



He shall
be great
and shall be
called the
Son of the
Highest.

Luke 1:32

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

December 19/ 20, 2020

WELCOME!

This weekend's readings for our **Service of Lessons & Carols** are found in **Isaiah, Micah, Luke, Matthew, and John**. You can find a recording of the service on our website at www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com.



Preparing
FOR
Jesus

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

"Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and at length attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord."



And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

527 Taylor, Grand Haven, MI 49417

www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com

Church: (616) 842-4510

School: (616) 842-0260

For the Safety of Our Worshipers

For the safety of our worshipers, we ask that you please review the following:

Make yourself aware of all available exits. Exits can be accessed via all doors of our sanctuary (front and back).

In the event of a tornado or tornado warning, please move to our church basement which can be accessed via the stairs in the back of the church near the glass doors, or the stairs which can be accessed via either exit in the front of our sanctuary. For those who have difficulty with stairs, please proceed to one of the school bathrooms, the bathroom located in the back of the church, or allow others to assist you to the basement.

In the event of a fire, please use the nearest exit to vacate the building. Exits can be accessed via the doors in the front or the back of our sanctuary. If you have access to a cell phone, call 911.

In the event that someone seeks to inflict physical harm, take cover. When you feel you are able to safely vacate the building, immediately do so using the nearest exit and proceed to a safe location. If you have access to a cell phone, call 911.

For emergency medical needs, **an AED (defibrillator) and emergency phone are located in the lobby by the parking lot entranceway.**

While we pray that we never have to enact any of these plans, our hope is that this will allow you to be prepared. We also encourage you to let our elders or pastor know if you feel there is a potential threat at any time.

PRAYERS

Prayers for Strength & Healing: Gene Hasenbank's brother (many health issues), Bill Gierke, all patients in nursing home facilities, Connie, Jack & Bill (dialysis), Rickie & Betty (cancer), Chris & David (health issues), Pastor Luis & his mother in Mexico, Laura Koscielniak (cataract surgery), Jerene Turcotte (recently diagnosed with breast cancer), and Roxana Taylor (awaiting test results).

Prayers for Peace & Comfort: Priscilla Isabel's family as her mom, Wilma, is now at home with Jesus; Diane Howard's and Bruce Hass' family as their brother, Dan, passed away; Lonnie McClain's family (Rosie Anderson's brother-in law) as Lonnie passed away.

Prayers for Spiritual & Financial Support: Pregnancy Centers.

FOR PASTORAL NEEDS

If you would like our Pastor or an Elder to call you and/or pray with you, please contact the church office at (616) 842-4510 or office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com.

GIVING

Tithes & Offerings from last weekend **\$18,033.68** (General Fund) **\$2,135** (Other)
\$20,996.00 is needed weekly for our ministry

We encourage our members to consider giving their tithes and gifts through the online opportunities offered on our website at www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com/about-us/mobile-donations-and-tithing. Members can also contribute their gifts via mail **or you can now drop off your offering in the special lock box hanging near the entrance to our church and school** between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. ~ checks preferred (if cash is given please strive to drop off between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.). Please remember that we rely on these gifts for all the ongoing ministries of St. John's – both now and for the future.

WHAT'S THE LATEST NEWS

Register for Christmas Eve Services:

We are offering in-person services at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve. We will also livestream the 1 p.m. worship service. All of the worship services will be the same. Please register if you plan to worship in person by visiting our website, www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com. You can also call our office at 616-842-4510.

Advent Worship Services Online: This year, our theme for our Midweek Advent services and Christmas Eve will be **The Jesse Tree**. We provided our Midweek Advent services online this year. If you missed a worship service, you can re-watch the service by visiting www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com.

Daily Advent Devotions: Since we are unable to offer our traditional SJLS Christmas Program, the students of St. John's created daily devotional videos that follow our Jesse Tree devotional theme and readings. You can watch the videos as they are posted throughout Advent on our website, www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com.

Holiday Office Hours: As we quickly approach the Christmas holidays, the church office will be closed on the following dates:

- Wednesday, Dec. 23 through Friday, Dec. 25 (Christmas)
- Thursday, Dec. 31 and Friday, Jan. 1 (New Years)

If you have a pastoral need when the office is closed, call Pastor Kurt at (414) 736-1772.

Positive Options Virtual Giving Tree:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Positive Options, a service of the Lakeshore Pregnancy Center has continued serving clients facing an unplanned pregnancy. They are able to continue their services because of the community's support.

One of the ways to support Positive Options is by contributing to their Virtual Giving Tree. You can give virtually by visiting lpcenters.com/giving-tree.

New Year's Eve Worship: Ready to ring in the New Year? This year, please plan to join us as we offer a New Year's Eve service at 7 p.m. This service will include the celebration of the Lord's Supper.



Poinsettia Reminder: Thanks, again, to everyone who purchased a poinsettia this year. Our sanctuary is beautiful with all the flowers. Please remember that if you purchased a plant, you will be able to pick it up after the Christmas Day service, or during the weekend of December 26/27. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 616-842-4510 or Karen Lange at 616-607-8025.

Attendance: From last week...

Sat.: 5:00 – 18, Sun.: 8:15 – 42, 10:30 – 74;
Midweek Advent Service YouTube
Views: 79, Weekend Service YouTube
Views: 80 **Total: 293**



Lutherans for Life Quote: "As we look forward to Christmas dinner and the celebration of our Savior's birth, let us remember that Christ's coming into the world began with an unexpected pregnancy. Mary of Nazareth was unmarried and certainly had reason to be confused and afraid when she was asked to carry the Son of God. But she courageously let God's plan unfold for her and her Child and brought our Savior into this world, despite her uncertain circumstances." *Right to Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org.

Memorials & Honorariums: In memory of **Pat Batka** given to God's Pantry by **Karen Ralya**. In memory of **Judy Beverly** given to the General Fund by **Esther & Kenneth Green and Nancy Berg**.

Altar Flowers: Provided by **Sean & Krystle Ryke** in honor of Evelyn's 4th birthday.

Altar Flowers in 2021: If you would like to order flowers for the Altar in 2021, the new calendar is now posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please provide your name, phone number, and who the flowers are in honor or memory of. Payment for the flowers is \$50, and can be made with the envelopes provided by the sign up sheet. Your completed envelope can then be dropped in the offering plate during worship. Thanks to everyone who purchased flowers in 2020.

AmazonSmile Benefits Lutherans for Life: If you are an AmazonSmile customer, you can now support Lutherans For Life in the Amazon shopping app on your Android device! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations. If you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, open the App on your Android device. View Settings and select AmazonSmile. Follow the in-App instructions to complete the process.

ANNIVERSARIES

BRINGEDAHL, Al & Bonnie (46)	12/20	WOOD, Tim & Tracy (35)	12/22
KASCHUBE, Craig & Elizabeth (18)	12/21	ZILLINS, Bud & Marion (65)	12/25

BIRTHDAYS

ANKERSEN, Angie	12/20	LUTZ, Cathy	12/21	OHLENDORF, Samuel	12/25
ROTHER, Richard	12/20	MONTGOMERY, Craig	12/22	SIBLEY, Ted	12/25
THÔM, Brenda	12/20	HEYN, Stephanie	12/24	WADE, Matthew	12/25
VANDENBOSCH, Nancy	12/20	BATKA, Jessica	12/25	WADE, Michael	12/25

Did we miss your anniversary or birthday? We probably don't have it in our records. Contact the church office at (616) 842-4510 or office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com to let us know.