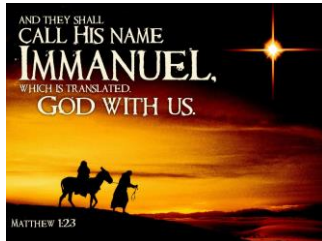


*The Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. John*  
*N1916 Church Road*  
*Peshtigo, Wisconsin 54157-9673*  
*Pastor Sargent 920-228-1061*

12/21/22



Christmas is almost here. Once again, we will hear the story of Jesus' birth and marvel at the name he was given—**Immanuel**. It is recorded in **Matthew 1:23**. This passage is very familiar. It is a verse recited by children all over the world on Christmas Eve and read again on Christmas day. The Bible verses of the Christmas story are some of the most well-known and well-loved verses of the Bible. But, sometimes the Word of God can become so commonplace in our lives that we can lose the eternal context and significance of God's plan and purpose.

As we go into this Christmas weekend, come to the services and look, once again, at the story with fresh eyes so you can grasp the enormity of that moment, when God was made flesh. How God, the all-powerful, holy creator of the world and the universe, laid aside His great glory and humbled Himself to come to earth as a helpless and vulnerable newborn baby. He came to live a life of humiliation, rejection, suffering, and pain, to be cursed and condemned by the cruelest method of execution imagined. Why? So that fallen humanity could be brought back into full fellowship with Him and one day see God face to face.

So, this Christmas Eve and Christmas day, set aside this familiarity that deadens our minds and numbs our perception of who God is. Take time to gaze in awe at God's Word with a renewed freshness and a heightened wonderment of the amazing reality that God Himself should become **Immanuel, God with us**.



There will be no Bible Study on December 25 and Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> January. Bible Sunday will return again as normal on Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup>.

*Pastor Daniel Sargent*

# The Songs of Christmas

## A Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

CHOIR

Baby in a Manger

INVOCATION

*Stand*

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

C: **And also with you.**

M: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God.

C: **He was with God in the beginning.**

M: The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory,

C: **the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1,14)**

M: Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Be Seated*

Sermon Text:

Matthew 1:22-25

<sup>22</sup>All this happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son. And they will name him Immanuel," which means, "God with us."

**"Immanuel," which means, "God with us."**

*Stand*

CHRISTMAS DAY RESPONSES

M: Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:

C: **Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

M: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving:

C: **And make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.**

M: Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

C: **Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

M: The dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death:

C: **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

M: Unto us the Child is born:

C: **Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

M: Lord Jesus, how can we show our joy and appreciation to You for leaving the glories of heaven to be our Brother and our Savior? We know of no better way than to use Your gift of music and raise our voices in song. Grant that as we sing songs of Christmas praise this morning... it will not be because we just love the tune; but rather that our hearts know no better way to express the love and peace You have brought us this happy day. And grant, Lord, that the praise that crosses our lips this morning may also be evident in the lives we live. Amen.

*Be seated*

HYMN

I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes - CW 51

### Isaiah's Carol to the Christ Child

#### Responsive Reading of Isaiah's Carol:

M: Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign:  
C: **The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and will call Him Immanuel. (Is.7:14)**  
M: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse:  
C: **From his roots a Branch will bear fruit.**  
M: The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him:  
C: **The Spirit of wisdom and of understanding.**  
M: The Spirit of counsel and of power;  
C: **The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. (Is. 11:1,2)**  
M: For to us a Child is born!  
C: **To us a Son is given!**  
M: And the government will be on His shoulders:  
C: **And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**  
M: 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.  
C: **The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this! (Is. 9:6,7)**

HYMN

A Great and Mighty Wonder - CW 36

### Mary's Carol to the Christ Child

#### Responsive Reading of Mary's Carol:

M: My soul glorifies the Lord  
C: **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,**  
M: for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant.  
C: **From now on all generations will call me blessed,**  
M: for the Mighty One has done great things for me—  
C: **holy is His name.**  
M: His mercy extends to those who fear Him,

C: **from generation to generation.**  
M: He has performed mighty deeds with His arm;  
C: **He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.**  
M: He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
C: **but has lifted up the humble.**  
M: He has filled the hungry with good things  
C: **but has sent the rich away empty.**  
M: He has helped His servant Israel,  
C: **remembering to be merciful**  
M: to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
C: **even as He said to our fathers.” (Luke 1:46-55)**

HYMN

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child - CW 56

## The Angel’s Carol to the Christ Child

### Responsive Reading of the Angel’s Carol

M: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.  
C: **An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.**  
M: 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.  
C: **Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.**  
M: This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”  
C: **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.” (Luke 2:8-14)**

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard On High - CW 63

## The Shepherd’s Carol to the Christ Child

### Responsive Reading of the Shepherd’s Carol

M: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,  
C: **“Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”**  
M: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph,  
C: **and the baby, who was lying in the manger.**  
M: When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child,  
C: **And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.**  
M: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.  
C: **The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. (Lk.2:15-20)**

*Please Stand*

### **THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

M: On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

**C: Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

M: What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

**C: Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.**

M: In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

**C: Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.**

M: As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

**C: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**

M: Lord, we pray in your name and as you taught.

**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.**

### **THE BENEDICTION**

M: May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

### **HYMN**

**Once In Royal David's City - CW 50**



**Offering:** *If you wish to give an offering, it can be placed in the plates on the usher table in the narthex.*

***Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas Day!***

**Welcome to All** Thank you for joining us in worship today, and a special welcome to our guests who are with us. May the Word and promise of our Lord's love for us in Jesus fill your heart and soul with his peace. If you are a guest with us today, please sign our guest book in the entrance area.

**Prayer Requests** Please remember the following in your prayers:

\*Birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations this week.

Contact Pastor Sargent for any prayer requests and to inform him of any family members entering the hospital.

Also, if you would like a special prayer put in the bulletin, please contact Brenda Polzin or email the request to [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.



**Adult Bible Study** Every Thursday at 6:00pm starting January 5, 2023, Zion, Peshtigo will be holding an Adult Bible Study. Everyone is welcome to join!!

**New Calendar** The January, 2023 calendar is available on the pedestal.



**Counting Teams** The new 2023 Counting Teams Schedule is available on the table. Please take one!!!

**2022 Contributions** Christmas Day will be the last Sunday in which we will be accepting contributions of any kind for the 2022 year. Thank you!

**2023 Offering Envelopes** We are getting together info for our 2023 offering envelope list. If you are currently receiving offering envelopes for 2022 and wish to discontinue receiving them for 2023 due to wanting to take advantage of the E-Giving Program or for other reasons, please contact Brenda Polzin by email at [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) or talk with her or Albert Kamps directly.



**Advent Wreath** Our Blessed thanks for donating the Advent wreath and candles in loving memory of Carl & Elfrieda Carlson from their family.



**Christmas Tree and Decorations** Our blessed thanks to the families for donating and decorating the Christmas tree and for the many decorations that beautify our church inside and outside.



**Ladies Aid and Men's Club** **SAVE THE DATE:** The congregation is invited to a potluck meal and Christmas party on Sunday, Jan. 8 after the church service in the church basement. Bring your family, a dish to pass, and beverages will be provided.

**Job Posting** Trinity Lutheran School, Marinette, is looking for a part-time janitor. The current position will be vacant starting January 1, 2023. The janitor works an average of 15 hours per week cleaning the school and will have up to 5 hours per week cleaning the church. The pay rate is \$14 per hour. If you or someone you know is interested in the position, please contact

Josh Danell at 715-732-2956 or principal@tismarinette.com.



**Sunday School** We are still looking for Sunday School Teachers. If you are interested in helping let Pastor Sargent know.

**Bible Study** There will not be Bible Study until after the holidays because the Sunday School Children will be practicing for the Christmas Eve Program here in church.



**Seroogy Candy Bars** St. John Lutheran Youth Group is selling Seroogy candy bars at the cost of \$1.50 each.

*At the request of congregation members, we will continue to sell candy bars for future events of the Youth Group!*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

**Homebound/Shut-ins** Please take note of our members who are not able to be with us at our Sunday services. Remember them in your prayers and if you are able, reach out to them with a card or a letter.

“We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:3)

JUNE SCHAUT  
The Cottages  
2006 Lake Park Dr Room #18  
Marinette, WI 54143

MARY ANN DENOWSKI  
1025 Pine Beach Rd  
Apt 226  
Marinette, WI 54143

BETTY SEEFELDT  
N1683 County W  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

CAROLINE TACKMIER  
751 East Highland Drive, #105  
Oconto Falls, WI 54154

HARRIET CHRISTECK  
831 Pine Beach Rd Room F2  
Marinette, WI 54143

KEN & BETTY NISCHKE  
W5497 Church Ln  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

CECILE SEEFELDT  
Rennes West  
501 N Lake St Room #214  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

LOIS SEEFELDT  
1637 Redtail Dr  
Hartford, WI 53027

DONNA SWANSON  
W6427 County Rd M East  
Coleman, WI 54112

**Livestream Volunteers** We are still in need of volunteers to help with the live-streaming. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sargent.



**2022 Altar Flowers Sign Up** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for special dates in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion.

**Weekly Bulletins** You can now find the weekly bulletins on our website(stjohnpeshtigo.org). Go to the website, click on “weekly bulletins”, then click on the link for the bulletin.

**Changes** To better help us keep our records up to date (address changes, landline disconnection, cell phone numbers, family members move, etc), it would be greatly appreciated if you could fill out a form which is located in the rack in back of church. You may return to any usher, Brenda Polzin, or Pastor.

**Worship & Daily Devotions on WOCO** The worship broadcast on WOCO AM 1260 today (11:00 am) is hosted by *Trinity, Marinette*. The daily devotions on WOCO AM (1260) & FM (107.1) this week (Monday-Friday at 9:05 am) are hosted by *St. Matthew, Pound*.

**Last Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

Those Who Joined Us in Worship 12/18/202	128
Live Stream Service 12/18/2022 (Households)	11
Sunday School/Bible Study 12/18/2022	21/
Average Sunday Attendance for the Year (51 weeks)	137

**This Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

**CHRISTMAS BREAK - HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY**

Monday	NO Zion Service
Tuesday	6:30pm Board of Education
Wednesday	NO Confirmation Class
Sunday	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY
	10:00am Worship Service w/Communion

Next Sunday's Counting Team: Team "C" - Matt & Ronda Lemke, Gup & Melissa Gannigan

**Offerings for the Lord's Work**

General Fund Income for 12/4/2022	\$ 5,818.25
General Fund Income for 12/11/2022	\$ 5,062.00
General Fund Income for 12/18/2022	\$ 6,595.75
Total General Fund Income (25 weeks)	\$142,908.54
Church Offering Goal: Weekly@\$6,000.00 (25 weeks)	\$150,000.00
(Projection - \$312,000)	
Total Church Offering Goal <b>DEFICIT</b>	-\$ 7,091.46
Tuition / School Choice (Projection - \$188,632)	\$ 30,947.50/71,391.50

**Included in General Fund Income Total:**

E-giving - \$1,987.75;

**Special Gifts & Offerings:**

Sunday School Missions - \$27; Church Organ - \$145; Ladies Aid - \$150; School Missions - \$30; Hot Lunch - \$60; CMO - \$1,250; Sunday School - \$125; LYG - \$128.50; Special Projects - \$500

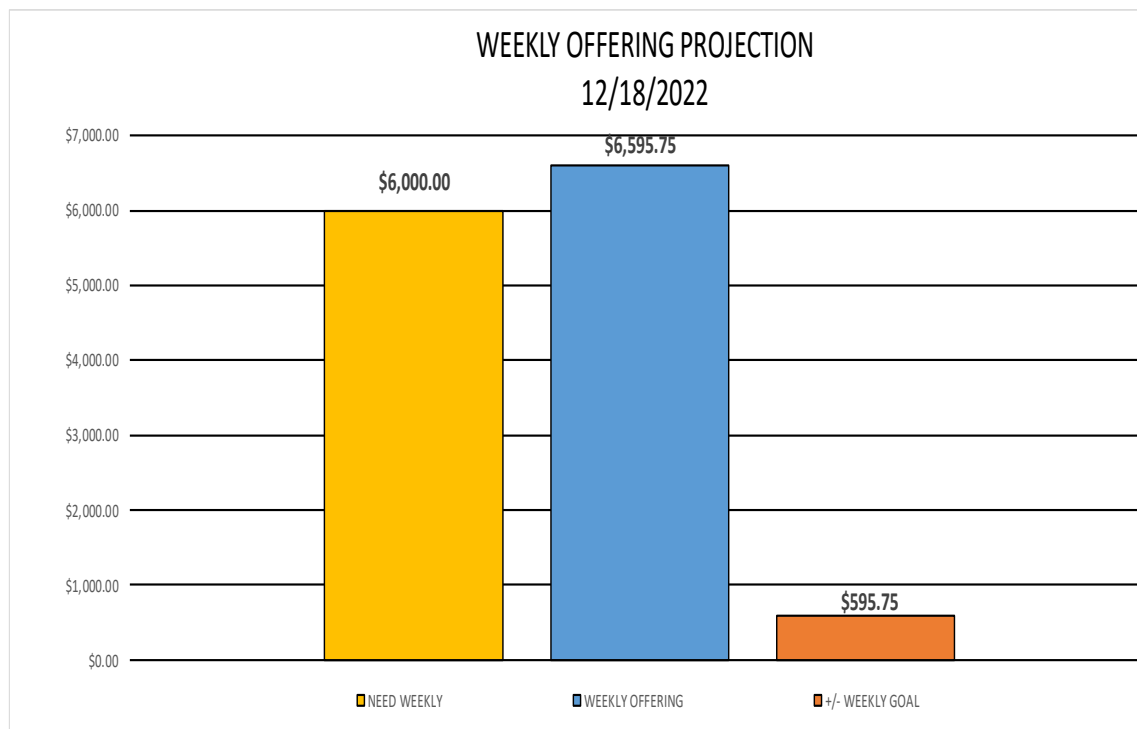
**Memorials & Special Gifts Received:**

General Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Shirlee Grom & Scott Grom/Family

General Fund - In memory of Ron Grom from Friends & Family of Ron Grom



Organ Fund - In memory of Ron Grom from Friends & Family of Ron Grom  
 General Fund - In memory of Doris Seefeldt from Joel & Laura Rohde  
 General Fund - In memory of Ron Grom from Joel & Laura Rohde  
 General Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Joel & Laura Rohde  
 General Fund - In memory of Ronald Carlson from Joel & Laura Rohde  
 St. John Sunday School - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Janet Lange  
 General Fund - In memory of Ron Carlson from Janet Lange  
 Organ Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Pastor Beck & Jacque Goldbeck  
 Organ Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Sheryl Bruemmer  
 Organ Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Bill & Darlene Nohr  
 Organ Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Cliff & Barbara Anderson  
 Missions - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Leonard Lemke  
 General Fund - In memory of Ron Carlson from Jim & Connie Seefeldt  
 Sunday School Fund - In memory of Leo Seefeldt from Steve & Shannon Bahde



***St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School Staff***

Pastor Daniel Sargent      Cell      920-228-1061

E-mail dsargentzambia@gmail.com

School Secretary-Lisa Sargent      Cell      920-228-1563

E-mail school@stjohnpeshtigo.org

Mr. Wesley Aguilar (Grades 6-8)      Office      715-582-4565

Cell      715-508-0630

Mrs. Ella Aguilar (Grades 3-5)      Cell      920-277-3367

Mrs. Susan Myslik (Grades K-2)      Cell      507-327-4421

Mrs. Becky Rohde (Preschool)      Cell      715-923-5826  
Church/School Website      [www.stjohnpeshtigo.org](http://www.stjohnpeshtigo.org)  
Church Secretary-Brenda Polzin      Cell      920-660-5801  
Email [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com)

Office hours @ St. John School  
Wednesday 7:30am-2:30pm  
Thursday 7:30am-2:30pm

1

### Poinsettias

#### In Loving Memory of:

*In loving memory of Gerald Sargent, Elroy & Carole Siebert from  
Pastor & Lisa Sargent*

*In loving memory of Russell & Lucille Schonfeld & Loved Ones from  
the Schonfeld Family*

*In loving memory of Christopher Mylener from Lee & Susan Mylener*

*In loving memory of Roy & Burnette Marquardt from Paul  
Marquardt & Family*

*In loving memory of Gottlieb & Alice Gannigan from Rob & Joy  
Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Larry & Claryce Rohde from Rob & Joy Rohde  
Family*

*In loving memory of Terry Gannigan from Rob & Joy Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Bill & Marion Marquardt from Rob & Joy  
Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Grandparents, David & Audrey Weed from  
Michele & Alex Sobeck*

*In loving memory of Anita Kaus from David Kaus & Family*

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Lange Family*

*In loving memory of Ann Lemke from Lemke Family*

*In loving memory of Tom Lemke from Lemke Family*