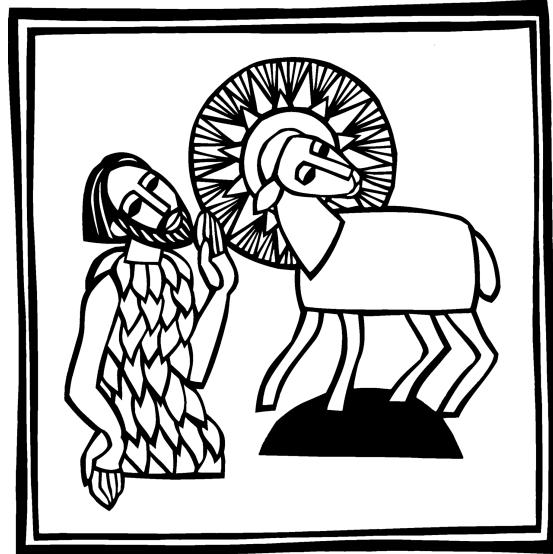


**SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANKT JOHANNES GEMEINDE
ÉGLISE LUTHÉRIENNE ST-JEAN**

**DRITTER SONNTAG IM
ADVENT
17. DEZEMBER 2023**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN
ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2023**



**PASTOR: Katherine Gohm
INTERIM ORGANIST: Esther-Ruth Teel**

We acknowledge that St. John's Lutheran Church is situated on unceded Indigenous land that was never surrendered by treaty or agreement. We recognize that the Kanien'keha:ka (commonly known as the Mohawk), a nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (commonly known as Iroquois), are the custodians of Tiohtia:ke (the Island of Montreal), which is a traditional meeting place between peoples including the Anishinaabe (commonly known as Algonquin), Abenaki and the Huron-Wendat. As a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and in agreement with its official policies, our church is committed to participating in an ongoing process of finding truth and reconciliation.

ORGELVORSPIEL

ORGAN PRELUDE

Esther-Ruth Teel

EINGANG

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Der Heilige Geist ruft uns als Volk Gottes zusammen.

WILKOMMEN

WELCOME

**ANZÜNDEN DES
ADVENTSKRANZES**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT
WREATH**

*Light One Candle to Watch for the Messiah ELW 240,
verse 1,2,3 only*



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

EINGANGLIED

OPENING HYMN

He Came Down ELW 253



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

Our service continues on ELW p. 156

Die Gnade unseres Herrn Jesus Christus und die Liebe Gottes und die Gemeinschaft des Heiligen Geistes, sei mit euch allen.

Und mit Deinem Geist.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KOLLEKTENGEBET

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Laßt uns beten.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Erwecke den Willen deines gläubigen Volkes, Herr, Gott, und öffne unsere Ohren für die Worte deiner Propheten, damit wir, von deinem Geist gesalbt, dein Licht bezeugen; durch Jesus Christus, unseren Retter und Herrn, der mit dir und dem Heiligen Geist lebt und regiert, ein Gott, jetzt und in Ewigkeit. **Amen.**

Please sit.

ERSTE LESUNG**FIRST LESSON****Jesaja 61, 1-4 8-11/ Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
- ⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM

Psalm 126

¹When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for
them.”**

³The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

⁴**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

ZWEITE LESUNG

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonicher 5, 16-24/ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A reading from 1 Thessalonians *auf Deutsch*.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HALLELUJAH

ALLELUIA



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

HEILIGES EVANGELIUM

HOLY GOSPEL

Johannes 1, 6-8 19-28/ John 1:6-8, 19-28

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

PREDIGT

SERMON

Pastor Katherine

Please stand.

PREDIGTLIED

HYMN OF THE DAY

Tröstet, tröstet, spricht der Herr EG 15

»Tröstet, tröstet«, spricht der Herr
Jesaja 40,1-10

15

1 »Trö - stet, trö - stet«, spricht der Herr, »mein
Volk, daß es nicht za - ge mehr.« Der
Sün - de Last, des To - des Fron nimmt
von euch Chri - stus, Got - tes Sohn.

2 Freundlich, freundlich rede du / und sprich dem müden Volke
zu: / »Die Qual ist um, der Knecht ist frei, / all Missetat vergeben
sei.«

Ebnet, ebnet Gott die Bahn, / bei Tal und Hügel fanget an. / Die Stimme ruft: »Tut Buße gleich, / denn nah ist euch das Himmelreich.« 3

Sehet, sehet, alle Welt / die Herrlichkeit des Herrn erhellt. / Die Zeit ist hier, es schlägt die Stund, / geredet hat es Gottes Mund. 4

Alles, alles Fleisch ist Gras, / die Blüte sein wird bleich und blaß. / Das Gras verdorrt, das Fleisch verblich, / doch Gottes Wort bleibt ewiglich. 5

Hebe deine Stimme, sprich / mit Macht, daß niemand fürchte sich. / Es kommt der Herr, eu'r Gott ist da / und herrscht gewaltig fern und nah. 6

Text: Waldemar Rode 1938

Melodie: Hans Friedrich Micheelsen 1938

Please remain standing.

FÜRBITTENGEBET

PRAYERS

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Fill our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy as we bear witness to the great things you have done. Give your church a spirit of gladness as we gather and as we are sent. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let the trees of the field sing your praise. Protect forests, orchards, rainforests, and all wooded areas from disease and deforestation. Keep us grateful for their gifts of oxygen, food, shade, and shelter. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You love justice and promise your favor to those who are oppressed, brokenhearted, and incarcerated. Grant wisdom and compassion to those who work for public safety and all who work within prisons, jails, and courts, that mercy may increase and violence wither away. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give us strength to pray for our world without ceasing and provoke us toward love and good deeds for all who are in need. Provide for all without adequate housing, food, employment, or access to health care. Empower us as helpers and advocates. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Open our hearts to those who serve as truth-tellers in our church and in our society. Bless leaders in church and society in their task of proclamation. Amplify voices of peacemakers, advocates, and especially those whose voices are ignored or marginalized. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With gratitude we rejoice in the saints who witnessed to your life in all circumstances, in whom your Spirit was not quenched, even in death. Through them, teach us always to hold fast to what is good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**

FRIEDENSGRUB

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. Der Friede des Herrn sei mit euch allen. **And also with you. Und mit deinem Geist.**

Share a gesture of peace with one another as you are comfortable.

ABENDMAHL

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Gott nährt uns mit der Gegenwart von Jesus Christus

DANKOPFER

OFFERING

Ways to give an offering are at the end of this worship guide.

DANKOPFERGEBET

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand.

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GROßES DANKGEBET

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

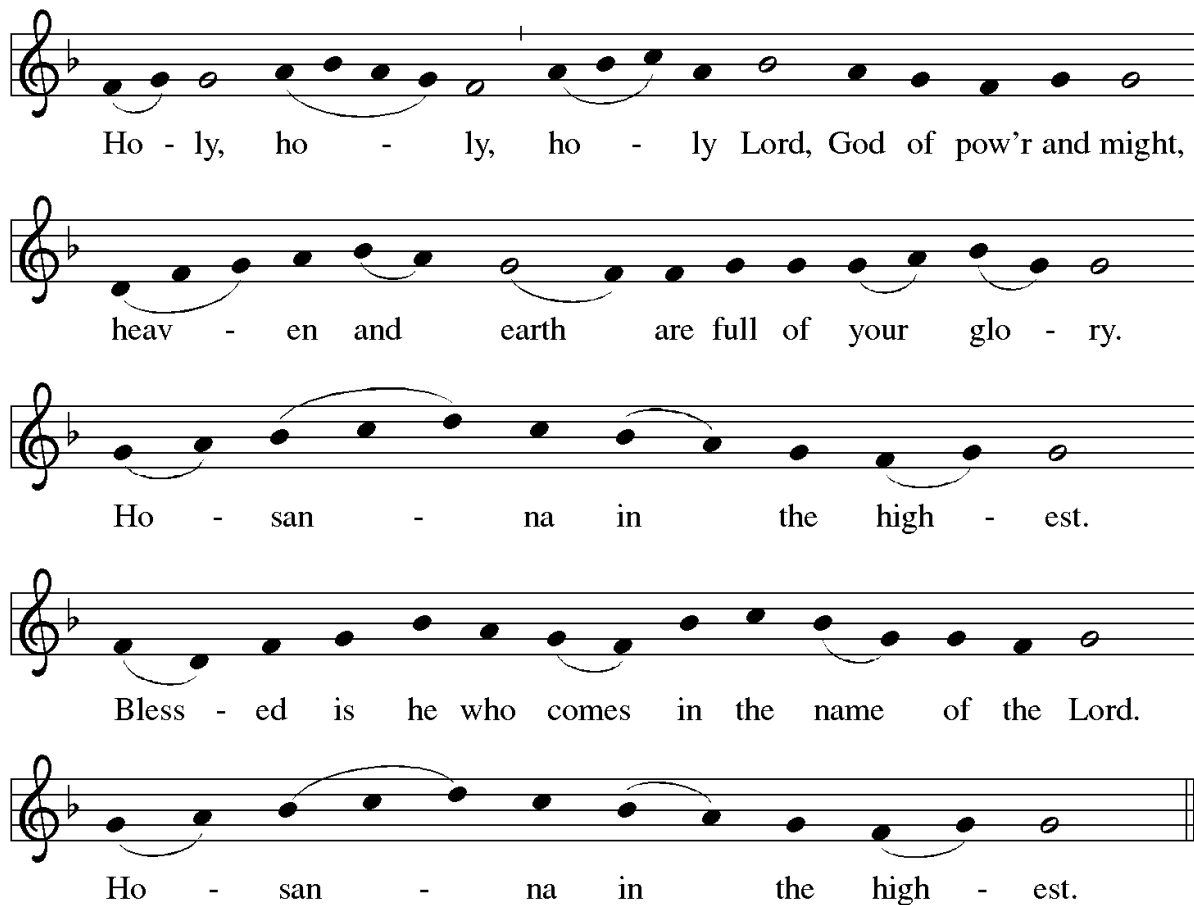
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

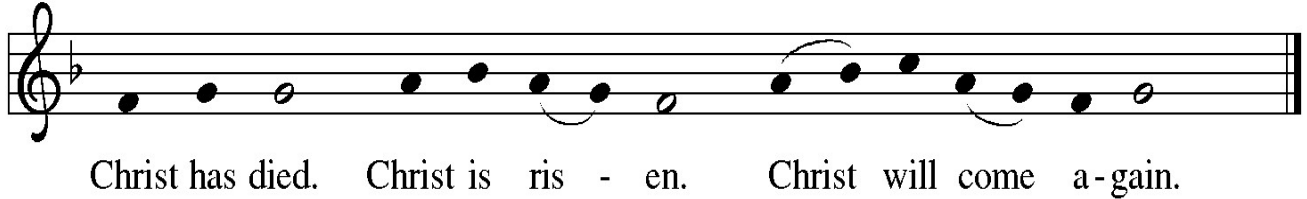
Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

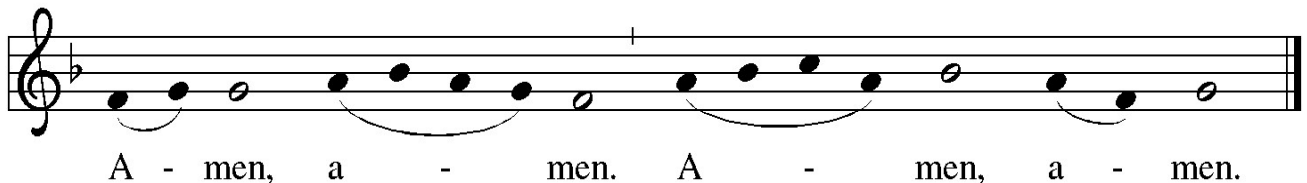
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.



Please stand.
DAS VATERUNSER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Vater unser im Himmel,
Geheiligt werde dein Name.
Dein Reich komme.
Dein Wille geschehe,
wie im Himmel,
so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute.
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
Wie auch wir vergeben unsern
Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem
Bösen.
Denn dein ist das Reich und die
Kraft
und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit.
Amen.**

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

COMMUNION

Lamb of God will be sung before we commune.

Lamb of God, p. 164

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

Please sit during the time of Communion. To receive the elements, please come up the left-hand aisle to the altar and return to your seat on the right. Grape juice is available in pre-poured individual cups.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

MUSIK WÄHREND DER
AUSTEILUNG

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Esther-Ruth Teel

Please stand.
DANKGEBET

PRAYER OF THANKS

Let us pray.

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

AUSGANG

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Gott segnet uns und sendet uns im Auftrag in die Welt

Please stand.

SEGEN

BLESSING

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✝ remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Der Gott des Friedens segne euch, die Liebe Christi stärke euch in der Hoffnung, und die Salbung des Geistes bleibe auf euch jetzt und immerdar. **Amen.**

SCHLUßLIED

CLOSING SONG

People, Look East ELW 248



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: BESANÇON, French carol
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

ENTLASSUNG

DISMISSAL

Geh in Frieden. Bleibt wach. Go in peace. Keep awake.
Gott sei Dank. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDIUM

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY CHOIR!

Esther-Ruth, the interim organist at St. John's Lutheran, is organizing a community choir for the 6pm service on Christmas Eve. We will rehearse after the service on Dec 17, and at 5:15 on Christmas Eve. Please send Esther-Ruth an email at esther.ruth.teel@gmail.com if you're interested in joining!

Poinsettias

Would you like to donate to help make our sanctuary beautiful and honour a loved one all at the same time? We have poinsettias available for sale!

3 sizes to choose from:

small \$9	medium \$18	large \$37
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Get to know Pastor Katherine!

Pastor Katherine would LOVE to get to know you! Please be in touch via a phone call to the church or email: pastor@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org Or, why not join her for an Advent book study?

- **Wednesdays, 7pm:** *ADVENT BOOK STUDY "Touch the Wounds: On Suffering, Trust and Transformation" by Tomas Halik. Led by Pastor Katherine, in person at the church. The book can be ordered through Amazon or Indigo.*

Pastor Katherine **would be honoured to pray for you and with you.** Please be in touch for all pastoral care via the pastor's email address or by calling the church office (contact info below).

Regular office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-2pm.

Upcoming Events

- **December 24:** *No morning worship*
 - **4pm German Christmas Eve service**
 - **6pm English Family Oriented Christmas Eve service**
- **December 25: English Christmas Day, 11am**
- **December 25: English Christmas Day, 11am**
- **December 31: New Year's Eve, 11am**

We are thankful for your donations! Donations in person are welcome as well as:

- Cheque, payable to St John's Lutheran
- [CanadaHelps](http://CanadaHelps.org/en/charities/119180826RR0001-st-johns-lutheran-church/) www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119180826RR0001-st-johns-lutheran-church/
- Interac transfer: secretary@saintjohnslutheranmontreal.org

3594, rue Jeanne-Mance Montréal QC H2X 2K3
514-844-6297

secretary@saintjohnslutheranmontreal.org
www.saintjohnslutheranmontreal.org

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