

St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
8446 1st Road Evansville, IL 62242
stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com

Rev. Jonathan Winterfeldt, Pastor

Second Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m.

December 7, 2025

Divine Service, Setting One without Holy Communion, *LSB* p. 151

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: 343 Prepare the Royal Highway

Stand

Invocation and Exhortation

LSB 151

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

Absolution

LSB 151

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!
 He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.
 He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.
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.
 In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Kyrie

LSB 152

Gloria in Excelsis (Omitted during Advent season)

LSB 154

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
 and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
 the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 the Spirit of counsel and might,
 the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
 and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
 and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
 and a little child shall lead them.
⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
 and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
 in all my holy mountain;
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Sermon: Are You Ready?

Matthew 3:1-12

Stand

Apostles' Creed

LSB 159

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 159

The Lord's Prayer

LSB Inside Back Cover

Prayer

Benediction

LSB 166

Hymn to Depart: 342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

Acknowledgments

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Please place your offerings in the plate at the back of church.

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, Cara, David, Elaine, Sarah, Carolyn, Delbert, Art and Gladys, Linda, Delbert, Brian, Dawn, Susan, Paul, Robert, Jace, Mary, and Dorothy

***of thanksgiving** for Dennis' healing and recovery after surgery and for Jeff's healing and recovery after an accident this summer

***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 5th through 8th grade; Kaley Roedl, pre-school through 4th 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

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) or give Deb a written note at church.

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

FOR MORE ONLINE INFORMATION

Church Facebook Page: *StJohnEvLutheranRumaIL* 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.

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 Kusaal 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

Sundays, Dec. 7 – Dec. 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. 10: Our second 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.

Saturday, Dec. 13: Trinity, Millstadt, Christmas Cookie Walk from 9 a.m. to noon. All proceeds go to the Millstadt Food Pantry. Homemade Christmas cookies sold by the pound. See the flyer in the Fellowship Hall for information on placing preorders.

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

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.

Southern IL District Looking for Part-Time Bookkeeper

The Southern IL District of the LCMS is looking for a part-time (20 hr/week) bookkeeper to cover accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, and other common bookkeeping tasks. The District office is located in Belleville and the role will require some set hours to be worked at the District office while others may be done remotely. Interested candidates with experience in non-profit bookkeeping and familiarity with common bookkeeping software should send a resumé to SID Business Manager, Mr. Jeffrey Fick via email at sidlcmessage@gmail.com by **Dec 8, 2025**.