

**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. Randy Fischer, Pastor**

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**First Sunday after Christmas**

*8:30 a.m.*

*December 29, 2024*

**Divine Service, Setting Three, *LSB* p. 184**

***Confession and Absolution***

**Hymn of Invocation: 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice**

*Stand*

**Invocation**

**Exhortation**

*LSB 184*

*Stand*

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

**Confession of Sins**

*LSB 184*

**Absolution**

*LSB 185*

*Stand*

## *Service of the Word*

### **Introit**

*Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
**and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!  
**His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

The LORD has made known his salvation;  
**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**  
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**  
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
**break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
**and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

### **Gloria Patri**

*LSB 186*

### **Kyrie**

*LSB 186*

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 187*

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

<sup>11</sup>“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.””

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Colossians 3:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 2:22–40*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

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

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## **Apostles' Creed**

*LSB 192*

*Sit*

## **Hymn of the Day: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God**

### **Sermon: New Christmas Clothes!**

*Colossians 3:12-17*

*Stand*

## **Offertory**

*LSB 192*

*Stand*

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 196*

## **Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all

adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

## **Benediction**

*LSB 202*

## **Hymn to Depart: 936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel**

### **Acknowledgments**

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

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR...**

- ★ Delbert (Amanda Roedl and Amy Rahn’s uncle), Monica Hussey (daughter of Dorothy Zipfel), Art and Gladys Thies, Linda Schulz, Dianna Wegener, Delbert Kueker, Teddy Schrader, Brian Ruez, Carolyn Fink, Dawn Ruez, Dorothy Zipfel, Sarah Kueker, Susan Sochowski, Paul Liefer, Robert Veath, Jace Duncan, Mary Braun, Dorothy Krause
- ★ Raylyn Duncan and her family as they thank God for her recovery from surgery and her continued health
- ★ Jace Duncan (husband of Cassie (Liefer) Duncan), Ryan Nehrt, Tanner Valleroy (nephew to Brian Liefer), and all others who are members of the Military, Police, and Firefighters
- ★ If you’d like to send a card to **Mark and Susan Sochowski** and family, the address is 104 Boulder Drive, Red Bud, IL
- ★ **Dorothy Krause** is living in Apartment 9 at Garden Place in Red Bud, but her family asks you to send cards to her in care of Dale Krause, 8311 St. Leo’s Road, Evansville, IL 62242. Dale’s family will take the cards to her.
- ★ **Dorothy Zipfel** is now living in Freeburg Care Center. The address is 746 Urbana Drive, Freeburg, IL 62243

- ★ **Delbert Kueker** is living at R&R Country Care Senior Living Center, 1026 Janet Drive, Ruma, IL 62278

## **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; Diann Scherle, treasurer; Jill Phegley, 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 SHARE INFORMATION**

**Church Council:** Dennis Phegley, chairman (282-2985); Brian Liefer, elder (618-570-4958); Jonathan Mehring, elder (618-363-0066); Timothy Schrader, elder (618-363-1579).

**Church Bulletin:** By Wednesday afternoon, send email to Deb at church address ([stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com)), text her at 618.980.7033, or give her a written note at church.

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

## **TO CONTACT PASTOR FISCHER**

Call him at 618.670.7736 or email him at [rjfischer92@yahoo.com](mailto:rjfischer92@yahoo.com). Pastor is, in most cases, in the Ruma area at least one day a week besides Sunday and is happy to make an appointment to speak with you in person.

## **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](http://www.stjohnlutheranruma.com).

## **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.

**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 2024 Lutheran Heritage Foundation Mission Project for 2024...** The new LHF mission project will focus on children in West Africa. Every \$5.00 donation provides a beautiful hardcover Bible storybook for children in languages like Kpelle, Bassa, or Kono. **Write West Africa 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:** We have purchased live Peace Lilies for the altar, but you are still 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.

## **Thank You for Your Donations for Poinsettias**

Lloyd and Carolyn Schoenbeck family in memory of Fred and Paula Schoenbeck, Omer Schoenbeck, and Janet Cole

Becky Carroll in memory of Jim Carroll and in honor of Sarah Kueker

Pearl May in memory of Norman May

Ryan and Chelsea Wegener family in memory of Don Wegener

Marlene Ling in memory of Rolla and Tillie Ling

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

Brian and Becky Liefer family in memory of Doris Liefer

Dennis and Jill Phegley in honor of the love of family and friends

Pastor and Beth Fischer to the Glory of God

Nancy Kruse in memory of Roger Kruse

### **Thank-You from Pastor and Beth**

**Thank you to our dear members!** Beth and I give thanks to God always for our fellow members at St. John's for every blessing as we enter a new year, praying for His grace to abound among us in our Lord Jesus! We also appreciate the prayers, cards, and gifts you have shared with us, including the generous bonus. As the Psalmist proclaimed, so do we: **Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! And His mercy endures forever!**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**TODAY is the last day** to leave your gifts under the Sunday School Giving Tree for Life Network of Southern Illinois, a pregnancy care center. Forgot to shop? Life Network will use cash and gift cards to purchase special-need items for their moms and babies.

**Tuesday, Dec. 31:** Joint New Year's Eve service at 6:30 p.m. **at St. Peter's.** Holy Communion will be offered at this service.

**Sunday, Jan. 5:** Church Council members will meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the worship service.

**Wednesday, Jan. 8:** Ladies Aid/LWML will meet at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Members are asked to bring their mite offerings and stocking money to the meeting.

**Sunday, Jan. 12:** Voters' Meeting immediately after the worship service.



Christ Our Savior  
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

**Merry Christmas and God's Blessings to you and your family in the New Year!**

**Trivia Night – Save the Date!** Our annual trivia night will be Friday, January 17, 2024.

**School Hours:** Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The school office will have limited hours during our Christmas break, Dec. 23-Jan. 3. Call and leave a message if you need to talk to the office.

**Registration for second semester 2024-2025 is available!** If you know a high school student, encourage them to consider Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School. Call 853-7300 to schedule a shadow day or a meeting with our administrator, Mrs. Sherry Prange. Learn more about *COS* and download a registration form from our website, [www.coslhs.org](http://www.coslhs.org). Registration for 2025-2026 will begin in January.

**The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.**