

ANNOUNCEMENTS
WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ed Clifford; Ashlyn

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by Brian & Sue Salomon in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

ADVENT SUPPERS & SERVICES conclude this Wednesday, December 23. Supper is at 6:00pm and the service is at 7:00pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY services will be held as follows: Christmas Eve Candlelight at 4pm (masks), 7pm, & 9pm; Christmas Eve Divine Service at 11pm. Christmas Day Divine Service at 9am. Join us for these celebrations of our Lord's Nativity!

MASK-REQUIRED SERVICES will be held **every** Wednesday at 11:00am. There will be **no services** Wednesday, December 30.

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will resume January 7 at 7:00pm.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will not meet 12/27 or 01/03.

CALENDAR

Sun. Dec. 20 (Advent 4)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study 11:30am Confirmation
Wed. Dec. 23	11:00am Holy Communion (mask req'd.) 6:00pm Potluck Supper 7:00pm Holy Communion
Thu. Dec. 24	4:00pm Candlelight Service (mask req'd.) 7:00 & 9:00pm Candlelight Service 11:00pm Holy Communion
Fri. Dec. 25	9:00am Holy Communion
Sun. Dec. 27 (St. John)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study

INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY DEVOTIONS

These suggestions can help you and your family stay connected to the church year and focus on what we hear, sing, and pray together on Sunday. Each week looks forward to the next Sunday. Pick three days this week to do a short devotion. Each day you might do this:

1. Read one reading and the “Thinking About.” How do the readings fit together? What themes do you see?
2. Sing or read the hymn. Ask Pr. Mullet to borrow a hymnal. You should be able to find it on YouTube if it’s unfamiliar!
3. Pray the Collect of the Day and the Lord’s Prayer.

THIS COMING SUNDAY IS: December 27 / St. John

FIRST READING: Revelation 1:1-6

GOSPEL: John 21:20-25

EPISTLE: 1 John 1:1—2:2

HYMN: LSB 523

COLLECT OF THE DAY: Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed in the doctrine of Your blessed apostle and evangelist John, may come to the light of everlasting life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

St. John was a son of Zebedee and the brother of James the Elder. John was among the first disciples to be called by Jesus and became known as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” as he refers to himself in the Gospel that bears his name. Of the Twelve, John alone did not forsake Jesus in the hours of His suffering and death. With the faithful women, he stood at the cross, where our Lord made him the guardian of His mother. After Pentecost, John spent his ministry in Jerusalem and at Ephesus, where tradition says he was bishop. He wrote the fourth gospel, the three epistles that bear his name, and the book of Revelation. Especially memorable in his gospel are the wedding at Cana (Jn. 2), the “gospel in a nutshell” (Jn. 3:16), and the raising of Lazarus from the dead (Jn. 11). John writes that his gospel is written that all may believe that Jesus is the Son of God—may we so read and learn it that our faith is thereby strengthened!