

1st Sunday after Christmas



Christmas Peace



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Chairman: Mitch Myhre, mitchmyhre@hotmail.com
Office Secretary: Jen Olson, Office hours Tuesday - Friday
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1

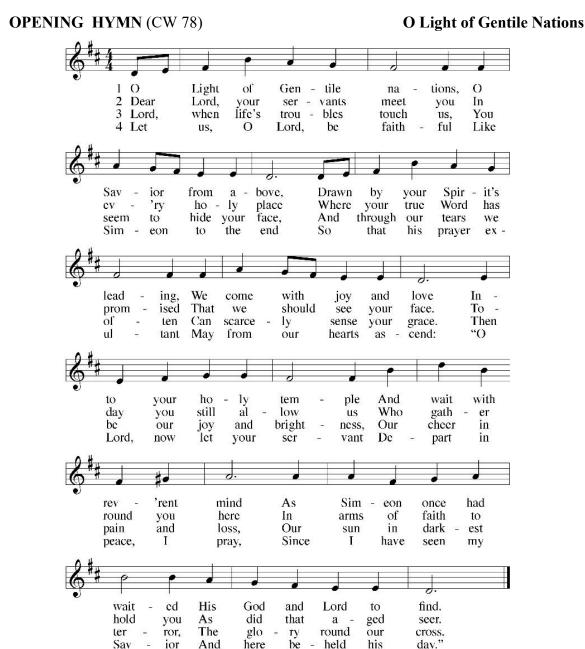


Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

December 31, 2023

DIVINE SERVICE II



ior

And

here

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

Kyrie

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

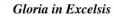
M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

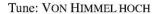
C: Lord, have mercy.

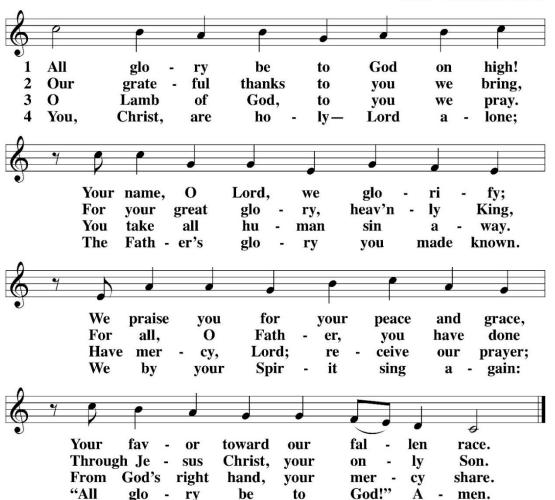
M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD







THE WORD

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

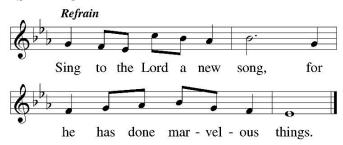
FIRST LESSON 1 Kings 8:6–13

⁶ The priests brought the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim, ⁷ for the cherubim were spreading their wings over the place for the ark, so that the cherubim covered the ark and its poles with their wings. ⁸ The poles were so long that the ends of the poles could be seen from the Holy Place in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside. They are there to this day. ⁹ There was nothing in the ark except the two stone tablets, which Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel when they came out of the land of Egypt. ¹⁰ When the priests came out from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the House of the LORD. ¹¹ The priests were not able to take their positions to minister in the presence of the cloud, because the Glory of the LORD had filled the House of the LORD.

¹² Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he dwells in thick darkness. ¹³ I have truly built a majestic house for you, a place for you to dwell forever."

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 98





The LORD has made his sal<u>va</u>tion known* and revealed his righteousness to the <u>nations</u>.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of <u>Israel</u>;* all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation <u>of</u> our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, <u>all</u> the earth,* burst into jubilant song with <u>mu</u>sic;

make music to the LORD <u>with</u> the harp,* with the harp and the sound of <u>sing</u>ing.

Shout for joy before the <u>LORD</u>, the King.*
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with <u>equity</u>.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>inning</u>,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON Colossians 3:12-17

¹² Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. ¹⁴ And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³ (As it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be called holy to the Lord.") ²⁴ And they came to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said,

²⁹ Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word,

³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared before the face of all people,

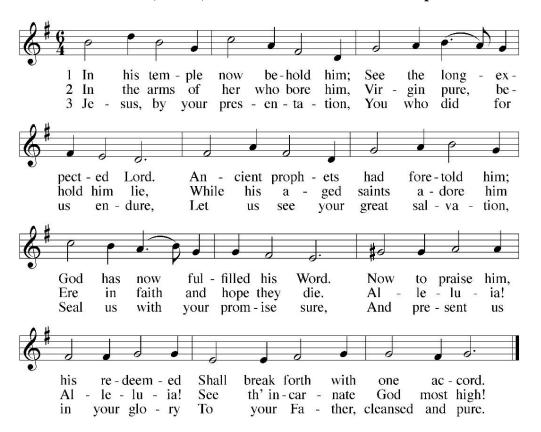
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

³³ Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. ³⁸ Standing nearby at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

HYMN OF THE DAY (CW 77)

In His Temple Now Behold Him



Text: Hanry J. Pye, c. 1825-1903, alt.

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY (87 87 87) Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.

SERMON Luke 2:28-32

Jesus Came in Flesh...so We Can Depart in Peace

STAND

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

During the gathering of the thank-offering, please sign and pass the Friendship Register. Thank you!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

For the year now ending; for what has been done wrongly; for the evils and hurts inflicted and endured; for hard times, and the idols God has exposed among us; and for our weakness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanks for the Lord's preservation of this congregation, and for the preservation of faithful preaching and teaching in the coming year; for the Sacraments administered according to his command and promise; and that we may continue in his service and reach out in love to our community, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the year to come, that God would guard and guide us by his strong arm; that he would lead us according to his Word; that he would renew in us clean hearts that trust him and show love to our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation and our government, that God would be pleased to preserve our republic; for those who serve in positions of authority, that God would give them health and competence; for those who serve in the line of danger; and for peace in our time, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for the many blessings of this past year; for life, healing and comfort; and for spiritual and physical well-being, all of which God has given not because of merit in us, but out of his love in Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who suffer from any sickness, need or affliction, that in the coming year God would provide comfort, preservation and relief from their ills, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who commune at this altar, that the body and blood of Christ would keep them firm in the one, true faith to life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, abide among us in this new year with your Holy Spirit, that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his wondrous birth became our Brother, taking on human flesh to live in righteousness before God and to become obedient even to death on a cross.

Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28 1 Corinthians 11:24.25

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD John 1:29



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with our pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 53)

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night

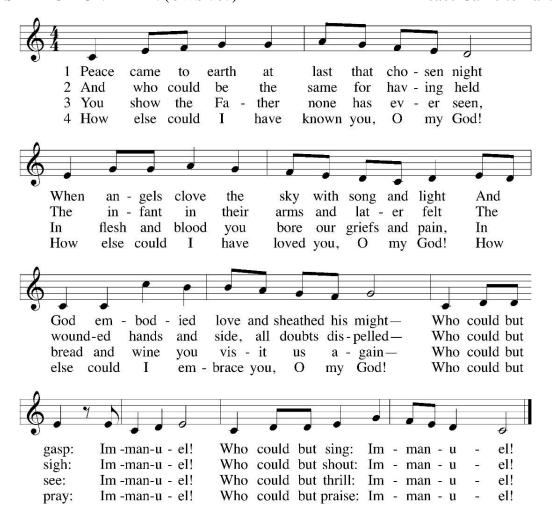


6 You shall and must at last prevail. God's own you are; you cannot fail. To God forever sing your praise With joy and patience all your days.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CWS 707)

Peace Came to Earth



The picturesque language of this Jaroslav Vajda hymn vividly illustrates the weighty significance of God becoming man in Christ.

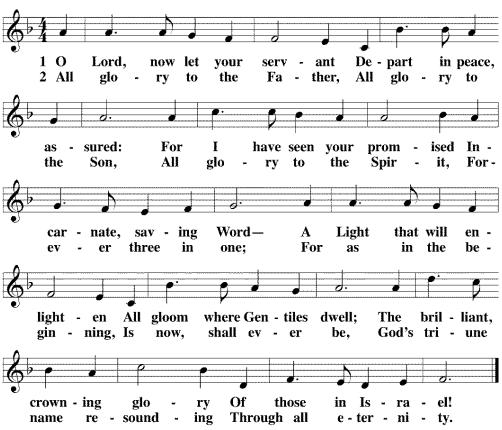
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: PEACE CAME TO EARTH (10 10 10 88) Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952 © 2000 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON Luke 2:29-32





M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

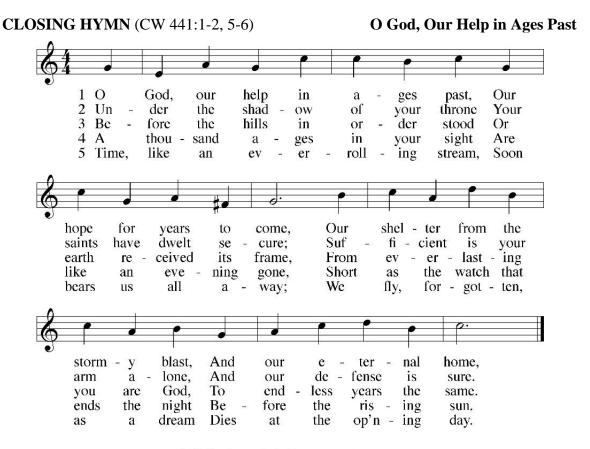
M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED



6 O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt.

Tune: St. Anne (CM) William Croft, 1678-1727, alt.

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Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

January Food Drive: Throughout the month of January, we will be collecting non-perishable food items and personal care items, for the DeForest/Windsor Food Pantry. Donations can be placed in the collection bin as you enter church.

Take down Christmas trees: Volunteers needed to help take down our Christmas trees this Saturday **January 6 at 9:00 am.** The more hands, the quicker we will be done.

Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?

Class begins Jan. 4, 6:30 pm—Peace Lutheran, Sun Prairie

In the book entitled *Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?*, Rev. Matthew Richard explores this issue. In a 12-session class at 6:30 pm on Thursday evenings beginning January 4, Dr. Arthur Eggert will lead a class through the book and show how to be sure that you are believing in the biblical Jesus. The live sessions will be held at Peace Lutheran in Sun Prairie and will be 90 minutes long. The class will be split, with 6 sessions before Lent and 6 after. If you cannot attend in person, you can join the class online or view the recorded sessions later. All the necessary information for registering and attending is available on the Online Classes page of the In Terra Pax website www.interrapaxlp.com. Information, class notes, and session videos will be updated on this website weekly.

Red Cross Blood Drive January 11: 12 - 5 pm

Our next blood drive at Lord of Love is less than two weeks away. Volunteers are needed to help with registration (computer skills needed). See the signup sheet to help. To register to give blood, go to https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive or contact Jen in the church office and she can sign you up.

Sunday December 31: 1st Sunday after Christmas Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

WELS Connection

No adult Bible study, teen class or Sunday school between services

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman: 8:00 Mitch Myhre, 10:30 Steve Kalscheuer
- Ushers 8:00: Lynn Biwer and Roger LaGrange
- Ushers 10:30: Joshua Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer, Kristin Huebner and Sophia Strong

- A/V & Recording: Julie Doyle
- Refreshments: The LaGrange Family

Sunday January 7: Baptism of our Lord Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen class and Sunday school

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Councilman: 8:00 Ryan Jaeger, 10:30 Jim Miller
- Ushers 8:00: Sef Fox, Steven Fox, Ben Olson and Dave Olson
- Ushers 10:30: The Holzman Family
- Counters: Roger LaGrange and Greg Zeman
- Altar Guild: Ava Ehlenbach and Karie Ehlenbach
- A/V & Recording: TBA
- Refreshments: Volunteers needed

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Darlene Raether (1/1), Mike Wilson (1/1), Sharon Freund (1/2), Kai Caballero (1/3), Linda Dobbins (1/3), Alexander Fellin (1/4), Nora Mislivecek (1/4), Christian Rimmert (1/4), Gary Ruplinger (1/5), Brooklynn Tutaj (1/5) and Heather Hurth (1/6) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

In Our Prayers: Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder and Steve Tobison who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

Offerings December 1 - 9:

- General Fund: \$7,574
- Mortgage Reduction Fund: \$660
- AV Improvements: \$20
- Madison Mission Project: \$3,421

Offerings December 10 - 16:

- General Fund: \$7,057
- Mortgage Reduction: \$225
- AV Improvements (Wish List): \$70

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,200

Looking ahead:

- Jan. 1, 2024: Food drive begins for DeForest/Windsor food pantry.
- Jan. 2: Visitation for Roland Manthe at Zion Lutheran, Leeds. 3:00 6:00 pm
- Jan. 3: Visitation for Roland Manthe at Zion Lutheran, Leeds. 10:00 11:00 am, Funeral Service at 11:00 am
- Jan. 6: Take down Christmas trees at church, 9:00 am
- Jan. 11: Red Cross Blood Drive at Lord of Love, 12:00 5:00 pm
- Jan. 27: Euchre Card night, 6:00 pm
- Jan. 28: Lunch with quarterly open forum and voters meeting following, 11:35 am