SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 7, 2025



Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782
SUNDAY 9:30 AM

Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

To Those Visiting with Us Today

We welcome you among us as we gather in God's presence to receive his benefits towards us. If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to the Pastor on the way out. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future. Please contact the Pastor if you have any needs or questions about St. John's and the work for which he has called us.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

P = Pastor; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol + appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Please move in and out of the sanctuary at places marked with an asterisk (*).

As We Gather

Today marks the arrival of John the Baptist on the scene who was sent by God to prepare the way for the Messiah to come. His presence is a reminder to us that we also need to be prepared to receive our Savior, and this is done through repentance and faith. Such are gifts given to us by our heavenly Father through the work of the Spirit by means of Word and Sacrament. Having been prepared by God, His Son comes to us to grant us forgiveness, grace, and life eternal!

Today in the Church Year

Advent is derived from the Latin word meaning "to come." During this season, we will recall the three ways in which our Lord comes to us: He comes in history through His incarnation, He promises to come again on the Last Day, and He comes to us today through His Word and Sacraments. Advent is also a time of penitential reflection as we follow in the way of John the Baptist by "making ready the way of the Lord." The color on the altar throughout this season is blue, which is traditionally the color for hope. It is in joyful hope that we expect the arrival of our Lord and Savior, who will be made flesh amongst us, and shall be called Immanuel, that is, God with us!

H IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS H

A Prayer upon Entering Church

O Almighty God, who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Voluntary: An Advent Prelude

Charles Callahan

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

*Opening Hymn: Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343

Tune: BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (Matt. 28:19b)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. (Heb. 10:22)
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth. (Ps. 124:8)
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Ps. 32:5)

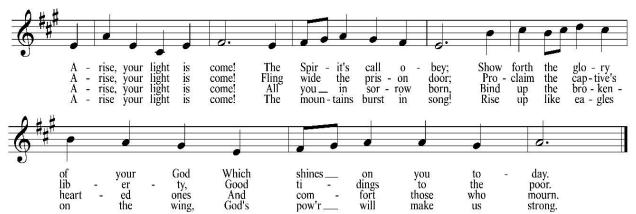
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Jn. 20:19-23)
- C Amen.

→ Service of the Word →

*Advent Canticle



Salutation and Collect of the Day (2 Timothy 4:22)

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray...Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

L The Old Testament Reading for the Second Sunday in Advent is taken from Isaiah, the eleventh chapter.

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,* and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together: and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

*Psalm 72:1-7 (Cantor sings antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated)
Antiphon, v. 18



Bless-ed be the Lord, the God of Is-ra-el, who a-lone does won-drous things.



- ¹ Give the king your | <u>justice</u>, O God, and your righteousness to the | royal son!
- ² May he judge your | <u>people</u> with righteousness, and your | poor with justice!
- ³ Let the mountains bear pro- | sperity for the people, and the hills, in | righteousness!
- ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people... give deliverance to the | <u>children of</u> the needy, and | crush the oppressor!
- ⁵ May they fear you while the | sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout | <u>all gen</u>erations!
- ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the | möwn grass,

like showers that | water the earth!

⁺⁷ In his days may the | righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the | moon be no more!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spïrit; as it was in the be- | gïnning,* is now, and will be forever. | Ämen.

Antiphon

Epistle Romans 15:4–13

L The Epistle is from Romans, the fifteenth chapter.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

Stand

*Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

LSB 344

^{*}The term "catholic" means the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

^{*}Hymn of the Day: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Sermon: Spirit and Fire

*Offering: Come Thou, Redeemer of the Earth

Richard Shephard

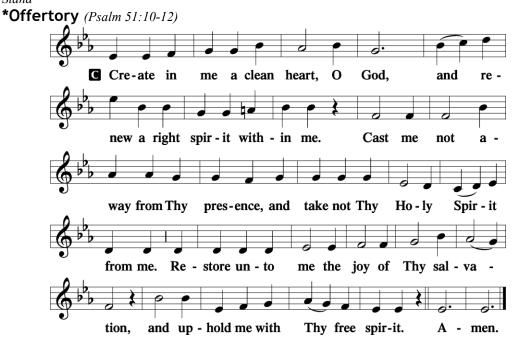
Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest thy virgin birth: Let every age adoring fall, such birth befits the God of all.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness glow with newborn light, No more shall night extinguish day, Where love's bright beams their power display.

> O Jesu, virgin born to thee, eternal praise and glory be, When with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit evermore. Amen.

(Please fill out the green attendance card the pew, and then hand it to the usher on the way forward for communion.)

Stand



Prayer of the Church (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

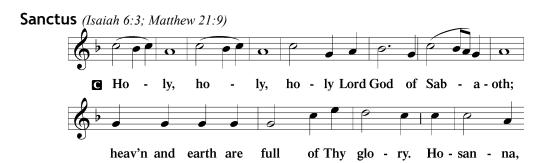
(after each petition)

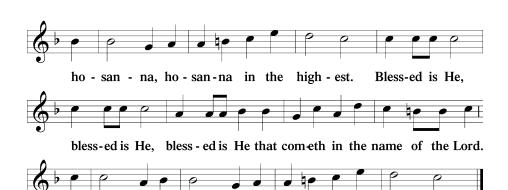
- **P** Lord, in your mercy...
- C Hear our prayer.
- **P** ...one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Ḥ Service of the Sacrament Ḥ

Preface (2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

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.

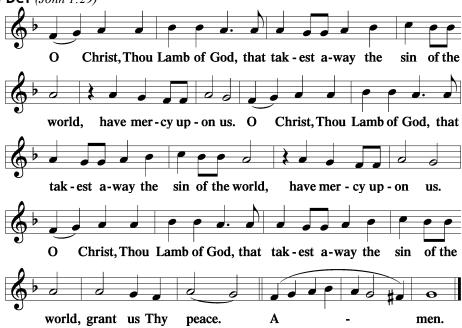
The Words of Our Lord (Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ⅙ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini (John 20:19)

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





Sit

Distribution

Please read what Saint John's believes concerning the Sacrament of the Altar:

As Lutherans, we believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper all receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with their mouth. Believers feed on Christ for the assurance of salvation and the strengthening of their faith.

To assure that our Lord's great gifts are received in a beneficial way, Holy Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29 "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." Self examination includes:

1) The confession that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. (Ps 51; Romans 3: 9-28)

2) The faith that Jesus Christ is truly and actually present in the Sacrament, offering His very Body and Blood for all to eat, so that our sins are forgiven. (Mt 26: 26-28; 1 Cor 10: 16-21)

3) The sincere resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend what is sinful in our life by actively belonging to a body of believers where these Scriptural truths are preached and taught. (Acts 2: 42; Ephesians 2: 8-10) If this reflects your belief and you are a member in good standing, not under discipline, at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body with which we are in fellowship, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and pray that His Body and Blood will be for your soul the highest good. If you are not sure, or do not understand, we ask that you speak with the Pastor, at your earliest convenience, prior to communing. If you would like to come to the altar and receive a personal blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the pastor.

Distribution will take place around the altar. Both sides of the church will be ushered forward up the center aisle at the same time with the first person in line starting at the center, and the rest fanning out along the sides. Once everyone has come forward, you will be invited to kneel, if able, to receive the Sacrament. Once all have received, and the pastor announces the dismissal, you may stand and the two people in the middle will turn and start back to their seats, with both sides following and returning via the side aisles.

A Prayer before Communing

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen.

*Distribution Hymn: When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346

Tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT

*Distribution Hymn: What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 342

Tune: CONSOLATION

A Prayer after Receiving the Sacrament

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.





Thanksgiving (Psalm 107:1)

- O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- **C** and His mercy endures forever.
- Let us pray...We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus (2 Timothy 4:22; Psalm 103:1)

- The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Bless we the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Closing Voluntary: BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN (Prepare the Royal Highway) Swedish, 17th cent. Setting: Robert Buckley Farlee

(You are invited, and encouraged, to stay and listen to the voluntary as a way to continue to ponder God's love for you, and consider how today's message and music can influence your life over the coming week. This is also a nice way to calm yourself before heading out into the rest of the day's activities.)

A Prayer for Departure

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

+ SOLI DEO GLORIA - TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +

† Look Ahead for next week:

The Third Sunday in Advent: Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-11; Matthew 11:2-15 Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out and online

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

	<u>-</u>		
Sun 12/7	The Second Sunday in Advent		
	Coffee Hour hosted by Ann & Richard Frenz		
	7:45am	Divine Service	
	8:30am	Bible Study	
	9:30am	Divine Service	
	9:30am	Sunday School	
	11:00am	Faith Renewal	
Mon 12/8	6:00pm	Basketball	
	7:00pm	Boy Scouts	
Tue 12/9	6:00pm	First Confirmation	
		Basketball	
		Judo/Women's 12-Step	
Wed 12/10	12:00pm	Advent Midweek Divine Service	
	12:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous	
	6:00pm	Confirmation	
	7:00pm	Advent Midweek Divine Service	
Thu 12/11	6:30pm	Bells	
	7:00pm	Judo	
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	
Fri 12/12	12:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous	
	6:00pm	Basketball	
Sat 12/13	9:00am	Sanctuary Decorating	
Sun 12/14			
	Coffee Hour hosted by Mary Martha		
	7:45am	Divine Service	
	8:30am	Bible Study	
	9:30am	Divine Service	
	9:30am	Sunday School	
	11:00am	Faith Renewal	



Want to give an offering but forgot cash or a checkbook? Now you can give securely online! Simply scan the QR Code on your mobile device and you will be directed to St. John's Donation page.

Contributions Received 11/24-11/30/25	\$11,869	Wednesday Attendance: 47 Sunday Attendance: 133
Weekly Forecasted Income	\$5,209	
Monthly Mortgage Payment	\$2,554	
F.O.R. Contributions - November	\$1,015	

General Fund - In memory of John & Jeanne Doepp from Edward & Marian Doepp.

<u>Hand Bell Choir Fund</u> - In memory of Shannon Hole from Debbie & Ken Donaldson.

<u>Christmas Mail</u> - Today is the last call for any Christmas Mail. Please deposit your cards in the box in the narthex, and then plan to pick up your mail next week during coffee hour!

<u>Sanctuary Decorating</u> - At **9:00am on Saturday, December 13**, we will take some time to decorate the sanctuary with garland and tree and lights. With enough help, it takes about an hour. Please consider joining us and lending a hand!

<u>Hanging of the Greens</u> - The following day, *December 14*, part of our Sunday service will include a blessing and explanation of the many decorations that adorn churches during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Please come and learn more about how these decorations point us to Christ and to the life he comes to give us.

Soll presents Chronicles & Carols - St. John's hosts the chamber choir, Singers of Long Island in concert Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm. Join us for Advent classics, Christmas carols, spirituals and more, followed by a festive reception. Help spread the word (& The Word) by inviting a friends & neighbors to join you! \$15/10 students & seniors with all proceeds going to St. John's.

<u>Longest Night</u> - On Sunday, *December 21 at 4pm* we will once again hold our Longest Night Service. This prayerful, meditative service gives people an opportunity to give voice to their frustrations, fears, and sorrows during this season, but do so with hope in the light of salvation that our Lord brings. Please join us and come light a candle in hope.

<u>Communion Stewards:</u> Bill Audia (7:45am); Leo Rigaud (9:30am); <u>Ushers:</u> Charlie Erb & Jim Farrell (7:45am); Jane Emmel & Kristin Noack (9:30am); <u>Readers:</u> Jim Farrell (7:45am); Leo Rigaud (9:30am); <u>Musicians</u>: Chancel Choir, Concetta Stevens, flute & Lynne Bowden, violin; <u>Counters:</u> Steve & Janet Lindfors

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Phone: (631) 589-3202

Website: www.stjohnsayville.org

Facebook: Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Savville NY

Rev. Brian Noack, Pastor Cell Phone: (631) 806-7119 E-mail: pastor@stjohnsayville.org

Cynthia Holden, Director of Music E-mail: music@stjohnsayville.org

Whitney Dale, Office Administrator E-mail: admin@stjohnsayville.org

Carolyn Holtz, Bookkeeper E-mail: bookkeeper@stjohnsavville.org

Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors **Facilities Management**

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule: Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am Wednesday Noon & 7:00pm

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

A congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting Three from the Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100010364. Was Frag Ich Nach Der Welt, setting: Michael D. Costello © 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Podcast by permission. One License #A700644. An Advent Prelude, Charles Callahan © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Podcast by permission. One License #A700644. Come Thou, Redeemer of the Earth, Richard Shephard © 2020 St. James Music Press. Reprinted and podcast by permission. SJMP License 1252. Bereden vag for herran (Prepare the Royal Highway), Swedish, 17th cent. Setting: Robert Buckley Farlee © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Podcast by permission. One License A-700644. Psalm 72:18 antiphon Cynthia Holden © 2010; tone Cynthia Holden © 2025 Used by permission.