

**St. John Lutheran Church  
Palmer, Kansas 66962**

*Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor      Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist*  
*E-mail: zionlinn@bluevalley.net      Office Phone : (785) 348-5332*  
*Pastor Gruoner - Home: (785) 348-5316;*  
*Cell: (785) 447-9138 (EMERGENCY ONLY)*  
*Website: www.stjohnpalmer.net*

**Member – Linn Lutheran School Association**

*Mr. David Beikmann – Principal & Teacher; Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net;*  
*Mrs. Laura Stunkel, Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl & Mrs. Shawna Spiehs – Teachers*

**December 16, 2018**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

*Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Gruoner, and we hope to see you again soon.*

*Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.*

**Liturgy – Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)**

**Opening Hymn:** 335 “O Bride of Christ, Rejoice”

**Sermon Hymn:** 345 “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

**Communion Hymn:** 618 “I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

**Communion Hymn:** 347 “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

**Communion Hymn:** 387 “Joy to the World”

**Closing Hymn:** 632 “O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please e-mail prayer requests to Pastor Holtorf at [gholtorf@bluevalley.net](mailto:gholtorf@bluevalley.net).

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

**Robbie Oelschlager – chronic pain      Kay Bott – cancer recovery**

**Henry Maseman - congestive heart failure**

**Acolytes this Sunday** - Ella Thalmann & Ethan Bott

**Acolytes next Sunday** - Ayla Johnson & Aiden Spiehs

**Ushers today** - \*Aaron Stuenkel, Brady Kolle, Lance Gerleve, & Eli Thalmann

**Ushers next Sunday** - \*Jacob Bott, John Bott, Cody Ohlde, & Tyler Ohlde

**Upcoming Events**

- December 16**      8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m. Voter’s Assembly  
9:45 a.m. Christmas Eve program practice &  
Preschool Sunday school  
10:30 a.m. Mixed Choir practice  
5:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling at the Linn  
Community Nursing Home
- December 19**      5:30 p.m. St. John Midweek  
7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Service@Zion, Linn
- December 22**      9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Christmas Program practice
- December 23**      8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class  
9:45 a.m. Christmas Eve program practice &  
Preschool Sunday school  
10:30 a.m. Mixed Choir practice
- December 24**      6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Program
- December 25**      9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
- December 26**      NO St. John Midweek

**Christmas Eve Program & Sunday School Notes:**

- \* All Saturday Christmas Eve program practice will be from 9 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. Preschool will practice from 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. On Sundays, the kids will practice from 9:30-10:30 instead of Sunday school, with the Preschoolers going to Sunday school from 9:30-10:00 and then joining the practice from 10:00-10:30 a.m.
- \* The next practices will be held Sun., Dec. 16th; Sat., Dec. 22nd; Sun., and Dec. 23rd
- \* During Sunday school on December 30th, the kids will be having a Christmas party instead of Sunday school!

**Old Testament Reading:****Zephaniah 3:14–20**

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.  
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.  
I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.  
Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.  
At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I gather you together;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes,” says the Lord.

**Epistle Reading:****Philippians 4:4–7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading:****Luke 7:18–28**

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

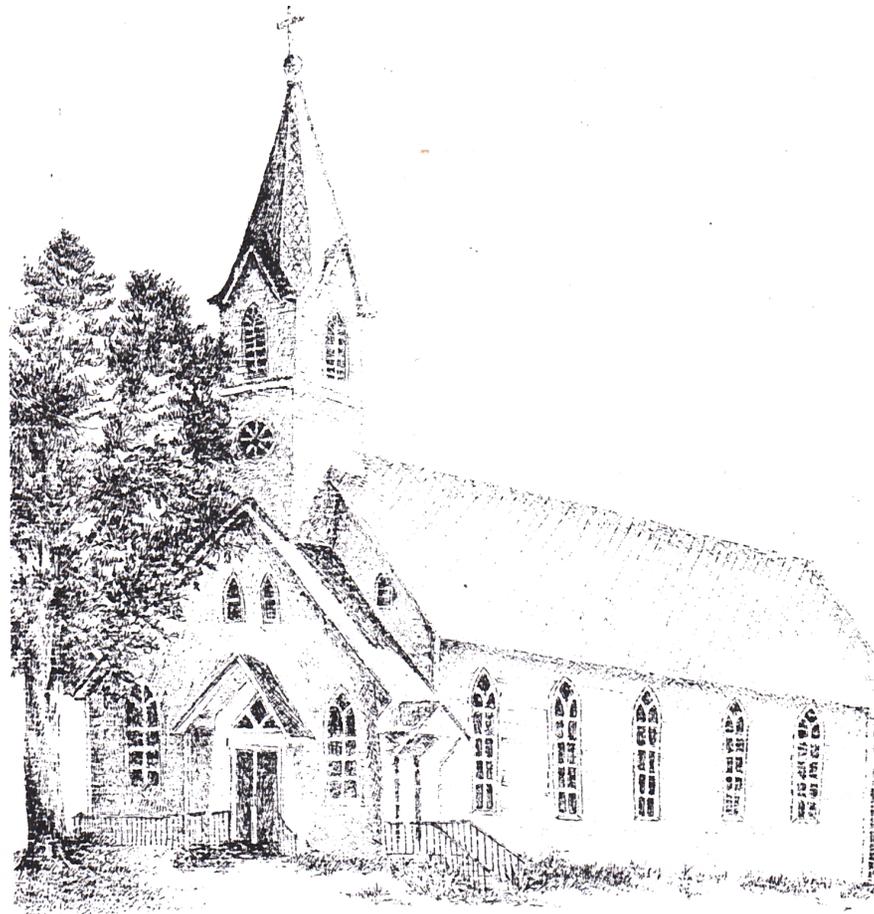
I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”



## Announcements

- \* We will be caroling at the Linn Community Nursing home this evening at 5:30 p.m. **Everyone** is invited to join in singing Christmas carols!
- \* From the ladies of the LWML: Thank you for all of the generous food donations during the month of November! The amount collected overflowed 3 shopping carts at the Washington County Food Bank. Your generosity will nourish so many families in their time of need.
- \* The Bethlehem Greenleaf LWML will be sponsoring an ingathering during the months of December 2018 and January 2019 for Orphan Grain Train. The following items are needed for various disasters that have occurred in the United States and worldwide: cloth and disposable diapers, layettes, formula, non-perishable food, large trash bags, brooms, 5-gallon buckets, dust mops, safety goggles, tarps, wheel barrows, generators, square shovels, towels & wash cloths, tooth brushes, soap, kids' backpacks, new coloring books, pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, crayons, new socks, shoes, underwear, soccer balls, basketballs, baseball equipment, adult diapers, wheel chairs, walkers, disposable gowns & gloves. Online donations can also be made to OGT via their website. This collection would be a great Christmas present from the Linn Zone churches! Please contact Michele Voelker at (785) 747-2427 with any questions.

Please email any announcements for the bulletin to Theresa at [theresa\\_meier@yahoo.com](mailto:theresa_meier@yahoo.com) by noon on Friday.



*December 16th, 2018*  
*Third Sunday of Advent*

*St. John Ev. Lutheran Church*

*304 National Road*

*Palmer, Kansas 66962*

*Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor*