

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR <br> THE TIME IN BETWEEN: <br> A TIME TO YEARN FOR THE END 

Pastor Zietlow's Sermon:
Matthew 25:31-46
'In the End, Trust Makes the Difference"

## WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of today's order of worship. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen on Sunday at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at www.stjohnsmontello.org_and also at St.
John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the restrooms are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a nursery changing station in the lower level of St. John's.

## ST. JOHN'S \& EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

November $26^{\text {th }}, 2023$

## SERIES THEME: THE TIME IN BETWEEN

In the great timeline of human history, there are only two ultimately significant points: the first time Christ came to our world to win salvation by his life, death, and resurrection; and the second time Christ will come to consummate his everlasting kingdom. We live in the time in between those two points. It is a time of tension. We know that peace and perfection are ours already because of what Jesus did the first time he came. Yet we do not enjoy a peaceful and perfect existence now already. We will not know such a life until Christ comes again. And so we wait and watch, living in the time in between. As the church year draws to a close, Scripture points us toward the end of time when Christ will come again. Until then Christ teaches us how to live in the time in between.

## THEME OF THE DAY: A TIME TO YEARN FOR THE END

Consider the Christian man whose body aches from both the cancer and the chemo. Look at that faithful old woman, back arched by time, fingers twisted by arthritis, eyes close to blindness. These believers may pray for death, precisely because they know that for the children of God, death is not the end of life. Death is the end of sorrow and pain. They yearn for the end of those things, and the beginning of their perfect eternity with Jesus. We have come to the end of the Church Year. It is time to talk about the end of this world on Judgment Day. That day does not scare the believer. The first time Christ came he saved us from our sin and the accusations for the devil. The second time Christ comes, he will save us from everything else. On that day, disease, gone. Abuse, gone. Heartache, gone. Even death is ended. None of those things will exist ever again. But we will exist forever with our Lord Jesus. Until then we live in the time in between. As we look at all Christ did at his first coming, we yearn for him to come again to end this broken world and to usher all the saints into everlasting glory.

ORDER OF SERVICE: Setting Three, with Communion Hymnal pages 188-203 HYMNS: 495, 487, 563, 850 (Hymns also posted on the screen)
PSALM: Psalm 95 "The Rock of Our Salvation" (Screen)
SERMON: Matthew 25:31-46 "In the End, Trust Makes the Difference"

SPECIAL MUSIC: Sunday at St. John's: Sunday School Sings "Blessings"

OPENING HYMN: 495 "The King Shall Come"

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10,13-14
(The prophet Daniel sees a vision of the Last Judgment that is filled with fire and thrones and books...and a Savior who will establish an everlasting kingdom.)

9"As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. ${ }^{10} \mathrm{~A}$ river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. ${ }^{13 " I n}$ my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ${ }^{14} \mathrm{He}$ was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

PSALM: Psalm 95 "The Rock of Our Salvation" (Hymnal/Screen)
SPECIAL MUSIC: Sunday at St. John's: Soloist sings in place of Psalm Hymn 731 "Oh, How Good It Is"

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

(St. Paul gives us the encouragement that when Christ comes again he shall raise the dead, and death shall be forever ended.)
${ }^{13}$ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ${ }^{14}$ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ${ }^{15}$ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ${ }^{16}$ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ${ }^{17}$ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ${ }^{18}$ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46 (Sermon Text)
(Jesus describes the end of days, when he shall come in glory and separate sheep from goats.)
${ }^{31 \text { "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on }}$ his glorious throne. ${ }^{32}$ All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ${ }^{33} \mathrm{He}$ will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ${ }^{34 "}$ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ${ }^{35}$ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ${ }^{36}$ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' ${ }^{37 \text { " }}$ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ${ }^{38}$ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ${ }^{39}$ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ${ }^{40}$ "The King will reply,
'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ${ }^{41 \text { " }}$ Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ${ }^{42}$ For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ${ }^{43}$ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ${ }^{44 " T h e y ~ a l s o ~ w i l l ~ a n s w e r, ~ ' L o r d, ~}$ when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' 45 "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ${ }^{46 " T h e n ~ t h e y ~ w i l l ~ g o ~ a w a y ~ t o ~ e t e r n a l ~}$ punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

HYMN OF THE DAY: 487 "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"
SERMON: Matthew 25:31-46 "In the End, Trust Makes the Difference"

NICENE CREED: Hymnal Page 196/Screen

## PRAYER FOR THE END OF THE CHURCH YEAR \& INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## OFFERING \& PRAYER

COMMUNION LITURGY: Hymnal page 199/Screen
THE DISTRIBUTION We respectfully ask that only those who are members of this congregation or members of our sister WELS and ELS congregations come forward to receive the Lord's Supper. By this close (or closed) communion practice, we do not mean to imply that our visitors are not true Christians. Since we view coming to the Lord's Supper as a confession of complete agreement with all the teachings of our church, we would like the opportunity to discuss these teachings with you. Please speak with pastor or indicate on the Friendship Register that you would like to discuss our communion teaching and practice. Thank you for your understanding.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 563 "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less"

CLOSING HYMN: 850 "It Is Well With My Soul"

## Following Worship-Advent Series Video

## Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version ${ }^{\circ}$, NIV ${ }^{\circ}$. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.
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## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- For the sick and others facing trials, including: Church Boetcher, Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Bob Buehrens, Michael Cox (Marjorie Fabian's brother), Vicki Davis (Marilyn Riemer's sister), Edith Duesterhoeft, Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Dennis Gromowski (Josh's father, Harvey Rudolph's neighbor), Kelleen Grucza (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Del \& Jean Henke, Drake Hunter, Jerry \& Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Gemma Lewis (Maureen Hillmer's granddaughter), Debbie \& Steve Parrish, Darlene Phillips (Ken Elmer's mother), Melissa Prater, Karen Radke, Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Annette St. Onge, Amanda Stalker, Don Stelter, Tom Stempniak, Dominick Thoman (the father of Janessa Roberts, Harvey Rudolph's neighbor), James \& Suzanne Weber, Paul Weldon (added this week: Don Stelter)
- For Rev. Joel Vogel called by the Lord at our 11/12 Voters meeting to serve as Lead Pastor
- For Mrs. Kelly Radke called by the Lord as our 11/12 Voters meeting to serve as our Little Lambs Director/Teacher
- For a pure and thankful life


## SAVE THE DATE

December 16, 11:00am: Little Lambs Christmas Service at St. John's. December 17, 3:00pm: CALA K-8 Christmas Service in Princeton

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

| This Week: November 26-December 2, 2023 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Last Sunday of the Church Year: A TIME TO YEARN FOR THE END |  |  |
| Monday | $6: 30$ p.m. | Adult Choir SJ |
|  | $7: 30$ p.m. | Adult Bible Study SJ |
| Tuesday | 5:30 p.m. | Stewardship Meeting SJ |
|  | $6: 30$ p.m. | Worship Meeting SJ |
| Wednesday | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Study SJ |
|  | $5: 00$ p.m. | Public School Catechism SJ |
| Thursday | 6:00 p.m. | GriefShare |
| Saturday | 4:30 p.m. | Worship SJ |

Next Sunday: December 3, 2023
First Sunday in Advent: THE KING SHALL COME: HE IS COMING TO SAVE US

| $8: 00$ a.m. | Emmanuel Worship |
| :---: | :---: |
| 8:30 a.m. | St. John's Sunday School |
| 8:45 a.m. | Adult Bible Study St. John's |
| $9: 00$ a.m. | Adult Bible Study Emmanuel |
| 10:00 a.m. | St. John's Worship |
| 4:00 p.m. | Advent by Candlelight at Emmanuel |

## ST. JOHN'S USHER'S SCHEDULE

| NO SATURDAY SERVICE <br> Sunday 11/26/23 <br> Wednesday 11/29/23 | Saturday 12/2/23 <br> Sunday 12/3/23 <br> Wednesday 12/6/23 |
| :---: | :---: |
| James Wachholz | Paul Van Treeck, Matt Borzick, |
| Zeb Zuehls | Ken Borzick, James Henke |
| Thomas Wojtalewicz | Haiden Van Treeck |
| Kenny Wojtalewicz | Nolan Van Treeck |
| Chuck Boetcher | Brody Henke |
| Jesse Schable | Milo Henke |


| Attendance |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | EM | SJ |
| $11 / 18 / 23$ | - | 10 |
| $11 / 19 / 23$ | 23 | 41 |


| ACH <br> Deposits* | Plate <br> Offerings | Total Oct. <br> Offerings | Budget <br> Needs | October <br> Expenses | Year to Date <br> Offerings | Year to Date <br> Expenses |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$ 6299.78$ | $\$ 30342.19$ | $\$ 36641.97$ | $\$ 33939.58$ | $\$ 24122.18$ | $\$ 108690.26$ | $\$ 95031.23$ |

*ACH Deposits are the offerings made online or via direct withdrawal. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

> EMMANUEL \& ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES ADVENT \& CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
> WEDNESDAY ADVENT DEVOTIONS:
> $12 / 6,12 / 13,12 / 20$ EMMANUEL 3:3OPM, ST. JOHN'S 6:3OPM
> SATURDAY \& SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
> EMMANUEL: SUNDAYS 8:OOAM,
> ST. JOHN'S: SATURDAYS 4:3OPM \& SUNDAYS 10:OOAM (NO SATURDAY WORSHIP ON 12/23 \& 12/30)
> LITTLE LAMBS (3K/4K) CHRISTMAS SERVICE:
> ST. JOHN'S SATURDAY 12/16 $11:$ OOAM
> SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE:
> ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY 12/17 1O:OOAM
> CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICES:
> EMMANUEL 12/23 6:3OPM
> ST. JOHN'S 12/24 4:OOPM
> CHRISTMAS DAY:
> EMMANUEL 9:OOAM
> NEW YEAR'S DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE:
> ST. JOHN'S 9:OOAM


Ghe King
Shall Come
Advent by Candlelight

Advent by Candlelight: Sign up now for this important event! Emmanuel will be holding an Advent by Candlelight for all women of the Emmanuel and St. John's congregations, and their female family members, friends, and neighbors, on Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 pm at the Emmanuel Parish Hall. Please join us for this wonderful afternoon/evening of the Word, music, and fellowship to help you prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holidays get into full swing! Sign-up sheets are located in Emmanuel's Parish Hall and St. John's Information Room. Seating is limited, and filling up fast! Please text/call Kathy Ninneman at 920-896-3681 or call Sue Stelter 608-297-2761 to see if any spots are available.

Advent by Candlelight is taking a free-will offering to go towards CALA's playground equipment. Emmanuel Church will match these funds. Thank you for your support!

## WE'RE ON OUR WAY!! THE BEAVER DAM CIRCUIT LWMS BUS TRIP TO LWMS CONVENTION IN SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA, June 26-30, 2024, IS A GO!

There are still a few seats available. Contact Reporter Linda Wachholz (608-369-2635) if you'd like to join us. And if it would be your first time attending the convention, ask for a Send One Sister (SOS) application and the Circuit will help fund your first trip to convention. SOS deadline is January 15, 2024.

## Join the Choir for caroling!!

The choir welcomes all to join us for caroling to our shut-in members and the Montello Care Center on Saturday, December 9. We will start after the Saturday 4:30pm Worship Service, and afterwards meet at Sellnows' for refreshments and fellowship. Please contact Lynn at lynnsellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net for information.

## BRING YOUR KIDS TO CHURCH!!!!

EVEN IF You feel they are noisy.

EVEN IF your pew suddenly looks like a tornado blew through it.

EVEN IF you have to stand and sway back and forth with your tiny baby in the back of church.

EVEN WHEN they lie on the floor and roll around.

Jesus loves those children and wants them in church!!!

EVEN WHEN they yell out or cry during the sermon.

EVEN IF you have to walk out and take a breather in the linkway or lower level.

EVEN IF it takes 589
Goldfish crackers and 2 bags of fruit snacks to keep them quiet.

EVEN IF their crayons roll 6 pews ahead of you and they decide to crawl under the pews after them.

Church will not always be easy, but He provides you the patience and wisdom to parent in that hour of church. Let them see you pray. Let them see you sing the hymns and liturgy. Let them see you worship your Savior. If they don't see and learn those things from you, who are they going to learn from?

On Sunday, Nov. 12, Emmanuel and St. John's called Pastor Joel T. Vogel to serve as our next lead Pastor. Also, St. John's called Kelly L Radke to serve as our Little Lambs director/teacher. Please, pray for them as they deliberate their two calls. Reach out to them with wishes for prayers, cards, letters, emails, welcoming thoughts and words of encouragement.

> Rev Joel T Vogel
> Wife's name is Jocelyn
> Address: 1015 Donnie Ct.
> Lincoln, NE 68522-1697

Email: joel.vogel@stmarklincoln.org
Phone: 402-423-1497 (work) 402-238-5213 (cell)
Mrs. Kelly L Radke
Husbands name Brandon
Address: 426023 Mile Rd.
Shelby Township MI 48316-4010
Email: kelradke@yahoo.com
Phone: 586-707-7060

## GriefShare Potluck!

There will be a GriefShare potluck and inspirational movie on Saturday, December 16 at 10:00am at St. John's Lutheran Church in Princeton. Bring a friend or relative! Call or Text Mark Emond at 608-697-1600 if you have any questions or if you plan to attend, so he knows how many will be coming. See you there!


## Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.


Welcome to our visitors!
Find \& Like us on Facebook
Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org
Pastor Pete Zietlow: 608-408-7830, Email: zietlowPL6@hotmail.com
Principal \& 6-8 Grade Teacher: Larry Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext. 102
Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net
3-5 Grade Teacher: Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext. 103
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1-2 Grade Teacher: Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext. 201 smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net
Kindergarten Teacher: Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext. 202 lynnsellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net
Little Lambs Director: Barbara Stelter: 920-481-9002 ext. 203
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