

# St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma

## Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

8446 1<sup>st</sup> Road Evansville, IL 62242

[stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com)

Rev. Jonathan Winterfeldt, Pastor

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## Third Sunday in Advent

*10:00 a.m.*

*December 14, 2025*

Divine Service, Setting Four with Holy Communion, *LSB* p. 203

### *Confession and Absolution*

Hymn of Invocation: 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

*Stand*

Invocation and Exhortation

*LSB 203*

Confession of Sins

*LSB 203*

Prayer for Forgiveness

### *Service of the Word*

Introit

*Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
**again I will say, Rejoice.**

I will hope continually

**and will praise you yet more and more.**

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of  
salvation all the day,

**for their number is past my knowledge.**

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

**I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**Glorify 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.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;

**again I will say, Rejoice.**

**Kyrie**

*LSB 204*

**Gloria in Excelsis: (Omitted during the Advent season)**

*LSB 204*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

<sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
 They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
 the majesty of our God.  
<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
 and make firm the feeble knees.  
<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
 "Be strong; fear not!  
 Behold, your God  
 will come with vengeance,  
 with the recompense of God.  
 He will come and save you."  
<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.  
 For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
 and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
 in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.  
<sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there,  
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
 the unclean shall not pass over it.  
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
 even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.  
<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
 they shall not be found there,  
 but the redeemed shall walk there.  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
 and come to Zion with singing;  
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*James 5:7–11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 205*

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 11:2–15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed**

*LSB 206*

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding**

**Sermon: Waiting without Wondering**

*Matthew 11:2-15*

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

## *Service of the Sacrament*

**Preface**

*LSB 208*

**Sanctus**

*LSB 208*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 209*

**The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini**

**Agnus Dei**

**LSB 210**

*Sit*

**Distribution**

**Distribution Hymn: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

**Distribution Hymn: 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

**LSB 211**

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benedicamus and Benediction**

**LSB 212**

**Hymn to Depart: 349 Hark the Glad Sound**

### **Acknowledgments**

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Please place your offerings in the plate at the back of church.
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## **POINSETTIAS BEAUTIFYING THE SANCTUARY**

*by Nancy Kruse  
in memory of Roger Kruse,  
Paul and Louise Kruse  
Albert and Anna Whelan*

*by Marlene Ling  
in memory of Lydia and Lewis Wegener*

*by Pearl May  
in memory of Norman May*

*by Dennis and Jill Phegley  
in honor of family and friends*

*by Mark and Diann Scherle  
in memory of Bob and Regina Scherle  
Charlie and Aldina Schrader*

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**\*for healing and strength** for Helen, Jeff, Cara, David, Elaine, Sarah, Carolyn, Delbert, Art and Gladys, Linda, Delbert, Brian, Dawn, Susan, Paul, Robert, Jace, Mary, and Dorothy

**\*for all members of the military, police, and firefighters including** Jace and Ryan.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH**

**Organist** Diann Scherle

### **Sunday School Teachers**

Amanda Roedl, Sunday School director and 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade;  
Kaley Roedl, pre-school through 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Joy Meyer, handbells.

## **Officers**

Dennis Phegley, chairman; Deb McCutcheon, secretary; Jill Phegley, treasurer; Diann Scherle, assistant treasurer; Brian Liefer, Jonathan Mehring, and Tim Schrader, elders; Matt Roedl, Jeff Schlueter, and Lloyd Schoenbeck, trustees.

**Stewardship Committee** (responsible for the Bible presentation series) Rachel Mehring and Jill Phegley from St. John's; Troy Birch and Nathan Koester from St. Peter's.

## **TO CONTACT PASTOR WINTERFELDT**

Call or text: (618) 830-6762. Email: [jwinterfel@aol.com](mailto:jwinterfel@aol.com)

## **TO SHARE INFORMATION**

**Church Council:** Dennis Phegley, chairman; Brian Liefer, elder; Jonathan Mehring, elder; Timothy Schrader, elder.

**Church Bulletin:** By Wednesday afternoon, send email to church address ([stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com)).

**Church Facebook Page:** Directly message *StJohnEvLutheranChurchRumaLL*, send an email to the church email address (above), or ask Amanda to have your information posted.

## **FOR MORE ONLINE INFORMATION**

**Church Facebook Page:** *StJohnEvLutheranRumaLL* for Sunday School activities and church news updates.

**Church Website:** Check the website for the week's bulletin, a calendar of church activities, and links to all things LCMS. Look for us at [www.stjohnlutheranruma.com](http://www.stjohnlutheranruma.com).



### **Pastor's YouTube Channel:**

If you are unable to attend services or want to listen again to a particular sermon, go to "jwinterfel" on YouTube where Pastor posts a recording of the week's **Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings, as well as his weekly sermon**. You will also find video and audio of some entire services.

### **PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING OUR CHURCH FAMILY...**

**By purchasing our Ladies Aid Apple Butter for only \$5 a pint or \$8 a quart:** The Ladies Aid uses the money to buy items for our church and for area food pantries. They also donate to COSHLS and LWML. See Pearl May or Marlene Ling to buy a jar. **The shelves are restocked with fresh apple butter!**

**By working with the Sochowski family** as Susan recovers from a stroke. At our request, Mark has provided a list of concrete ways we can help. A copy of the list is available on the pew in back of church.

**By leaving non-perishable food items** in the back of church. The Ladies Aid/LWML members are collecting for area food pantries.

**By donating toward our NEW Lutheran Heritage Foundation Mission Project FOR 2025...** The new LHF mission project will focus on children in Ghana. Every \$5.00 donation provides a beautiful hardcover Bible storybook for children in the Kusaa language. **Write Ghana in the memo line of your check or on an envelope with cash.** We will send collected money to LHF at the end of each quarter in 2024. *Check out Diann's bulletin board display just outside the Fellowship Hall for more information.*

**By bringing altar flowers:** You are welcome to provide fresh flowers for a special occasion or just because. Check the sign-up list in the Fellowship Hall to see what months are available. Please let Deb know by Wednesday afternoon so she can acknowledge the gift and occasion in the bulletin.

**By donating toward the Cemetery Fund:** Spring rains washed deep ruts into the entrances to the cemetery. Voters approved the cost of asphaltting the entire cemetery road. The road is finished and should be beautiful and maintenance-free for years! If you would like to help replenish the cost of the road, please put your donation in an envelope marked Cemetery Fund.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Sunday, Dec. 14: Special Voter's meeting** will be held immediately after the service to decide on issuing a call to Pastor Winterfeldt.

**Sundays, Dec. 14 and 21:** Sunday School students from St. John's and St. Peter's will meet here **at 11 a.m.** to prepare for the Sunday School Christmas program.

**Wednesday, Dec. 17:** Our final mid-week Advent service with St. Peter's will be held here beginning at 6:30 p.m. This year's theme for all three services and Christmas is "The King Is Coming!" An informal hymn-sing will begin at 6:15 each evening.

**Sunday, Dec. 21:** Our Sunday School Christmas Program with students from St. Peter's will begin at 4 p.m. here in the church. The students and teachers invite us to join them after the program for a dessert reception in the Fellowship Hall.

**Wednesday, Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols begins here at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Winterfeldt will lead the service.

**Wednesday, Dec. 24:** St. Peter's Christmas Eve service also begins at 6:30 p.m.

**Christmas Day:** A combined Christmas Day service with St. Peter's will be held here at 8:30 a.m.

**New Year's Eve:** A combined New Year's Eve service with St. Peter's will be held at St. Peter's at 6:30 p.m.