



Third Sunday *of* Advent

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. John

N1904 Church Road

Town of Grover – Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Pastor Sargent—920-228-1061

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

*3rd Sunday in Advent
December 13, 2020*

**Pastor Daniel Sargent
Jim Seefeldt**

Dan Maedke, Brenda Polzin, Lisa Sargent

**Pastor
Organist
Counting Team**

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.

Large Print Bulletins Large print editions of today's bulletin and Scripture lessons are available from one of the ushers. Please request one if it is needed.

Prayer Requests Please remember the following in your prayers:

*Birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations this week.

*Family and Friends of Darrell Dumke who mourn his death.

*Joshua Wallace Booth Mauritz, son of Benjamin Pettit & Rebecca Mauritz, who received God's washing of Holy Baptism during a School Chapel Devotion. May the Lord bless and keep this child in his baptismal grace.

*Connor Allen Seefeldt, son of Brandon and Renee Seefeldt, who received God's washing of Holy Baptism after the service last Sunday. May the Lord bless and keep this child in his baptismal grace. 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 by Thursday mornings.



Our Christmas Eve Service this year will be held at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm on the December 24th. The children's recitations and songs will be pre-recorded and shown during the service. The congregation will also participate. We are asking members to sign up in advance for the service you what to attend. Due to the current Covid restrictions, we need to limit the attendance at each service to 100.

To sign up, click on one of the following links. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4FACAA2AA0F85-400> <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4FACAA2AA0F85-700>

If you are not able to sign up on line place contact Pastor Sargent and he can help top sign you up. 920- 228-1061



Poinsettias A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for our Christmas decorations. Please note if the flowers are in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion.

Christmas/New Year's Worship Services

December 24 4:00pm St. John Children's Service (pre-recorded with Congregation participation)

December 24 7:00pm St. John Children's Service (pre-recorded with Congregation participation)

December 25 10:00am Christmas Day Worship Service

December 31/January 1 There will not be any New Year's Eve/New Year's day services.

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



Advent Wreath Our Blessed thanks to Mrs. Barbara Dumke for donating the Advent wreath and candles in loving memory of her parents, Carl & Elfrieda Carlson.

Bible Study: The Christian in Today's World

The 12th recording of the Bible Study will be posted on our YouTube page Sunday, December 13.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ8tkCadzLHuxGWLhovgl8Q>

We will be on part 2 of Lesson 6 called The Christian Living in Any Environment. This is the last lesson in the Bible Study. Copies of the Bible Study are on the Website and copies for each week's lesson will be available at the Sunday Worship service on the table in the entrance. Please join Pastor for that Bible Study.



**Sunday School
Attention Parents!**



We are on Lesson number 1 in the Winter Lessons called The Fall of Jericho found in Joshua 6:1-25. Please let your Sunday School Teacher or Pastor know if you are having any trouble getting the lessons. We know this is a difficult time because of the pandemic. As of now, we are not able to hold in-person classes. We are very concerned about Sunday School want to make sure parents and children are getting the lessons they need. If you have any questions or concerns you can also call Pastor Sargent (920) 228-1061.

Note: The Lesson Packets for The Winter Lessons are available for pick up. Parents will find them on the table at church.

Click on <https://online.nph.net/ss-remote> to view the videos.



Advent Services St. John in Grover and Trinity in Coleman are working together to hold Advent Services this year. Services at St. John will be held at 2:00pm. The service at Trinity is at 6:00pm. We are inviting members from both congregations to come to the service they would like to attend. Pastor Langebartels and Pastor Sargent will be working together to lead these worship services. The last service is this Wednesday, December 16th .

100th Anniversary Celebration of the Church Organ

A Committee for celebrating the 100th Anniversary of our Church Organ is being assembled. They will help plan the program for this special Celebration to be scheduled in February, 2021. Erin Pape has volunteered to chair this organizing committee. If you would like to help with the planning and implementing of this celebration, please contact Erin at erinpape@gmail.com or 262-352-8762.

Altar Guild We are looking for additional ladies to help with the duties of Altar Guild. If you are interested, please contact Charlene Hurley at 715-789-2333 for more information.

2020 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 Grace, Crivitz. The daily devotions on WOCO AM (1260) & FM (107.1) this week (Monday-Friday at 9:05 am) are hosted by St. Paul, Oconto Falls, by Pastor Matthew Arnold.

Last Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran

Mid-Week Advent Service (12/2/2020)	20
Those Who Joined Us in Worship (12/6/2020)	53/57
Average Sunday Attendance for the Year (38 weeks)	120
(does not include the 10 weeks of no service)	

This Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran

Monday	6:00pm Church Council
	6:30pm Zion Service
Tuesday	6:30pm Board of Elders
Wednesday	2:00pm Advent Service at St. John
	4:30pm Confirmation Class (4:30-6pm)
	6:00pm Advent Service at Trinity, Coleman
Friday	8:20am School Chapel Devotion
Sunday	8:30am Worship Service & Holy Communion
	10:00am Worship Service & Holy Communion

Next Sunday’s Counting Team: Team “B” - Dave Kaus, Paul Marquardt, Burnette Marquardt, Darlene Nohr

Offerings for the Lord’s Work

General Fund Income for 11/22/2020	\$ 3,274.75
General Fund Income for 11/29/2020	\$ 8,073.38
General Fund Income for 12/6/2020	\$ 9,463.52

Total General Fund Income (23 weeks)	\$168,438.26
Budget Needs Weekly at \$6,932.46 (23 weeks)	\$159,446.58
Total BUDGET SURPLUS in Offerings	\$ 8,991.68
Borrowed Funds for Current Operating Expense	\$ 0.00

Included in General Fund Income Total:

E-giving - \$1,738.52

Special Gifts & Offerings

Church Organ - \$505; Gym/Fellowship/Bldg - \$1,005; LYG - \$5;
 Future Church Workers - \$500; CMO - \$1,615; Debt Reduction - \$285; School Undesignated - \$1,000

Memorials & Special Gifts Received:

General Fund - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

Choir Fund - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

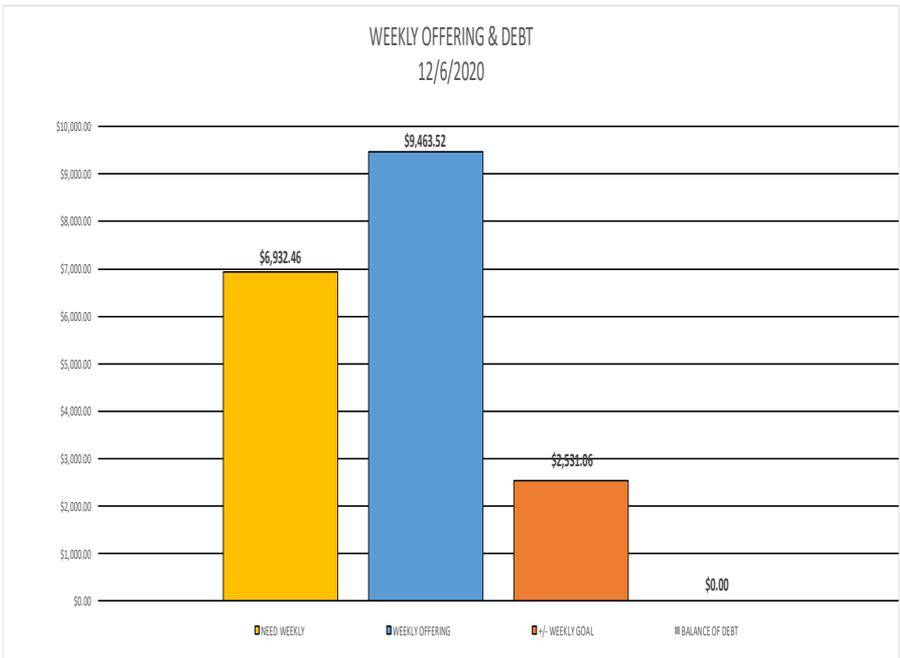
School Undesignated - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

CMO Fund - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

Future Church Workers - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

Gym/Fellowship/Bldg Fund - In memory of Claryce Rohde from Rohde Family

LARGER VIEW OF THIS BAR GRAPH IS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD



E-giving(Online Giving) This is an optional program and you can opt in or out at any time. There will be three methods to donate to our church. Here's how:

*Go to our website-stjohnpeshtigo.org. Click on the "Online Giving" tab (right side of screen). That'll take you directly to our E-giving webpage. Click on "create profile" and follow steps for adding transaction. The church incurs fees for debit/credit cards. You can help offset those fees by clicking on the button "help offset" (first time setup transaction only). These amounts will be added to your annual contribution statement.

NEW FEATURE!! On donation page, under optional - select from dropdown menu and put in name/message you wish to have applied to the donation.

**GivePlus Church (smartphone app) - Download the app through "apple store (i-phone)" or "play store (android)". Create your online profile and follow the steps for adding a transaction. Search for our church by either typing the zip code (54157), typing "Ev. Lutheran Church of St. John, Grover, WI", or turn your locations on and "search for churches near me". With this method you can also help offset fees the church incurs for ACH transactions ONLY(bank routing) by clicking on the button "help offset"(first time setup transaction only).

***Smartphone thru a QR scan code. You must download any "QR code reader" app. Open the app and scan the QR code(to the right). It'll take you directly to our e-giving webpage. Create your online profile and follow steps for adding transaction.



If you are a participant in this program already, THANK YOU!

Information is in the back of church to help guide you. Please don't hesitate to contact Brenda Polzin(920-660-5801) or Dave Kaus(715-923-9494) if you have any questions or need help setting it up.

LITURGY—Service of the Word - page 38

December 13, 2020

OPENING HYMN: CW 14 - Arise, O Christian People

1 Arise, O Christian people!

Prepare yourselves today.

Prepare to greet the Savior,

Who takes your sins away.

To us by grace alone

The truth and light was given;

The promised Lord from heaven

To all the world is shown.

2 Prepare the way before him;

Prepare for him the best.

Cast out what would offend him,

This great, this heav'nly guest.

Make straight, make plain the way:

The lowly valleys raising,

The heights of pride abasing,

His path all even lay.

3 The humble heart and lowly

God raises up on high;

Beneath his feet in terror

The haughty soul shall lie.

The heart sincere and right,

That heeds God's invitation

And makes true preparation --

It is the Lord's delight.

4 Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus;

Turn not from me aside,

And help me to receive you

This blessed Adventtide.

From stall and manger low

Come now to dwell within me;

I'll sing your praises gladly

And forth your glory show !”

Stand

INVOCATION

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.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

OH, TASTE AND SEE

♪ **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

Your Word, O Lord, is eternal;

it stands firm in the heavens.

Your faithfulness continues forever.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

M: Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 61:1-3, 10-11

The Spirit of the LORD God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the afflicted. He sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for those who are bound, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion, to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a faint spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD to display his beauty. 10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD. My soul will celebrate because of my God, for he has clothed me in garments of salvation. With a robe of righteousness he covered me, like a bridegroom who wears a beautiful headdress like a priest, and like a bride who adorns herself with her jewelry. 11 For as the earth produces its growth, and as a garden causes what has been sown to sprout up, so God the LORD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up in the presence of all the nations.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 71 (page 92)

♪ Refrain: **Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.**

♪ In you, O LORD, I have taken 'refuge;*
let me never be 'put to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your 'righteousness;*
turn your ear to me and 'save me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can always go;*
For you are my rock and my 'fortress.

Refrain: Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Since my youth, O God, you have 'taught me,*
and to this day I declare your 'marvelous deeds.

Even when I am 'old and gray,*
do not forsake me, O God,

till I declare your power to the next 'generation,*
your might to all who 'are to come.

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: Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

16 Rejoice always. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In everything give thanks. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 Do not extinguish the Spirit. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 But test everything. Hold on to the good. 22 Keep away from every kind of evil. 23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10 cf. NIV)

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON**JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28**

6 There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. 19 This is the testimony John gave when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed and did not deny. He confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "Who are you then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" "No," he answered. 22 Then they asked him, "Who are you? Tell us so we can give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' just as Isaiah the prophet said." 24 They had been sent from the Pharisees. 25 So they asked John, "Why then do you baptize, if you are not the Christ, or Elijah, or the Prophet?" 26 "I baptize with water," John answered. "Among you stands one you do not know. 27 He is the one coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." 28 These things happened in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: ♪ Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED**HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 23 - Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel**

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to you, O Israel!

2 Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free
 Your own from Satan's tyranny;
 From depths of hell your people save,

And bring them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

3 Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

4 Oh, come, O 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

SERMON TEXT: Isaiah 61:1-3, 10, 11

Theme: Emmanuel—God with us!

STAND

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 on 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.

PRAYER

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.

BE SEATED

HYMN: CW 12 - Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

2 He comes the captives to release,
In Satan's prison held.
The gates of brass before him burst;
The iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
To enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With your beloved name.

Stand

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

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: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 62 - Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make his blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness

And wonders of his love,

And wonders of his love,

And wonders, wonders of his love

Have A Blessed Week!



