

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon:	1:00 PM	Naomi Guild
Tues:	Parish Nurse in Office 7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study
Wed:	7:30 AM 8:15 AM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Prayer at the Pole Chapel/Advent Service Public School Confirmation Midweek Advent Service Worship Choir
Thurs:	1:30 PM	Sara Bible Study
Fri:	6:00 PM	Fellowship Game Night
Sun:	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM	Divine Service Bible Study/Sunday School Worship



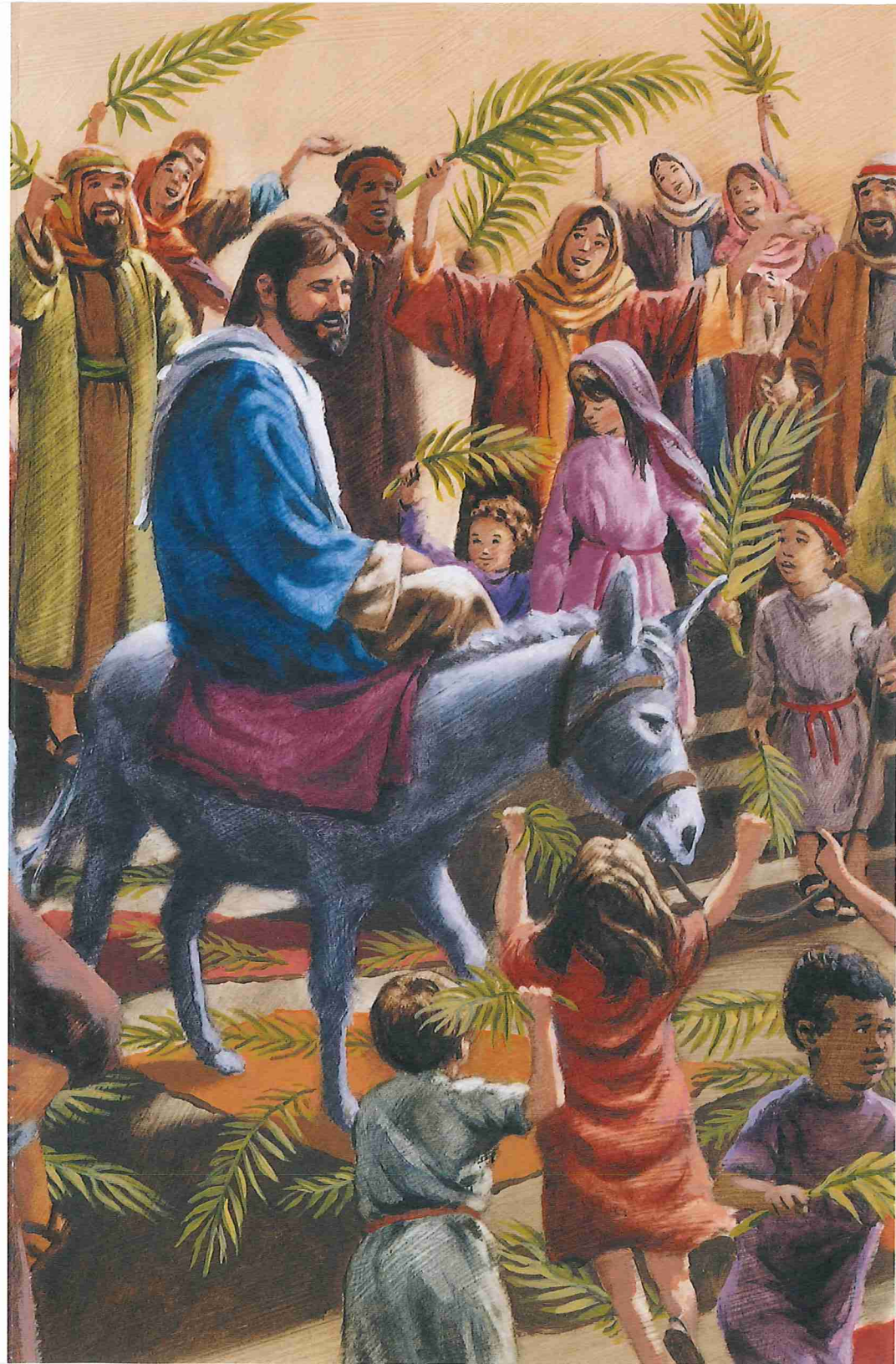
SERVING TODAY

ELDERS:	<u>8:00 AM</u> Harold Blanchette Al Montgomery	<u>10:30 AM</u> Loren Wegner Jeff Diers
USHERS:	<u>8:00 AM</u> Dick Zander Roy Bakeberg John Zander Brian Yager Chad Burau Pete Zimmerman	<u>10:30 AM</u> Dan Glessing Michael Thorson Dave Gruenhagen Kelly Gruenhagen Wyatt Glessing

Advent I – "The Lord is our righteousness" (Jeremiah 23:6b). What comforting truth for hearts troubled with sin's guilt that keeps resurfacing. Sometimes a past sin can be so haunting that we do not always feel forgiven, or we cannot forgive ourselves. The sin of abortion is a prime example. But our righteousness does not depend upon us or our feelings. Our righteousness is Christ! Prayer: O Lord our Righteousness, may my comfort and hope be anchored in You and not my feelings. Amen

Organist: Molly Loder
Choir: 8:00 Handchimes

Attendance Sunday, November 20: 146 & 78 **Communed:** 99



St. James Lutheran Church

Equipping and Empowering Families and Students through Christ

Pastor Mark Loder – 320-526-5245 – revloder@gmail.com

Vicar Jackson Scofield – 708-373-0165 – vicarscofield@stjameshl.org

Church – 320-543-2766 – church@stjameshl.org

School – 320-543-2630 – school@stjameshl.org

Website – stjameshl.org

Worship Information: November 27, 2022—First Sunday in Advent

8:00: Matins p. 219 (Con./Abs. p. 151) Hymns: 515, 332, 343

10:30: Divine Service p. 203 Hymns: 515, 332 (334, 341, 349) 343

IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY... we remember Dorothy Anderson, Joan Boss, Lois Engel, Marilyn Engel, Kevin Gruenhagen, Mark Ittel, Donovan Jensen, Marie Kliche, Tom Krohn, Pastor Loeslie, Keith Luhman, Blake Peterson deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, Harlan Schmieg, Edna Stueven, Ezekiel Zander, farmers, caregivers, persecuted Christians, Missionaries: Rev. James May and Family, Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad; our nation's leaders; those serving in the Armed Forces: Christena Dickens, Justin Hassa, Kelsey Hasz, Alex Hennen, Andrew Horsch, Brandon Maas, Blake Peterson, Cody Utne, and Jacob Young; for all who have come to worship today and for those members who are absent.

TODAY'S SERMON... can be found in the information cart in the choir room.

ST. JAMES HAPPENINGS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP... We are blessed as we have been gathered by the Holy Spirit to receive God's grace through Word and Sacrament. May the peace of God's love through His Son's life, death, and resurrection give you comfort this day. Guests are invited to sign the guest book in the entry. If you are interested in learning more about our confession of faith and doctrine, please feel free to contact Pastor Loder at 320-543-2766 or revloder@gmail.com.

HOLY COMMUNION... will be served at our 10:30 AM service today. Out of sincere love for you and our desire to uphold Scripture's teaching concerning the Lord's Supper, communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. (See LSB p. 329 for personal examination). Visitors, please introduce yourself to the pastor or an elder before communing. If you are not communing this day but desire to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest as you kneel at the altar. Children are encouraged to accompany parents to receive a blessing.

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY... starting November 29th bible study will be held on Tuesday/s at 7:00 PM through out Advent season.

MONETARY DONATIONS... are being collected from now until December 11. All donations will go to the Wright County Community Action to purchase items that are needed. The collection box will be located in the Narthex starting next week.

ADVENT... comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming." *Adventus* signifies the approach of someone of dignity, power, and glory, someone who has the power to bestow favor or exact penalties. For Christians, the season of Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas, a time of patient waiting for the reappearing of Christ, and a time to cultivate the gift of patience for daily life. The traditional color for Advent is violet, although some churches, like St. James, use blue. The decor would be limited until a couple of days before Christmas when the creche would be adorned with Joseph and Mary. After the final advent service, a Christmas tree would be set up. From Advent through the season of Easter, the Gospel readings at church focus on the life of Jesus.

DECORATIONS... for Christmas will look a little different this year. Instead of getting all of the decorations up immediately following Thanksgiving, the decorations will come gradually. This aligns better with the true sentiment of Advent as we await the coming of Jesus' final return. Christmas is certainly in your face in most of the places you go. However, here, in the church, it's good to slow down and remember the season of Advent for what it truly is.

THE LODERS... are filled with THANKSGIVING to all who've shared their harvests of fresh garden produce throughout the summer and fall. We've enjoyed everything from apples to zucchini; sometimes we don't even know who the delicious fruits and vegetables are from, they just show up! So to all who've dropped off their "garden gifts," thank you. We've been so blessed by your kindness and generosity! Gratefully, Pastor and Molly Loder and family.

THE LWML... invites all the women of St. James to join them for a Christmas celebration on Monday, December 5 at 3:00 PM in the school. Everyone is asked to bring their choice of hors d'oeuvres/appetizers to share for a smorgasbord luncheon. Entertainment will include meaningful and enjoyable activities as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

OFFERINGS... are an important part of the ministry at St. James, as members support the ongoing ministry through faithful stewardship. As costs have risen in the past few months, there has been a decline in the weekly offering which has caused St. James to come up short of budget projections approved by the congregation last July. Always a challenging conversation to have, but all are encouraged to be faithful to their responsibility as a member of the church. Your stewardship is vital to the ongoing blessings of St. James. If you have any questions, please consider speaking with the Finance Directors: John Zander and Chris Koosman.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

HOWARD LAKE LIONS BREAKFAST... with Santa will be held on December 4 from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM at St. James Fellowship Hall. Pancakes, French toast, eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, juice, milk, coffee, and desserts will be served. Pictures with Santa can be taken from 9:00-11:00 AM. Freewill donation for the meal with proceeds to benefit the Howard Lake Lions and St. James LWML. All are WELCOME!!

LET ALL MEN SING... There are two opportunities to attend the Litchfield Area Male Chorus winter concert: Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 PM at Litchfield Christian Church (312 N Marshall Ave) and Friday, December 16 at 7:00 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church in rural Cedar Mills (60929 110th St, Hutchinson). A freewill collection will be taken at both venues. The music will resemble a potluck in the variety of songs but topped off with some winter classics.