

# *Christ the King Sunday*

*November 25, 2018*

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, they still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

## **- Gathering -**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of God the Father of glory; in the name of God the ☩ Son, our Redeemer; in the name of God the holy and life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. **Lord, God, ruler of the stars of heaven, counter of the hairs on our heads. We confess to you that we have failed to be your children. We have trusted in the things of this world far more than in you. We put security in money, hope in politicians, and spend more time following celebrities than Jesus. We share love and family mostly when the calendar tells us we have to. Our values, work-ethic, and priorities show our sour fruits. We are broken. Forgive us, we pray.** *(Silence for reflection)*

With a heart full of compassion, God saves you and ☩ forgives you all our sins. Christ, our King, rules with mercy. May God empower you to reveal God's kingdom for the sake of the world, revealing God's reign of mercy. **Amen.**

## **Processional Hymn – #434 Jesus Shall Reign**

Greeting

## **Hymn of Praise – #430 Rejoice, for Christ is King**

*(Sung to the tune of #893 Before You, Lord, We Bow)*

Prayer of the Day

## **- Word -**

*God speaks to us in Scripture, reading, preaching and song.*

Scripture Reading *(Response: Thanks be to God.)*

Gospel Acclamation – *(spoken)* **Alleluia. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.**

**Alleluia.** *(Mark 11:9)*

Sermon

**Hymn of the Day – #855 Crown Him with Many Crowns**

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Prayers of the People and Sharing the Peace *(Response: And also with you.)*

## **- Meal -**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering *(10:30 a.m.) Special Music by the Senior Choir “How Lovely is Thy Dwelling”*

**Offertory Hymn – #490 (V. 1-2) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Merciful God, **everything in heaven and on earth belongs to you.**

**We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – *refer to projector screen*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution of Bread and Wine

*All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

**Hymns – #462, #670, #714**

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

## **- Sending -**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Benediction

**Sending Hymn – #538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth**

Dismissal *(Response: Thanks be to God!)*

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dickinson, North Dakota*

[www.stjohnele.org](http://www.stjohnele.org) (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: “Living in Service to Christ”

# Welcome to Worship at St. John!

Maybe this is one of your first experiences worshipping in a church. Maybe you have been around churches, but have never been to this one. Maybe you are looking for a church to call *home*. Maybe you hope to discover an answer to some of life's big questions. Whatever has brought you to St. John today, *welcome*. As Christians who are Lutheran, we believe worship is a feast of God's Word and Holy Meal. The Word fills you with faith. The Meal fills you with Jesus Christ. St. John began in 1903 when a few people gathered for the Word and the Meal. Today, 115 years later, we gather for the same feast.

To learn more about worship and St. John's story,  
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)

## ~ To Assist You at Worship ~

- *If you are considering becoming a member at St. John*, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a *new member coffee or meal*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org).
- *Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available*. Please ask an usher.
- *Children's worship bags* are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- *Childcare*: Children are always welcome in worship, but if a parent feels that little hands, feet and voices are making it difficult for others to worship, the nursery is staffed during the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the narthex.
- *Holy Communion* is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- *The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent*. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- *Coffee is served* in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

## ~ Introductions to the Reading ~

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14- *To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One who is judge will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.*

Revelation 1:4b-8- *The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.*

John 18:33-37- *In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love*

## ~ Worship Leaders ~

|                          |                              |                 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Preaching .....          | Pastor Lisa Lewton           |                 |
| Presiding Minister.....  | Pastor Joe Natwick           | Sunday          |
| Assisting Ministers..... | Michael Stevenson            | Wednesday       |
|                          | Marci Murphy                 | 8:00 AM Sunday  |
|                          | Michele Anderson             | 10:30 AM Sunday |
| Deacons.....             | Jennifer Jung                | 8:00 AM Sunday  |
|                          | Seth Poland                  | 10:30 AM        |
| Organist.....            | Barb Arneson                 | Wednesday       |
|                          | Barb Arneson                 | Sunday          |
| Servers .....            | None                         | Wednesday       |
|                          | Sofia Mackey & Ethan Erdman  | 8:00 AM         |
|                          | Owen Bittner & Damon Glasser | 10:30 AM        |



### **ARE YOU SHARING YOUR STORIES?**

Why is it important to share our stories? It gives other people ideas of goodwill, inspiration and hope! It's important to share the "good stuff" that is happening all around us – it reminds us that the world we live in is a wonderful, caring and safe place. Go to [www.stjohnc.org](http://www.stjohnc.org) and click on the "Telling Stories" homepage banner to share your story.

- Have you witnessed something that touched you? It might be a simple caring gesture, or a community event.
- Were you inspired by a worship service, a family event, filling a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child or helping with the Backpack program?
- Meaningful conversations around the dinner table, at the coffee shop, during Theology on Tap, or at a conference table may even be your story.

*Stories may be shared in the Quarterly Messenger. If you have photos of an event, you can email them to Sonnie Otto, Communications Director at [sonnie@stjohnc.org](mailto:sonnie@stjohnc.org).*

## ~ This Week at St. John ~

|                 |          |   |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| Monday, Nov 26  | 4:30 PM  | Lutheran Social Services                              |
|                 | 5:00 PM  | Scouts  |
|                 | 7:00 PM  | Scouts  |
| Tuesday, Nov 27 | 8:30 AM  | Lutheran World Relief Quilting                        |
|                 | 7:00 PM  | Theology on Tap at Players                            |
| Wed, Nov 28     | 10:30 AM | Staff Meeting   |
|                 | 5:15 PM  | Fellowship Meal                                       |
|                 | 6:00 PM  | Church School   |
|                 |          | Adult Education                                       |
|                 | 6:30 PM  | Worship   |
| Thurs, Nov 29   | 6:00 PM  | Backpacks Prep  |
|                 | 7:00 PM  | Worship   |
| Friday, Nov 30  | 6:30 AM  | Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins                |
|                 | 9:00 AM  | Backpack Delivery                                     |
| Saturday, Dec 1 | 10:00 AM | Dutchak Baptism                                       |
| Sunday, Dec 2   | 8:00 AM  | Worship   |
|                 | 9:15 AM  | Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> |
|                 |          | Senior Choir  |
|                 | 10:30 AM | Worship   |
|                 | 3:15 PM  | Handbells   |
|                 | 7:00 PM  | Sr. High Youth  |
|                 |          | Our Journey of Hope                                   |

### WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*:  
Wednesday **172**, Thursday **45** and Sunday **272**.



### CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Monday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> :  | 3:00 pm Worship ( <i>broadcast on KDIX radio – 1230 AM, or click on the “Listen Live” button at <a href="http://www.stjohnelc.org/">www.stjohnelc.org/</a>!</i> ) |
|                                      | 5:00 pm Worship   |
|                                      | 9:00 pm Worship ( <i>candlelight service</i> )  |
| Tuesday, December 25 <sup>th</sup> : | 10:00 am Worship  |

## ~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

### **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIALS**



Forms are available on the sanctuary entrance tables and on the St. John website. A portion of the funds will purchase poinsettias to adorn the chancel, with the majority of the funds going to the **ELCA Good Gifts** program. *Forms must be returned by December 15<sup>th</sup>.*



### **OUR JOURNEY OF HOPE**

**Begins December 2 @ 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

Show God's love to those who are suffering from cancer and the loved ones who care for them. Our Journey of Hope is a Cancer Care Ministry that equips others with the most valuable gift cancer patients and caregivers need – the gift of HOPE. Sign up for these sessions on the St. John website, by calling the church office or email Amy Graves (Director of Hospitality & Stewardship) at [agraves@stjohnelc.org](mailto:agraves@stjohnelc.org).

### **SPIRITUAL LIFE INVENTORY**

Have you completed your "inventory"? Go to [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org) and click on the homepage banner to complete your spiritual inventory before November 30<sup>th</sup>. Answers are anonymously submitted. Information from this inventory will guide St. John on how best to share and grow in our spiritual journey together as a community.

### **"LIGHT UP A LIFE" MEMORIAL SERVICE**

**Sun., Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 2:00 pm**

*(Prairie Winds Methodist Church – 2510 21<sup>st</sup> St W)*



The holiday season is often difficult for those experiencing the loss of loved ones; this non-denomination memorial service provides an opportunity for remembrance, reflection, healing and celebration of life through music, scripture and inspirational readings. Stay for refreshments following the service!

### **CAMP CHRISTMAS @ Badlands Ministries**

**Sat., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm** *(Bethlehem Dining Hall)*

Christmas cookies & carols at camp! This event will feature music offered by church choirs and music ensembles from around the area as well as a merry hymn sing!



### **SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS**

**Sun. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 pm** *(St. John)*

This lovely celebration of the Christmas season consists of bible lessons and carols led by the Bell Choir, Senior Choir, local musicians and clergy. This service originated in England in 1918 at King's College at Cambridge University, and is still celebrated around the world today!

### **ST. JOHN HOLIDAY CONCERT**

**Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**

Come and enjoy an evening of music with the St. John Senior Choir and Handbell Choir as we celebrate this most wonderful time of the year! If there are voices that would like to join us just for that event, come to the Choir rehearsals at 9:15 on Sundays! The choir will rehearse their anthems quickly first, and then work on the songs for the concert. If you have any questions, contact Michael Stevenson, Senior Choir Director.



### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

It's going to be a festive night! Come for supper at 5:00 pm, and enjoy this very special Christmas program at 6:00 pm. Stay after the program for a Christmas social! Church School will resume on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

***For updates on programs and schedules,  
visit us at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)!***