

***Last Week's Stewardship of the Means of Grace
and the Means for His Work***

Worship 82; 69 communed **ABC:** N/A **SST:** N/A **YSS:** N/A

	<u>LW</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD Goal</u>
Church Offerings	\$4,351.25	\$146,007.64	\$184,070.61
St. John LES Tuition	\$0	\$16,000.00	\$36,346.05
Synod / Missions	\$280	\$8,507.49	\$9,346.05
Fox Valley Luth. HS	\$246	\$4,981.00	\$5,192.37

News & Notes

Satellite Bible Study – TONIGHT!
All are invited over to the Zahns' home this evening for our second meeting. This month's topic is "commitment." Each study is "self-contained" to be covered in a single session. In other words, feel free to attend when you're able without feeling that you've fallen behind.

All-Member Open Forum – Next Sunday
As we've done in recent months, an open forum will be held in place of the Adult class as a preview of the following evening's voters meeting. Along with brief area of ministry and financial updates, members can discuss any upcoming new business or items of interest.

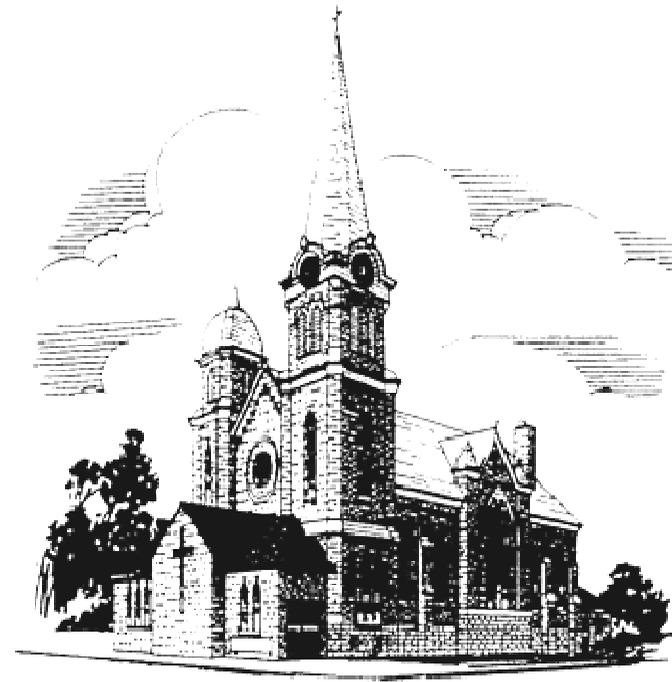
St. John Night @ the Green Bay Gamblers
Head on up to the Resch Center on Saturday, January 28th for a night of hockey, fun and fellowship. Group-rate tickets can be ordered using the form in the entryway, and our church and school families will all sit together in a block. Between periods, our own Mr. Raddatz will take to the ice in a scramble to scoop up as much cash as he's able to benefit our school. Come and cheer him on! Who knows – someone might even get to ride along on the Zamboni!

WELS Online Study – Mysterious Marriage
Rev. Randy Hunter will lead the next study on Wednesday evenings during February. The discussion will focus on marriage enrichment, and you can view the study live online at either 6:00 or 8:00 pm each week. Go to wels.net and look for the "Interactive Faith" link / logo. If you can't follow along live, the videos will be archived and uploaded a day or two later. If there's interest (please let Pastor know), we could project the live feed here at church.

The Ave Student Ministries
High school age members from area WELS congregations (and their guests) are invited to get together at Copper Rock Coffee on College Ave. in Appleton from 6:30 until 8:00 pm for music, study, discussion, and fellowship. The winter session consists of two meetings in February – on the 1st and the 15th. Speak with Pastor regarding carpooling arrangements.

Offering Envelopes
Make sure to use envelopes from your 2017 packet from here on out! Please get rid of any leftover 2016 envelopes to avoid any confusion, as your envelope number has likely changed!

**First Sunday after the Epiphany – Baptism of Our Lord
January 8, 2017**



St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School
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- Mrs. Rebecca Wicks, Pre-K and K..... (920) 809-8648
- Miss. Jamie Buss, Preschool and Pre-K (920) 538-0470
- Mr. Terry Sieker, Congregation President (920) 864-7307
- Fox Valley Lutheran High School (920) 739-4441

Welcome!

We extend a very warm and friendly welcome to all who've joined us for worship today. We pray that the God of grace, who sent his Son to save you and who proved his love for you by raising him from the dead, will fill your heart with joy in knowing that your salvation has been made sure through Jesus. May God bless your worship!

If you're a guest with us this morning, please sign the Friendship Register in your row, checking any applicable boxes. If you need assistance of any kind, don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers. If you'd like to learn more about St. John congregation or the Bible's teachings, please speak with Pastor Mike Gehl. And if you don't already have a church-home, feel free to return and worship with us again at your earliest convenience.

Our restrooms are located downstairs (through the entryway). Activity bags to help keep children occupied are on a hanger in the entryway. We love having your children sit with you during the service, but if you feel that your infant or toddler is getting a little too fussy, you may briefly step out of the sanctuary until they're ready to come back in.

Today's order of service is displayed on the screen and printed out in the worship folder (with music notes) for your convenience. Hymns are found in the red book in front of you.

St. John also operates an all-day preschool and a full-day kindergarten through eighth grade Lutheran Elementary School. We're a member of the Fox Valley Lutheran High School federation. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities for Christian education, please speak with Pastor Gehl or Principal Tim Raddatz.

At Your Service Today:

	<u>7:45</u>	<u>10:15</u>
Greeters:	Michelle Bruecker Becke Pennenberg Ralia Pennenberg Carroll Treptow	Mary Fritsch Barb Verbeten Rozanne Bohrtz Nichole Meyers
Ushers:	Don & Dave Treptow Noah Pennenberg Monty Reynolds Jacob Bruecker Ed Maass	Josh Bohrtz Ralph Bohrtz Ryan Lemke Kenny Lemke Chris Lemke
PowerPoint:	Phil Roberts	Carol Just
Altar Guild:	Lou Ann Beard & Mary Fritsch	

Mission and Purpose

St. John Lutheran Church exists as part of the Holy Christian Church on earth. We engage in the continuing development of disciples of Jesus Christ by **GATHERING** for worship, education, and fellowship in order to **GROW** in faith and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. By God's **GRACE** we **GO** to proclaim Christ and his Word with our lips and lives. We realize that it's only through the **GOSPEL** in Word and Sacraments that one can be equipped for discipleship and bringing **GLORY** to God.



cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners, plunge be - neath the
Spir - it as a dove; Spoke a voice be - yond all
yet for sin - ners slain. But where death rose up to
us to serve you now. Send us forth, your sons and

wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!"
hear - ing: "See my Son, the one I love!"
tri - umph, You be - gan your glo - rious reign!
daugh - ters, With the cross up - on our brow.

This hymn not only underscores the significance of our Lord's baptism in his work of salvation but also demonstrates the intimate connection between his baptism and our own.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007 © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

The Week+ Ahead as We Live in God's Grace

Today (8th)	7:45 am	Worship
	9:00 am	Sunday School (the Wise Men) Adult Bible Class (Life of Christ: Jesus Teaches about God's Will)
	10:15 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Altar Guild Meeting
	7:00 pm	Satellite Bible Study: "Commitment" (at the Zahns' home)
Mon (9th)	7:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Tue (10th)	11:30 am	Senior Luncheon
Wed (11th)	3:30 pm	6 th -8 th Grade Catechism Class
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thu (12th)	7:00 pm	Handbells Practice (at Trinity, Kaukauna)
Sun (15th)	7:45 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	9:00 am	Sunday School (Joseph Becomes Ruler of Egypt) Adult Bible Class: All-Member Open Forum
	10:15 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
Mon (16th)	7:30 pm	Quarterly Voters Meeting

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

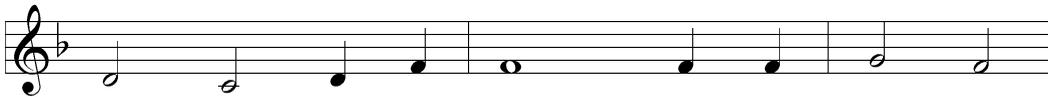


C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Closing Hymn "Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert" (CWS 709)



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert Led to
2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons As by
3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan Led at
4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us One with



Jor - dan's flow - ing stream. There you heard the
Jor - dan's bank you stood; Bathed, though sin - less,
last to Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the
Christ, our ris - en Lord; Freed us, claimed us,



her - ald cry - ing Is - rael's old pro - phet - ic
with your peo - ple In the riv - er's cleans - ing
cross for - sak - en, You ful - filled the Fa - ther's
cleansed, for - giv - en Through the wa - ter and the



dream: "He is com - ing! He is com - ing! He will
flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens o - pened; Came the
will. Lamb of God, we see you dy - ing, Sin - less,
Word. Help us hear your ur - gent sum - mons, Call - ing

Service Theme for the First Sunday after the Epiphany – the Baptism of Our Lord: Jesus appears as the Christ, the Anointed One. The titles "Christ" and "Messiah" both mean "The Anointed One," and they describe how God prepared Jesus for his mission. Since the days of Othniel (Judges 3:10), the Spirit of the Lord empowered God's heroes to do his saving work. At his baptism, God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and with power and declared this son of Mary to be the Son of God—the one anointed to be the Savior of mankind.

Gathering Rite on Holy Baptism

In the name of the Father and of the Son [✠] and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

[During the introduction to the hymn, water is poured into the font.]



Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your



Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to



sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

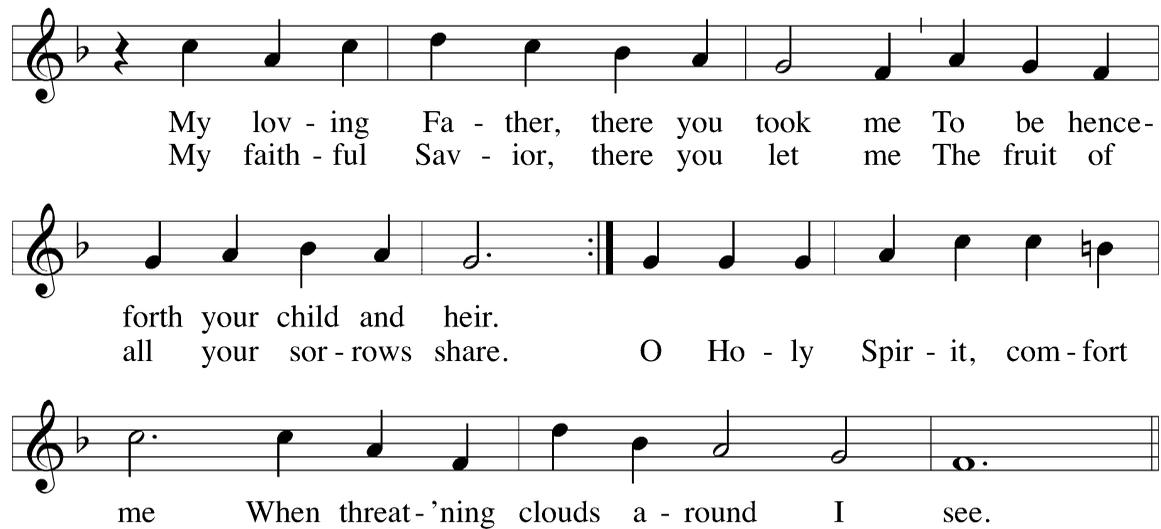
(John 3:5,6)

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.

(Psalm 51:5)

But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

(1 Corinthians 6:11)



My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of

forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort

me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and

sure - ly will en - dure.
deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -

filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving

Thank-Offering

*These offerings are used to support the ministries of our church, both locally and worldwide.
Our guests should not feel compelled to give an offering, but may do so if they desire.*

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Prayer

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 3:13-17 (EHV)

What kind of God gets baptized? The Baptist’s question confronts every Christian reading this account, and we join in John’s incredulity at Jesus’ intended condescension. Though John objected, Jesus encouraged him to allow this concession in order to fulfill their purpose there together. Their joint purpose was to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus would do that by being the Messiah and standing in the place of sinful man—first at the font and ultimately at the cross. John would play his part by fulfilling his role as forerunner: baptizing with water that the Messiah might be revealed (John 1:31). When John consented and baptized Jesus, the Spirit fulfilled the promises of Isaiah (First Lesson), and Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power (Second Lesson). In this inauguration into his office as the Christ, God prepared the Messiah for his mission with an unlimited outpouring of the Spirit (John 3:34). In the very next verse, empowered and led by the Spirit, the hero of God immediately goes out to war against Satan on behalf of mankind (Matthew 4:1ff), fulfilling all righteousness and bringing us peace.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by John at the Jordan. ¹⁴But John tried to stop him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, because it is proper for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John let him. ¹⁶After Jesus was baptized, he immediately went up out of the water. Suddenly, the heavens were opened for him! He saw the Spirit of God, descending like a dove and landing on him, ¹⁷and a voice out of the heavens said, “This is my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with him.”

[the lesson ends with the words] ...this is the Gospel of our Lord.



Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day.....“To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord” (CW 89)

Sermon Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus Begins His Public Ministry.

The Son accepts the work of salvation.

The Father accepts the worker of salvation.



Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (Ephesians 5:25-27). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son [†] and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

[Holy Baptism may follow, after which the following stanza is sung.]



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Lesson Isaiah 42:1-7 (EHV)

This Servant Song foretells the Messiah’s work: he will be God’s own servant sent to accomplish God’s mission. God will choose him, uphold him and delight in him. God will also put his Spirit on him that he might bring justice to the nations. His ministry is characterized by gentleness toward the weak, but also by an inexorable driving toward his goal. He will not

falter in the work for which he was anointed until he brings forth the right verdict: the justice that comes from God and declares his people righteous in his sight because of Messiah's work. He will be the Mediator of the new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34) based on his person that will bring the people and the Gentiles out of the darkness of sin's prison. Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism shows how these prophecies were perfectly fulfilled in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. I am placing my Spirit upon him. He will bring forth the verdict for the nations. ²He will not cry out. He will not raise his voice. He will not make his voice heard in the street. ³A bent reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out. He will faithfully bring forth the verdict. ⁴He will not grow dim, and he will not be crushed until he establishes the verdict on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his teaching. ⁵This is what the true God says, the LORD, who creates the heavens and stretches them out, who spreads out the earth and everything that comes out of it, who gives breath to the people upon it and life to those who walk on it. ⁶"I am the LORD. I am calling you in righteousness. I will grasp your hand, and I will guard you. I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to be a light for the nations, ⁷to open blind eyes, to bring the prisoners out of the dungeon and to bring those who live in darkness out of prison.

Psalm of the Day Psalm 45 (EHV)

My heart is bubbling over with a beautiful theme.

I am reciting my works for the King.

You are the most beautiful of the sons of Adam.

Grace is poured out on your lips.

Strap your sword on your thigh, mighty warrior,

In your splendor and your majesty.

In your majesty move forward. Ride forward in the cause of truth, humility, and righteousness.

Let your right hand teach you awesome deeds.

Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever.

The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of justice.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of joy.

I will preserve the memory of your name through all generations.

Therefore peoples will praise you for ever and ever.

Second Lesson Acts 10:34-38 (EHV)

The Gentile household of Cornelius had heard the message about the Savior, but then Peter came as an eyewitness of prophesy's fulfillment. Jesus was the Christ because at his baptism God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power. Immediately, the empowerment of the Spirit made itself evident in the works of Jesus as he did the Messiah's work of healing those under the power of the devil. This anointing as Savior resulted in Peter's amazing statement in verse 36, "the message proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all." The message God sent Israel consisted in that one word: peace. That message was on the lips of the angels at Christmas and on the lips of Christ at his resurrection. Jesus restored peace between man and God because that's exactly what he had been anointed to do.

³⁴Then Peter began to speak: "Now I really am beginning to understand that God does not show favoritism, ³⁵but in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶He sent his word to the people of Israel, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached. ³⁸God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the Devil, because God was with him."

Verse of the Day Mark 1:11b

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!