

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 14th, 2025

Opening Hymn: When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346

Divine Service Setting Three

LSB 184

Confession and Absolution

Introit

Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

I will hope con- | tinually*

and will praise you yet | more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation | all the day,*
for their number is past my | knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God | I will come;*

I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have | taught me,*
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- | sake me,*

until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all | those to come.



G Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186

Salutation and Collect of the Day

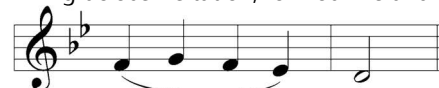
P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Old Testament Reading

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.
³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

 This is the Word of the Lord.
 **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 35:1–10

Epistle Reading

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

 This is the Word of the Lord.
 **Thanks be to God.**

James 5:7–11

Alleluia


LSB 190





 Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter



 Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

 This is the Gospel of the Lord.



 Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	LSB 347
Sermon	
Nicene Creed	
Offering & Offertory	LSB 192
Prayer of the Church	
Service of the Sacrament	LSB 194
Preface	
Sanctus	LSB 195
Lord’s Prayer	LSB 196
The Words of Our Lord	LSB 197
Pax Domini	LSB 197
Agnus Dei	LSB 198
Distribution Hymns:	
Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come	LSB 350
Arise, O Christian People	LSB 354
Nunc Dimittis	LSB 199
Benedicamus & Benediction	LSB 202
Closing Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound	LSB 349

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH


Pastor Dan Kletke: Office 719-275-0111 or Cell 719-334-1636

Elders: David Lehmpuhl 719-251-4772 – George Yeatts 303-437-9413 – Allan Tormohlen 719-285-3364 – Curtis Eulert 719-371-0895– Brandon Booth 314-973-7294

December 14, 2025 –Third Sunday in Advent

The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see “*the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful*” (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, “*be patient*” and “*establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand*” (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as “*the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up,*” so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that “*sorrow and sighing shall flee away*” (Is. 35:10).



WE WELCOME ALL who worship today, especially guests and visitors, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Guests are invited to sign our guest register. Please include your phone number and address in the guest book located in the Narthex. Thank you for visiting.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today’s altar flowers are provided by Carolyn Westlund in loving memory of her husband, Doug.

<u>IN RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE:</u>		<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
12/7/2025	Sunday Service	70	\$5,073.00
12/10/2025	Advent Service	28	

MISSIONARIES: Please remember JP and Aimee Cima, the missionaries that our congregation have adopted, asking God to protect them and use them to spread His gospel.

CONGREGATIONAL SERVICE MEMBERS: Ryan Lehmpuhl and Jake Langley

SITTING AND STANDING IN CHURCH: It is customary to stand during the worship service when we address God directly (*Confession, Prayers, etc.*) or out of respect (*Gospel Reading, Creed, etc.*). These actions have purpose and meaning; but they are not meant to be painful or difficult. In contrast, Psalm 51:17 says, “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” If at any time during the service, it is too difficult or painful to stand, please remain seated. Our Lord knows your heart.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please talk to the Pastor prior to the Sunday service for special prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Sick and/or Recovering:

Debbie Ledbetter	Rod Willard
Sharon Martinson	Robert Tangkawarow
Lucy Brown	Elaine Emery (Snyders' friend)
Zoey (Tangkawarow's Family Member)	Nancy Mowers
Ken Davidson	Jerrico Leason
Evie Langley	Bob Huebner
Cody Atkinson (Dawn's son)	Dale Kletke
	Mary Richardson

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have a prayer concern and would like to send it through a prayer chain, we have 2 options.

- To send the prayer through a phone prayer chain, please contact Mary Richardson at 719-269-1426.
- To send the prayer via email, please contact Sue Poehlein at her email address: cspoehlein@gmail.com.

If you would like to join either prayer chain, please contact Mary or Sue respectively. If you would like a Christian greeting card from St. John sent to your loved one listed on the above prayer list, please contact Mary Richardson with the address where it should be sent.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN – DECEMBER 14, 2025- DECEMBER 21, 2025

Office Hours: Monday through Friday — 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14, 2025

9:00 a.m.	Divine Worship with Holy Communion
Reader:	
Communion Assistant:	
10:15 a.m.	Fellowship
10:30 a.m.	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
11:30 a.m.	Council Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2025

6:30 p.m.	Confirmation
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*HAPPY
BIRTHDAY*

Jeremiah Jones

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

*HAPPY
BIRTHDAY*

Joan Foster

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
7:00 p.m.	Advent Service

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN – DECEMBER 14, 2025- DECEMBER 21, 2025

Office Hours: Monday through Friday — 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 18, 2025

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
7:00 p.m. Youth Group

*HAPPY
BIRTHDAY*

*Gene Foster
Diane Lund*

Sunday, December 21, 2025

9:00 a.m. Divine Worship
10:15 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

*HAPPY
BIRTHDAY*

Judith Crider



THANK YOU: Thank you so very much for your cards and prayers during this difficult time. With the passing of my brother not even 3 years ago, the loss of my dad was especially hard for me and my family. I felt God's strength and comfort every day. I am grateful for you, and it gives me peace to know that my church family is surrounding us with love and support. Your sister in Christ, Tricia

CONDOLENCES: Our sympathies and prayers go out to the family of Orgene Reimers, who passed away at home on Wednesday morning, December 10th.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please send all announcements for bulletins to office@StJohnCanonCity.org. Thank You.

PARISH PAPER: Articles for the January Parish Paper are due next Sunday. Please email any articles to Office@StJohnCanonCity.org. Thanks.

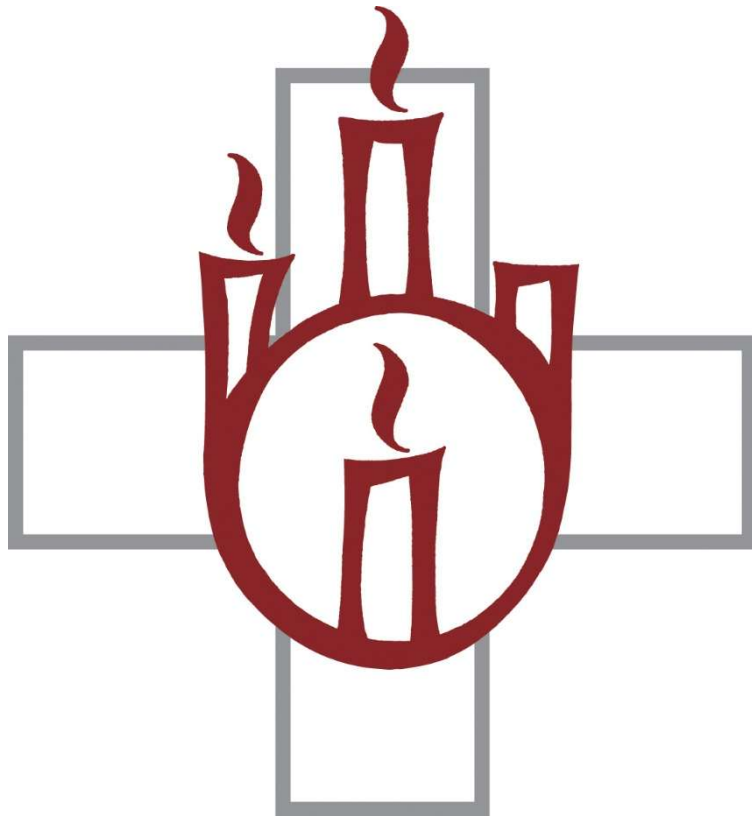
MEMBER NEWS: Please notify newsletter editor Gail Kirkegaard of member activities and accomplishments so we can celebrate them in our monthly publication. E-mail office@stjohncanoncity.org. You can also put information and photos in her church mailbox. Please add your name so she can return photos. Make sure to write: "ATTENTION GAIL" for anything you want added to the newsletter.

ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING: This meeting is TODAY and is for all confirmed St. John members. Adult members of St. John will elect officers to serve as council members and as elders, and we will discuss and vote on the 2026 annual budget for the church.

CHURCH NURSERY: Parents may use the nursery in back of the church. Our monitor with remote control has now been installed to watch the service. Changing tables are available in three of our restrooms.

CHURCH PUBLICITY: If you have a meeting or event for the St. John website and / or Facebook page please notify Gail at 720-201-8743 or kirkegaard1998@charter.net. Also let her know if it is changed or canceled so our information is correct. Thank you.

PARKING REQUEST: with an aging congregation, our parking lot is short on handicapped parking spots. If you are able bodied, please park towards Greydene or in the gravel so those who struggle have a shorter distance to walk. Thank you.



Sermon Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.