

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

December 19, 2021 Please tune to 87.9 FM



*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that
your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of
self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your
children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of
your saving grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit,
☩ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal prom-
ise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.
Amen.

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH** *Light One Candle (v 1, 2, 3, 4)*

ELW #240

***GATHERING HYMN**

People, Look East (v 1, 3, 4)

ELW #248

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Kyrie

ELW p147-148

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, **Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us
from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you
live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 80:1-7

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." ⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go

***GOSPEL**

Luke 1:39-56

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit
⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?
⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.
⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." ⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." ⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The Word of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor George Rahn

HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW #789

***THE APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each petition of the prayers ends with the following response:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

***PEACE**

OFFERING HYMN *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (twice)* **ELW #184**

***OFFERTORY** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* **ELW #885**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. **Amen.**

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS**

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***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Come, Let Us Eat

ELW #491

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

Now may these precious gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen you and keep you in God's grace this day. **Amen**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

Joy to the World

ELW #267

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

Monday, December 20th

Newsletter Deadline

Friday, December 24th Christmas Eve

4:30PM Christmas Program Worship Service

7:00PM Candlelight Service at St. Matthew

Saturday, December 25th Christmas Day

9:00AM Christmas Day Worship Service

Next Sunday, December 26th First Sunday of Christmas

7:45AM Worship Service



IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Our Church Family:

Mavis Smith	Janice Cordova	Sydney Wagner	Florence Bentke
Ella Ruemke	Gilbert Spinn	Helen Gaskamp	Emery Schulze
Cynthia Wilson	Verna Mae Sefcik	Linda King	Tom Bentke
Jerry Randermann	Mary Ann Luce	Connie Seward	Justin Reuter
Dorothy Wiesepepe	Charles "Dutch" Schulze	Marjorie Hohlt	Mary Longhofer
Clarence Moehlmann	A.G. "Doc" & Allene Holtkamp	Peggy & Milton Bosse	
John & Carol Haarmeyer			

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Michael Altman, Lance Altman, Hayden Hatfield, Garrison Nordt, Chris Koehler, Sharon Neutzler, Preston Davis

Those celebrating wedding anniversaries: Jerry & Kristy Cochran

Friends & Family:

Alyssa & Ezlyn Jones
 Blake Bates
 Carol Lieber
 Christy Dallmeyer
 Corrie Newland
 Holly Haarmeyer Rodriquez
 John Tuefel
 Missy Goldmith
 Shannon Wellmann

Please notify the church
 office of any prayer request
 by simply writing a note on
 the back of your attendance
 card. Thank you!

NALC Disaster Response is ready and waiting with supplies and more to help in the areas devastated by the tornadoes. Mary Bates, national coordinator, is working to see where the NALC can do the most help.

NEEDED: Lots of prayers for the people in the affected areas.

NEEDED: Gift cards from Wal-Mart, Target and similar stores. Mary wants to help families with toys for their children for Christmas.

Mail gift cards to NALC Disaster Response, 16500 Noble Ave. Caldwell, Ohio 43724.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS BAGS



It's time to start preparing for the Christmas Pageant and children's gift bags. Every year we give every child who worships with us on Christmas Eve a treat bag—a small gift to celebrate. The Sunday School has a collection basket in the back of church.

2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex!



Please note that if you did not pick up your envelopes in previous years they will not be out. We understand that many of you give online. Kindly send an email to prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com if you need help. Thank you!

**Altar
Flowers**
SIGN-UP



The 2022 Flower Chart has been posted in the Annex.
Please sign up for your altar flowers for next year!

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

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