

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

**711 Court Street Pekin, IL 61554-1735**

**(309)-347-2136/2137**

**Web site: [stjohnpekin.com](http://stjohnpekin.com)      Email: [stjohnsec@grics.net](mailto:stjohnsec@grics.net)**

*Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor*

*Reva Simpson, Principal - Good Shepherd Lutheran School - 347-2020*

## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

*December 24, 2017*

Christ's blessings to all! **To our visitors**, we rejoice to have you gathered together with us in our Lord's House this day & look forward to having you with us again. If you are searching for a Church home, **please introduce yourself to Pastor** or indicate such **with your contact information** in the red 'Fellowship Booklets' in each pew.

### **THE ORDER OF MATINS**

**+ Prelude**

**+ Hymn of Invocation #73** *(2nd tune)*

*"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

**+ Versicles & Responses – pg. 32**      *(stand)*

**+ The Venite – pg. 33**

**+ PSALMODY:**

Psalm 132

*LORD, remember David*

*And all his afflictions;*

**How he swore to the LORD,**

**And vowed to the Mighty God of Jacob:**

*Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house,*

*Or go up to the comfort of my bed;*

**I will not give sleep to my eyes**

**Or slumber to my eyelids,**

*Until I find a place for the LORD,*

*A dwelling place for the Mighty God of Jacob."*

**Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;**

**We found it in the fields of the woods.**

*Let us go into His tabernacle;*

*Let us worship at His footstool.*

**Arise, O LORD, to Your resting place,**

**You and the ark of Your strength.**

*Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness,*

*And let Your saints shout for joy.*

**For Your servant David's sake,**

**Do not turn away the face of Your Anointed.**

*The LORD has sworn in truth to David;*

*He will not turn from it:*

*"I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body.*

**If your sons will keep My covenant**

**And My testimony which I shall teach them,**

**Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore."**

*For the LORD has chosen Zion;*

*He has desired it for His habitation:*

**"This is My resting place forever;**

**Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.**

*I will abundantly bless her provision;*

*I will satisfy her poor with bread.*

**I will also clothe her priests with salvation,**

**And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.**

*There I will make the horn of David grow;*

*I will prepare a lamp for My Anointed.*

**His enemies I will clothe with shame,**

**But upon Himself His crown shall flourish."**

**+ The Catechism Review – The Apostles' Creed**

*What is The Second Article?*

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

*What does this mean?* **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

**who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,**

**that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

**just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.**

**This is most certainly true.**

**+ The Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

- *See enclosed insert for the Readings*

+ **The Epistle: Romans 16:25-27**

+ **The Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38** (*stand*)

+ **Sermon Hymn - #274** "Praise We the Lord This Day"

+ **Sermon: "The Miraculous Conception of the Holy Son of God"**  
**Luke 1:34-35**

- I. The Virgin Mary's Baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit to be the Holy Son of God.
- II. The Holy Son of God was conceived and born for us unholy sinners.

+ **The Offerings**

+ **The Canticle Hymn #91, v. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9**  
"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

+ **The Prayers**

- **The Kyrie – pg. 39**
- **The Lord's Prayer – pg. 39**
- **The Salutation – pg. 40**
- **Special Petitions**
- **Collect Of The Day**

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

- **The Collect for Grace – pg. 40**

+ **The Benedicamus – pg. 40**

+ **The Benediction – pg. 40**

+ **Hymn – #99** "Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

+ **Silent Prayer & Postlude**

**+ SOLI DEO GLORIA +**

## **DAILY READINGS**

**December 24:** Is. 44:21–45:13, 20–25; Rev. 12:1–17; **25:** Is. 49:1–18; Matt. 1:1–17; **26:** Is. 49:22–26; 50:4–51:8, 12–16; Matt. 1:18–25; **27:** Is. 51:17–52:12; Matt. 2:1–12; **28:** Is. 52:13–54:10; Matt. 2:13–23; **29:** Is. 55:1–13; Luke 1:1–25; **30:** Is. 58:1–59:3, 14–21; Luke 1:26–38.