

ANNOUNCEMENTS
WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ed Clifford; Ashlyn; Stan & Priscilla Peters

THE VOTERS' MEETING for the first quarter is Sunday, January 10.

MASK-REQUIRED SERVICES will continue to be held **every** Wednesday at 11:00am.

THERE WILL BE NO SERVICES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

NEW YEAR'S EVE worship with Holy Communion will be Thursday, December 31, at 7:00pm.

NEW YEAR'S DAY worship with Holy Communion (Circumcision and Naming of Jesus) will be Friday, January 1, at 9:00am.

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will resume January 7 at 7:00pm. *Note the time change!* Treats and coffee will continue as usual.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will resume Sunday January 10 at 11:30am.

THERE WILL BE NO ONLINE DEVOTIONS this week (Dec. 28 – Jan. 1). These will resume the following week!

CALENDAR

Sun. Dec. 27 (St. John)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study
Wed. Dec. 30	NO SERVICES
Thu. Dec. 31	7:00pm Holy Communion
Fri. Jan. 1	9:00am Holy Communion
Sun. Jan. 3 (Christmas 2)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study Installation of Congregation Officers
Sun. Jan. 10	9:00am Voters' Meeting

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: January 3 / Christmas 2

OT: Genesis 46:1-7

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

EPISTLE: 1 Peter 4:12-19

HYMN: LSB 385

COLLECT OF THE DAY: Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts and true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

Israel and all his family went and dwelt in Egypt (Gen. 46:1–7). God made a great nation of him there, but that nation would prove unfaithful to the Lord. Therefore, the New Israel came. In fleeing the murderous Herod, our young Lord goes to Egypt (Matt. 2:13–23), that the prophecy might be fulfilled, “*Out of Egypt I called my Son.*” Jesus brings to perfection what old Israel could not. He is the faithful Israel, the embodiment of the people of God. He offers His perfect and holy life in place of our own. He submits Himself to persecution and suffering in order to save us. Therefore, we should not think it strange when we who are in Christ experience trials because of the faith (1 Pet. 4:12–19). Rather, we rejoice to share in Christ’s sufferings, knowing that we will also share in His glory.