**1st Sunday of Advent December 3, 2023**

 St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

4527 Second St. P.O. Box 206
Port Hope, MI 48468

stjohnsec@stjohnporthope.org [www.stjohnporthope.org](http://www.stjohnporthope.org)

Church Office: 989-428-4140Pastor home/parsonage: 989-428-3305

Pastor: Rev. David A. Dodge Secretary: Sally Arndt

**WELCOME**! It’s our privilege to have you join us in being in the Presence of our Lord and Savior! At St. John, we follow the historic Liturgy of the Christian Church, which highlights the Biblical understanding of the True worship of God: *first and foremost*, that He Comes into our presence to give us His Saving Gifts (“Divine Service”) in His Word and Sacraments; and then, in *response,* we thank and praise Him in word and song, and pray for His continued Blessings.

**Who should receive Holy Communion at St. John?:** *All Confirmed members* are invited to Commune, who are sorry for their sins and wish to be Forgiven and Strengthened. Also, *visitors from other L.C.-M.S. and T.A.A.L.C. churches*, who fit the same description, are welcome. So that no one else might eat and drink in Judgment of their sins (1 Cor. 11:29), *all others are asked to refrain* from Communing. If you’re in doubt, please see Pastor or an Elder.

Prelude

**Opening Hymn:** “The Advent of Our King” ~ ***LSB* #331**

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** “Divine Service, *Setting 3”* ***LSB* pp.184ff**

 *Introit* (see 1st white insert**;** read responsively by half Verse)

 “Growing as One” (see blue insert)

 Readings (see back white insert)

 Gradual (see front of same insert; read responsively by half Verse).

**Hymn of the Day:** “Savior of the Nations, Come ~ ***LSB* #332 (memory)**

**Sermon**: “Waiting for Christ”*1 Cor. 1:3-9*

**Distribution Hymns:**

“O God, My Faithful God” ~ ***LSB* #696**

“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” ~ ***LSB* #348**

“Hark the Glad Sound” ~ ***LSB* #349**

**Closing Hymn:** “Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors” ~ ***LSB* #339**

Postlude

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**SPECIAL STEWARDSHIP OFFERING:** A total of **$630** was collected from this year’s special “Stewardship Month” (October) free will offering. This will be sent to the **Higher Things** Lutheran youth organization. Thank you for your generosity!

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 **STEWARDSHIP OF PARTICIPATION**

**DATE: SERVICE             ATTENDANCE   COMMUNION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 11-26: 8:00 | 45 |  40 |
| 11-26: 10:00 | 44 | 34 |
| 11-26: Total |  89 | 74 |
| 11-26: S.S. / B.C. | 4 / 5 |  |
| 11-23: Thanksgiving | 49 |  48 |
| 11-29: Bible Study | 6 |  |

 **STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE**

**TODAY**

**Organist**: Tom Grills

**Ushers (8/10):** Marv Woodke, Larry Johnson, Jeff Kowaleski / Greg Woodke, Ty Woodke

**Elder(s) (8/10):** Greg Woodke / Gary Eggert

**Acolyte** **(8/10):** Jett Zimmerman / Logan Iseler

**Altar Guild**: Vicki Koglin

**NEXT SUNDAY****Organist:** Kristen Weiss

**Ushers (****8/10):** Marv Woodke, Larry Johnson, Jeff Kowaleski / Greg Woodke, Ty Woodke

**Elder(s) (8/10):** Rick Finkel / Don Clark

**Acolyte** **(8/10):** Maddix Thoms / Brady Iseler

**Altar Guild**: Vicki Koglin

 **LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY**

**READINGS** **HYMNS**

**Psalm**: 85 347
**O.T.: Isaiah 40:1-11** **344**

**Epistle:** 2 Peter 3:8-14 338, 515, 343

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8 341

 **October – December *Portals of Prayer*** are available in the entryway basket.

The **December *Lutheran Witness*** (with ***Michigan In Touch***) is available on the entryway table.

**December newsletters** are in your mailboxes.

**A friendly reminder: Newsletter submissions** are due to the

 church office by the 15th of the month preceding the month for

publishing. **Bulletin announcements** are due to the church office by Thursday (9:00am) before the Sunday to be published, in writing.

**2023 Flower Chart** is up on the window in the entryway. Please sign up on your special occasion dates to provide flowers to beautify our Chancel; or call Vicki Koglin at **989-225-7060.**

**2024 Offering Envelopes** are available in the entryway.

**THIS WEEK at ST. JOHN**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sun.: | 8:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, pp.184ff. |
|  | 9:00 | Sunday School / Bible Class |
|  | 10:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, pp.184ff. |
| Mon.: | 7:00 | **Ladies Aid Christmas Party** |
| Wed.: | 10:30 | Bible Study |
|  | 12:00 | Advent service, pp.260ff. |
|  | 7:00 | Advent service, pp.260ff. |
| Sat.: | 9:00 | Tree Decorating |
| Next Sun.: | 8:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, pp.184ff. |
|  |  | **Holy Baptism:** Westynn Hart |
|  | 9:00 | Sunday School / Bible Class |
|  | 10:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, pp.184ff. |

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday (*Pastor*): **9am – 1pm; 2 - 3pm;** *(Sally):* **9am – 12 pm**

Tuesday (*Pastor)*: **9am – 12pm**

Wednesday (*Pastor & Sally*): **9am – 12pm**

Thursday *(Pastor)*: **9am – 12pm**

Friday *(Pastor & Sally)*: **9am – 12pm**

Please call ahead to ensure that someone is in at (989) 428-4140

**2022 Debt Fund**

|  |
| --- |
| **January - December 31, 2023** |
| Total NeededReceived (11-27-2023) Received year to date Amount Still Needed  |  $ 27,000.00 $ 220.00  $ 4,970.00  $ 22,030.00  |

**BUDGETED FINANCE REPORT - *Not Including Special Accounts***

|  |
| --- |
| **January - December 31, 2023** |
| Needed per count Received (11-27-2023) Needed year to date Received year to date  |  $ 8,540.00 $ 7,650.00 $ 179,340.00  $ 161,940.00  |

Bulletins provided by Ramsey Funeral Home, Harbor Beach, MI Phone 800-251-8699

**PRAYER LISTS** The following members and friends areknown to be in the

hospital, ailing or recovering and are in need of our prayers, cards, and visits.

**MEMBER PRAYERS:**
Rosemary Koglin; Jennifer Kelley; Earl Reinke; Alice Schave; Bryce Schave; Norma Johnson

**SHUT-INS:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Yvonne Fuhrman   | Jack Noble (Meadow Lane, B.A.) | Jeffrey Schave |
| Norma Johnson | Jeanette Piotter(Lakeview E.C., H.B.) | Sandy Struble(Meadow Lane, B.A.) |
| Joyce Koglin (Meadow Lane, B.A.)  | Erwin Schave(Lakeview E.C., H.B.) | Jeannie Woodke (Huron Co. Medical) |
| Elmer/Ruth Leese | Gary Schave(Meadow Lane, B.A.) | Arlene Zelz(Sanilac Co. Medical) |

 **FRIENDS:**

Isabel Mix (great-granddaughter of Elmer & Ruth Leese)

Reecilyn Joy (daughter of Michael and Julie Joy)

Gordon Summers

Karen Kreh (daughter of Joyce Koglin)

Daryl Sengstock

Natalie Morgan (daughter of Shannon Popour’s co-worker)

David Sias (great-grandson of Elmer & Ruth Leese)

Debbie Pokora (sister-in-law of Mary Eggert)

Jaxon Bates (infant great-grandson of Elmer & Ruth Leese)

Duane Schave

Hubert Korroch (father of Becky Dodge)

Ryder Finkel (6-year-old grandson of Don & Linda Finkel)

Daniel Polega

Family of Beverly Lasceski (sister of Terry Reinke)

**In Memory of Beverly Lasceski a monetary gift has been given to St. John Lutheran Trustee Fund:** Terry & Shelly Reinke

**St. John Ladies Aid** invites all ladies to come out for an evening of laughs **tomorrow, Monday, December 4th, at 7PM** to the **Annual Christmas party**. Bring at least one wrapped gift worth $5 or more (or you can bring as many as you want). One of our auctioneers (Pastor, Harold, or Larry) randomly grabs a gift off the table and the ladies bid on it. Ladies Aid will match the amount raised and proceeds are donated to charity. In 2022 a total of $1,416 was donated to our Barnabas Fund, Huron County Safe Place, and the Harbor Beach/Port Hope Food Pantry. Join in the fun and help to raise money for wonderful causes. Oh, and bring a dozen cookies. We will eat some and save the rest to be put in the Christmas fruit baskets for our members aged 80 and over and our shut-ins.

**Ladies Aid** will be putting together **Fruit Baskets** on **December 16th @ 9am**.  We are in need of volunteers to either help assemble the baskets and to deliver.  Please contact Denee @ (989) 428-3034 if you are able to help.  Thank you!

**Christmas Program:** The annual Christmas Program will be on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24, at 7:00 pm**. Members of all ages are welcome to participate. Please contact Albert Bender (989-553-4484) or Sally Arndt (989-553-4386) if you’d like to be a part of this annual event.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost, Saginaw** (8220 E. Holland Rd. [M-46]), will host its **27th annual “LIVING NATIVITY – A JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM”** **today Sunday, Dec. 3 (6 – 8pm)**. Experience the sights and sound of Bethlehem on that Blessèd Night when Jesus Christ was Born. This is a free 30-minute outdoor walk, so dress for the weather. Fellowship and refreshments will follow in the school. For more information call **989-754-0929** or visit [**www.frankentrost.org**](http://www.frankentrost.org) or **Facebook** (Living Nativity Frankentrost).

Huron County Right to Life is sponsoring a pro-life t-shirt design contest for teens. The winning designer will receive $200 cash. The winning entry will be given out to all attendees of the 2024 Pro-life Teen Rally in March.  Entry deadline is January 5, 2024. Please submit your prol-life t-shirt design with slogan to HURONRTL@gmail.com.

**A Smile from Becky:**

