7:00 p.m.
-----------------------------	-----------

Tuesday Nov 29:

Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
-----------------	-----------

Wednesday Nov 30:

Chapel	8:20 a.m.
--------	-----------

Thursday Dec 1:

Adult Instruction Class	5:30 p.m.
Handbells	6:00 p.m.
Choir	7:00 p.m.

Saturday Dec 3:

Ardes Seelow Funeral	11:00 a.m.
Church Decorating	1:00 p.m.

Sunday Dec 4:

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class	10:15 a.m.
Sunday School Teachers Meeting	11:30 a.m.
Advent for Women	2:00 p.m.

CHURCH NEWS

Advent: *Today is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation. The Church looks for the coming of her Savior in this threefold advent: his coming in the flesh; his return in judgment; his daily coming in Word and Sacrament. The Church encompasses all these facets of the season in the single word that defines Advent worship: "Come!" That single word is our invitation, our anticipation, our sure and certain hope. Come, Lord Jesus!*

The Advent wreath that has been placed in the front of the church has some special significance. The wreath is made up of evergreens, symbolizing the everlasting life found in Christ. Bending the branch to form a circle further symbolizes life without end in Christ.

The candles on the wreath remind us that Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the Light of the world, and they each have a special emphasis. The candles stand for hope, peace, joy (that explains the pink color), and love. The center candle is the Christ Candle. We will light the center candle on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The Altar Cloths are blue during Advent. Blue is the color of hope and anticipation, as we look forward to Jesus' coming.

Bible Class: *Bible Class will be held today after the worship service. We will continue with our study of "One by One." The focus of this study is on helping Christians understand why it is so important to see every soul as a treasure and why we want to be willing to spend the time and effort necessary to share the gospel with each one. Please join us in the church basement.*

Sunday School: *Sunday School will be held as normal after the worship service today.*

Wednesday Bible Class: *Because of the busyness of the season, we are taking a little break from our Wednesday Bible study. We will begin meeting again in January. Watch for updates in your bulletins.*

Tuesday Worship: *If you know someone who is out in the woods deer hunting today, please remind them about our church service Tuesday evening at 6:00 and encourage them to come.*

Based on a council decision that was made last January, we will be discontinuing our Tuesday worship services for the winter months. Our last Tuesday service of the season will be THIS WEEK. After that we will NOT have worship services on Tuesdays until the second week after Easter.

Cookie Decorating: *Our Pioneer group will be having a special meeting on Wednesday, December 7th, at 5:30 to decorate cookies and make cards to be put into care packages for our shut-in members. Some supplies are needed: cut-out sugar cookies, white frosting, apples, oranges, string cheese, and fudge. If you are able to help by donating any of these items, please contact Mrs. Shadrack at 715-897-0903. Thank you!*

Christmas Decorating-Time Changed: *Come and help decorate our house of worship for the Advent/Christmas season! Join us next Saturday, December 3rd, at 1:00 as we put*

up Christmas decorations and trees. Many hands make the work go quickly! (Please note the time change to accommodate the funeral next Saturday.)

Funeral: The funeral for Ardes Seelow, who was taken home to heaven this past Monday, will be held here in church this coming Saturday, December 3rd. Visitation will begin at 10:00, and the funeral will be held at 11:00. Let's keep her family and friends in our prayers as they look forward to a blessed reunion in heaven.

December Communion: We will alternate our style of serving communion in December to more easily accommodate the choir/bell concert on the 11th. Next Sunday we will have the continuous style of distribution, and on the 11th we will have the regular style of distribution (at the rail).

Women's Advent Program: Mark your calendars for next Sunday, December 4th! This year's Women's Advent program, being held at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement, is called "Countdown to Christmas." Using a Melissa & Doug Advent Calendar, it will provide a way for you and the child(ren) you love to bring a Christ-centered focus to your Christmas preparations. Moms are invited to bring their children along. **Invitations are available on the table in the church entryway. Please feel free to take one for yourself and as many as you would like to hand out to others.**

Bulletins/Website: Would you like to donate bulletins on a particular Sunday in 2023, or would you like to donate our website for one month? The new sign-up sheets for 2023 are available on the table in the entryway. Cost to donate bulletins is \$10.00 per Sunday, and cost to donate the website for one month is \$23.00. (Please note that the website cost went up by \$2 from previous years.)

If interested, please sign up on the sheet for the date you would like. Payment can be made any time throughout the year. Simply place the money in a marked envelope and put it in the offering basket.

12/18-Christmas Service: All students in grades K-8 will be presenting their children's Christmas service on Sunday, December 18th at 9:00 a.m. That will take the place of our regular worship service that day.

12/20-ELC Christmas Service: We will be having a special Christmas service for our 3K/4K students. The children will be presenting this service on Tuesday, December 20, at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Winter Apparel Order: Online ordering is available for Hornet and ELC apparel. More long-sleeve options are available for winter, as well as a variety of T-shirts. Check out the color and logo options for many of the items on the website. All ordering must be done online. Deadline to order is Thursday, December 1 at 11:59 p.m. Items ordered will be here before Christmas.

The order link is:

<https://stjohn22wi.itemorder.com/>

Meditations: The new edition of "Meditations," which starts today, is available in the entryway. Please consider a \$3.50 donation to help our GPS group cover the cost of providing these devotional booklets.

December Calendars: December calendars are available on the table in the entryway.

Advent Devotions: We have received free Advent Devotions from Martin Luther College, "Word Made Flesh: The Historical Reality of Christmas." The devotions start December 1. Discover how the gospels of John and Luke record the details of the incarnation—God becoming man. Each of the 25 devotions is prompted by a question about the historical accuracy of the Christmas account. Each reminds us that Christmas is not a sweet children's story or fairy tale. It is a historical event. We need a real flesh-and-blood Savior, one who stepped into human history, changing it—and us—forever. In our skeptical times, John and Luke help us reaffirm the objective reality of Christmas.

You will find these devotional booklets on the table in the entryway. Please feel free to take one!

You can also have these devotions emailed to you by subscribing on the MLC devotional subscription page. Contact the office if you have questions on how to do this.

Church Band Practice: Starting in December we are going to create a set time for our church band rehearsals. The first and third Tuesday of every month we will meet at 4:30 in the church

balcony. During these practice times, we will play music in preparation for future performances as well as working through liturgy music. This is also a good opportunity to keep us playing regularly.

Don't feel like you have to come to these practices every time, because we realize everyone is busy.

If you are able to play an instrument and are interested in joining our band, please feel welcome to join us for these rehearsals. No matter your experience level in music, anyone is welcome!

Hospitalized: *Ruth Meihak was hospitalized in Marshfield this past week. Let's keep her in our prayers.*

2023 Calendars for Sale: *Living Stones Youth Group is selling beautiful 2023 calendars with inspirational Scripture verses and plenty of room for writing birthdays, appointments, etc. in the date squares. Get one for \$8 for two for only \$15. Get yours today before they're gone! Make checks payable to Living Stones.*

WELS Weekly Prayer: *St. Peter, Milwaukee, Wis. – "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This confession by St. Peter is the foundation of the Church and the solid rock upon which believers build their lives. Lord, empower the members and ministers of St. Peter/San Pedro Lutheran Church in Milwaukee as they reach out to their neighbors who come from many backgrounds. Give them joy as they work together as brothers and sisters to bring many more to build their lives on Christ, who is the solid rock. Amen.*

Worship the Lord with Gladness:

Sunday: 78; Tuesday: 12

Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:

Thankoffering Given last week:

\$6,485.00 (Home); \$802.00 (Missions)



Holiday Service Schedule:

Sunday, December 11:

We will be enjoying our Choir/Handbell Christmas concert during the worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 18:

The children of our Lutheran Elementary School (Grades K-8) will be presenting their Christmas service in place of our regular worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 20:

The 3K/4K students will be presenting their Christmas program at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 24:

We will be having a special Christmas Eve song service at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25:

We will celebrate the birth of Christ during our worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 1:

We will celebrate the new year during our worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Please invite those you know to join us for these special services.



St. John's Lutheran Church & School

711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456

Email: stjohns1886@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnsneillsville.com

Facebook (church): www.facebook.com/stjohnsneillsville/

Facebook (school): www.facebook.com/stjohnshornets/

Tim Biebert, Pastor: 715-743-3015; 1fisheromen@gmail.com

--Church Office: 715-743-2944

Mike Allard, Principal: 715-937-7534; allardmj1@gmail.com

--School Office: 715-743-2501

John Hagedorn, Chairman: 715-743-4653;

hagedornjohnw2@gmail.com

Worship Schedule: Sundays at 9:00am & Tuesdays at 6:00pm

"Welcome Visitors & Members!"

To those who are visiting us for the first time, we extend our sincere welcome; to our friends who know us we renew our welcome; to those who seek a church home we invite you to be part of our family and enjoy fellowship with our Savior.

To assist you in worship, personal listening devices are available for anyone to use. Please talk to the ushers for assistance.

Visitors, if you would like to know more about our church or school, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can. Please sign our guest register which you will find in the entryway by the drinking fountain.

We love seeing young children in church as we want families to worship together. We also love to hear children making a "joyful noise to the Lord." If you need some privacy for feeding an infant or changing a diaper, please make use of our parents' room off the north side of the entryway where you can still listen to the service.