**St. Stephen, *Martyr* December 26, 2021**

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: Kathy Schave

**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 are in doubt, please see Pastor or an Elder.

Prelude

**Opening Hymn: *LSB* #389** ~ “Let all Together Praise Our God”

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Divine Service, *Setting 3*, ***LSB* pp.184ff.** *Introit* (See first white insert**;** read responsively by half Verse.)

 “Growing as One” (See white insert.)

 Readings (See back of first white insert.)

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

**Hymn of the Day:** “The Son of God Goes Forth to War”~ ***LSB* #661 (memory)**

 **Sermon**: “St. Stephen” *Matthew 23:35-39*

**Distribution Hymns:** “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” ~ ***LSB* #624** “O Sing of Christ” ~ ***LSB* #362**  “By All Your Saints in Warfare” ~ ***LSB* #517:1,7,3**

**Closing Hymn:** “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” ~ ***LSB* #386**

Postlude

***2022*** **Offering envelopes** are now available in the entryway.

 **STEWARDSHIP OF PARTICIPATION**

**DATE: SERVICE             ATTENDANCE   COMMUNION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 12-19-21: 8:00  | 54 | 50 |
| 12-19-21: 9:30  | 45 | 38 |
| 12-19-21: Total | 99 |  88 |
| 12-22-21: Bible Study |  7 |  |
| 12-22-21: Advent noon |  19 |  |
| 12-22-21: Advent 6pm |  19 |  |

 **STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE**

**TODAY**

**Organist**: Jenna Arndt

**Ushers (8/9:30):** Marvin Woodke, Larry Johnson, Jeff Kowaleski /
 Greg Woodke, Ty Woodke, Robert Schulte

**Elder(s) (8/9:30):** Galen Young / Larry Reinke

**Acolyte (8/9:30):** Jentry Zimmerman / Olivia Woodke

**Altar Guild:** Vicki Koglin

**NEXT SUNDAY
Organist**:

**Ushers** **(8/9:30):** Galen Young, Kevin Arndt, Trent Popour, Garth Popour /
Don Clark, Dylan Burton, Randy Schulte

**Elder(s) (8/9:30):** Joe Landenberg / Gary Eggert

**Acolyte** **(8/9:30):** Logan Iseler / Wyatt Hoody

**Altar Guild**: Linda Schave/ Irene Pilaske

**LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY**

 **READINGS** **HYMNS**

 **Psalm**: 77:11-20 390

 **O.T.:** Genesiss 46:1-7 385
**Epistle:** 1 Peter 4:12-19 685, 374, 372

 **Gospel:** Matthew 2:13-23 389

 **Jan. – March** ***Portals of Prayer*** are available in the entryway.

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

 **December newsletters** are in the entryway for pickup.

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

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

 publish. **Bulletin announcements** are due to the church office by

 Wednesday (9:00am) before the Sunday to be published in writing.

 **Barnabas Fund:** This fund is for the purpose of providing financial help for those in emergency need. Please consider donating toward this endeavor.

**THIS WEEK at ST. JOHN**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sun:  | 8:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, p.184 |
|  | 9:30 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, p.184 |
| Mon- Tues |  | Pastor Vacation |
| Mon: | 7:00 | Finance  |
| Wed: | 10:30 | Bible Study  |
| Thurs:  | 7:30 | **Long Range Planning** |
| Fri: |  | **Eve of the Circumcision & Name of Jesus – New Year’s Eve** |
|  | 4pm | Worship w/Communion(“Comm. of the Faithful Departed”) |
| Next Sun: | 8:00 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, p.184 |
|  | 9:30 | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion, p.184 |

Monday: **Office Closed**Tuesday: **Office Closed**Wednesday: (*Pastor*) **10:30am – 1pm**Thursday: (*Pastor & Kathy*): **9am – 12pm**  Friday: (*Pastor & Kathy* ): **9am – 12pm**Please call ahead to ensure that someone is in at 989-428-4140.

**Stained Glass Window Fund**

Total Needed: $190,000.00

Received so far $138,025.00 Finance Board (12-13-21) $ 175.00

Amount Still Needed: $ 51,975.00

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

|  |
| --- |
| **January - December 31, 2021** |
| Needed per count Received (12-13-21) Needed year to date Received year to date  |  $ 8,150.00 $ 9,200.00  $187,450.00 $157,060.00  |

.

Bulletins provided by Ramsey Funeral Home, Harbor Beach, MI Phone 800-251-8699 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
***St. Stephen, Martyr***

The Christ is Born in the land of Judah, but His own people will not receive Him. As it was in the days of Joash, so it is also in the days of Herod and Pilate. The LORD *“Sent Prophets among them to bring them back to the Lord … but they would not pay attention”* (2 Chron. 24:19). As Zechariah was being stoned, he cried out, *“May the Lord see and avenge!”* (2 Chron. 24:22). But the Infant Jesus has Come to Save and to Forgive. Today, the Church remembers St. Stephen, the first Martyr after Christ’s Ascension. His confession recalled the stiff-necked, uncircumcised hearts and ears of Judah that would not receive the Righteous One (Acts 7:51–52). But as his body was being stoned and his spirit Received by the Lord Jesus, Stephen cried, *“Lord, do not hold this sin against them”* (Acts 7:59–60), bearing witness to the One who also said, *“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do”* (Luke 23:34). On the second day of Christmas, our thoughts are already directed to Christ’s Atoning death to Save rebels like us, and to the Vision Stephen saw: Heaven is Open to us, Christ is Reigning at God’s Right Hand, and no sin, death, or foe can stop Him.

**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**

Ron Mausolf; Jack & Carol Noble; Phyllis Will; Audrey Zinger; Willard & Ramona Reinke; Family of Elaine Eggert

**SHUT-INS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Arnold Brown | Hugh Harwood(Courtney Manor, B.A.)  | Willard/Ramona Reinke |
|   | Charlie Koglin  | Jeffrey Schave |
| Sharon Fuhrman  | Elmer/Ruth Leese  | Wally Schave |
| Yvonne Fuhrman  | Jack/Carol Noble (Meadow Lane, B.A.) | Arlene Zelz(Lakeview E.C., H.B.) |

**FRIENDS**

Brendan Durkee (grandson of Merle & Patsy Eggert)

Riley Durkee (granddaughter of Merle & Patsy Eggert)

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

Reecilyn Joy (daughter of Michael and Julie Joy)

Gordon Summers

Lloyd Karg (brother of Carol Clark)

Howard Schmaltz (brother of Janet Weiss)
Karen Kreh (daughter of Joyce Koglin)

Sally Brade (friend of Marv & Vicki Koglin)

Daryl Sengstock

Lori Pedrotte (daughter of Rodney & Janet Weiss)

Bonnie Keiser (Susan Reinke’s daughter)

**2022 Flower Chart** is up on the wall 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.**

**In Loving Memory of my Husband, Marvin H. Koglin, who passed way 4 years ago on Dec 20th a monetary gift has been given to St. John Ev. Lutheran Stained Glass Fund:** Joyce Koglin.

**In Loving Memory of my Elaine Finkle, a monetary gift has been given to St. John Ev. Lutheran Stained Glass Fund:** Gary & Bev Finkel.

**Thank you** to everyone **who cleaned the Church** following the Painting Project and to those who were part of the planning to have the church painted.