



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

November 21, 2021

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LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Sermon Title & Text: "Remembered and Remembering" *Jude 20-25*
Service: See printed Service Folder
Hymns: 804 ~ 336 ~ [Communion: 617, 810] ~ 525

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS *We welcome all who have come to worship our God with us today! Each day we live is a priceless gift from God, loaded with possibilities to learn something new, to gain fresh insights into His great truths. May we be showered with those blessings as we together profess His Name today. Please fill out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the baskets at the doors as you leave.*



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Dakota Szabo, Alex Wachtman, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Kathy Behnfeldt, Deb Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✠

ADULT BIBLE STUDY is canceled this morning so that we can have our special Voters' Meeting. We will resume our study of Proverbs next Sunday, Nov. 28.

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING THIS MORNING

At its November meeting the Church Council called for a special Voters' Meeting today to handle a couple of pressing matters. **We will gather back in the sanctuary for this meeting.** The brief agenda for this meeting is as follows:

- To issue a Teacher Call to *Mrs. Michelle Weddelman*. Mrs. Weddelman has completed her colloquy and is now eligible to receive a Call.
- To inform the congregation of an option we have to purchase the home of *Harold Behrmann*, so that we can make a more informed decision at the regular December Voters' Meeting on Sunday, December 19th.

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00AM 10:20AM 10:30AM	Communion Service Sunday School; "The Lamp" Special Voters' Meeting
Mon.	5:30 PM	NO SCHOOL – Teacher's Conference in Fort Wayne, IN (Mon.&Tues.) <i>Bread From Heaven</i> Food Pantry distribution
Wed.	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK (<i>thru Friday</i>) Junior Confirmation Class (<i>until 6:45 PM</i>) Thanksgiving Eve Service Offering: <i>Henry County Christmas Cheer</i> Ushers: <i>Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop</i> Altar Guild: <i>Pat Maassel, Anita Badenhop, Kathy Behnfeldt, Deb Von Deylen</i>
Sun.	9:00AM 10:20AM	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. Aaron Bueltmann</i> , St. John Lutheran – Stryker

FOR THOSE LISTENING FROM THE PARKING LOT

Pick up your bulletin and service by driving through the carport before worship

You can give your offering to the deacon at the same time

Tune your FM radio to 87.7

Drive-thru Communion after worship under carport

MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman, Evelyn Rohrs*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ **Military:** *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Esther Layton, Florence Jones, Sue Hurst, Eileen Fitzenreiter*, and *Don Lawrence*, for health concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Jamie Damman*, recovering from injuries sustained in a serious car accident
- ❖ *Hildegard Behrmann*, who was admitted to Henry County Hospital on Wednesday

MIDWEEK CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE – Starting this Wednesday, the midweek confirmation class will meet from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., dismissing in time for the worship services at 7:00 p.m. We will resume our regular schedule in the new year on Wednesday, January 5th.

LAST THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE THIS YEAR - At its October meeting the church council decided that Thursday services should continue through Nov. 18, the week before Thanksgiving. **The final regular Thursday service was THIS LAST THURSDAY.** Coming up there will be Wednesday evening services on Thanksgiving Eve and on the Wednesdays of Advent (*see additional announcement in this bulletin*).



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

“Come, ye thankful people, come!” Join us for our celebration of Thanksgiving. We will gather for worship this week on Wednesday, Nov. 24 at 7:00 PM for our **Thanksgiving Eve Service**. That evening we will receive a double offering:

- **MONETARY OFFERING** – The offerings we give in the offering plate will support Henry County Christmas Cheer and its work of assisting low income families in our area;
- **FOOD OFFERING** – As always, everyone is encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for our food pantry, and to present those items at a table in front of the sanctuary, either before the service or during the offering.

MY DEVOTIONS for December, January, and February are available this Sunday on the desk in the back of the church. Pick up your copy today! If you know of someone who would enjoy these, please take one for them.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS: The School Board would like to ask for volunteers to help decorate the sanctuary this year. They will be putting up decorations on Tues., Nov. 30th at 5:30 PM, prior to their School Board meeting. Please consider giving an hour or two of your time to help.

BULLETIN STUFFER VOLUNTEERS: Want to get involved? Why not try volunteering to help with stuffing the bulletins for worship services. It’s not too difficult and can be done either at church or in the comfort of your own home. The bulletins are pre-folded. If anyone is willing to donate a little time toward stuffing bulletins, we are looking for about 11-12 couples/families to sign up for this task. If you feel you would like to give this a try, there is a signup sheet on the narthex table. You can even pick the month(s) that work best for you. We can accommodate your busy schedules. **NOTE:** *If you have stuffed bulletins in the past year, thank you for your service. We ask that you please sign up again and choose your month. You can also call Lori Langenhop at 419-598-8151 or email her at lahop@bright.net.*



Ageless Advent Questions

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES – The theme this year for our midweek Advent services is, **“Ageless Advent Questions.”** The questions Advent poses for us and all humanity are suggested by in texts of Advent by John the Baptist, Mary, and the shepherds. They are

ageless questions that we all need to ponder. The midweek Advent schedule is as follows:

DateTheme

Offering

Dec. 1 “Are You the One?” *Matthew 11:2-11* Lutheran Bible Translators

Dec. 8 “How Will This Be?” *Luke 1:5-38* Worship Anew

Dec. 15 “For Me?” *Luke 2:8-16* National Youth Gathering

Please join us for our Advent evening praise, each Wednesday of December.

Worship begins at 7:00 p.m.

2022 OFFERING BOXES: Offering envelope boxes will be available in early December. The financial commitments you make as well as how you contribute are between you and God. The church provides offering envelopes to our members in order to promote faithful and joyful giving as well as to serve as a means to record member contributions throughout the year for charitable tax purposes. Due to the costs of these envelope boxes, members who elect to not use their envelopes over the course of two years (*for whatever reason*) will no longer be issued a box of envelopes. If at any time such a member would like to resume using envelopes, please contact *Jerry Langenhop*, Finance Trustee.

FINANCIAL FACTS:	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 11/14/21	\$10,393.28	\$597.00	\$530.00
ATTENDANCE:	Thursday – 38;	Sunday – 137	

ADD'L MEMORIALS for *Harold Behrmann*: St. John Endowment - School Fund - \$97

USHER, AND ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP – We are preparing the 2022 Usher, and Altar Guild schedules so this is the time to sign-up at the table in the narthex. If you are interested in serving God's people here at St. John in a way that is much needed and appreciated, would you consider joining a team? The sign-up deadline is Sunday, Dec. 12th. *If you are currently serving as an usher or are on an altar guild team, you will remain on that team for 2022, unless you notify the office otherwise.*

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT STILL UNDERWAY – The Stewardship Board continues the process of identifying individuals to fill the various offices of our congregation for service to Christ and His people. If you receive a letter or oral request to take an office, please give the matter prayerful consideration. The Board has prayed for you, that God might use you and the gifts He has given you.

MOVING TOWARD NORMALCY – The elders discussed how we might begin to return to some normalcy as the threat of the Covid virus diminishes. Please share your thoughts with the pastor or an Elder, (*Denny Behnfeldt, Todd Hesterman, Steve Gruenhagen, Jeremy Honemann, Dave Von Deylen, Mike Maassel*).

HOLY COMMUNION: The elders discussed returning to our normal Communion practices, and would like to solicit your thoughts and input. There are two matters specifically:

- What are your thoughts about returning to the Communion rail for the Lord's Supper? What if we had only five people at each 'table' so that we aren't kneeling shoulder-to-shoulder?
- What are your thoughts about returning to the Common Cup, with the option, of course, of the individual cup for those who prefer?

BULLETINS: It was decided that we would begin handing out the bulletins, since research indicates that it is highly unlikely that the Covid virus can be transmitted on surfaces. If you still prefer to pick up your own bulletin, a stack will be available on the narthex table.

STUDENT BELL CHOIR: The student bell choir will be playing for the Children's Christmas Service this year. In order for this to be accomplished, a number of high school students were asked to help. If (as a high schooler) you are interested in playing there will be scheduled practices after church on the following Sundays: Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Dec. 19. It will involve 6 students. I am sorry that this conflicts with the youth Bible Class. Karan Niebergall, is directing and can be reached at 419-966-2084, or by email at dkniebs@embarqmail.com.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE 2021 – After last year's cancellation of the Christmas Children's Service, it will be good to see the children once again this Christmas, telling that old, old story of Jesus coming to this earth to save us, and singing His praises! **The Children's Christmas Service is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

The children have been assigned parts. Printed copies were handed out in school this past week, and will continue to be handed out in Sunday School starting today. Our SJLS students

will be rehearsing on Mondays and Tuesdays, and all participating children **will have full rehearsals in the sanctuary on the Sundays of December, 10:15–11:30 a.m. Another full rehearsal will take place on Friday, Dec. 17th.** It is vital that the children be present for these rehearsals.

- **A reminder: To make rehearsal run as smoothly as possible, we ask that parents not congregate in the narthex during rehearsals.**

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Check out the table in the hallway by the cry room! The Women of Freedom have put out their boxed Christmas, sympathy, birthday, and all occasion cards for sale. The dish cloths are no longer available. Be sure to check out the display board to see if you are interested in purchasing any cutlery items such as: Paring Knives, Stubby Butcher Knives, Pie Servers, Vegetable Peelers, Slicer Knives, Granny Forks, Carving Forks, Pizza Cutters, Tomato Slicer, and Small Spatula. Contact *Mabel Bischoff* or *Karan Niebergall* if you would like to see or purchase any of these items.

WORSHIP ANEW – Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called Worship Anew. Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. Each program is closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For over 50 plus years, the ministry's dedicated staff and supporters have touched the lives of countless viewers around the world. They look forward to the continuation and expansion of this ministry in the years to come. Lutheran Ministries Media would like to thank you for your prayers and your support of God's work through Worship Anew. Broadcasts can be viewed every Sunday on: *Toledo's WTVG(CW) Channel 13.2 at 10:30 AM.*

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on a few radio stations in our area. They cover many topics relevant to today's issues. Broadcasts can be heard Sundays on: Archbold's WMTR 96.1 at 7:30 AM; **Napoleon's WNDH 103.1 at 9:00 AM.**

OPTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION DURING COVID - During this time of pandemic, we are making Holy Communion available in the following ways:

- **Thursday evening Communion services** prior to first and third Sundays
- **First and Third Sundays each month** – in the Sanctuary, and drive-thru after the service
- **Second Sundays** – after the service in the sanctuary

Drive-thru Communion is on the first and third Sundays for those who have participated in the Divine Service from the parking lot.

IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you too! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

IT'S CHRISTMAS CHEER TIME AGAIN! – Henry County Christmas Cheer is beginning its annual campaign for monetary donations **ONLY** for the purchase of food for low income and needy persons in Henry County. These donations will be used for the purchase of **only** food products this year. The campaign runs from now through December 3rd. Make checks payable to: *Henry County Christmas Cheer*, and send it to Henry County Christmas Cheer, c/o LeRoy Helberg, Q610 County Road 19, Napoleon, OH 43545. The Christmas Cheer Board of Trustees says thank you.

SCRIP ORDER FORM: Why not start your Christmas shopping early! There are so many vendors on the Scrip order form, that you can't go wrong. Check it out and submit your order on Wednesdays. Orders are placed on Fridays and then delivered on the following Tuesday. The order form is also posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info. There are also hard copy order forms in the tract rack in the narthex. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

SPORTS SCHEDULE NOTE: With *Joe Badenhop* as our Athletic Director, please go to the "Calendar" icon in Fast Direct frequently as this is where he will post the sports schedules and any changes to the sports schedules. Keep in mind that in order to view the games for the basketball season, you can go to either FastDirect directly (*thru the school*) or you can enter the church's website (www.sjl.org), click on "School" at the top of page, click on "FastDirect School Info. System" on the left side of page, click on "BulletinBoard/Calendar" on the left side of page, and then scroll down to Joe Badenhop, Athletic Director and click on **his** "Calendar".

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: Membership is now being taken for the Athletic Booster Club. Prices are \$20.00 for a couple and \$10.00 for an individual. Make checks payable to St. John Boosters and send to school.

AREA EVENTS:

- **Holiday Home Tour on Sat., Dec. 4th** from 4:30 – 8:30 PM in downtown Ridgeville Corners, OH. See flyer on the bulletin board for a lot more festivities that day also.
- **Christmas Village Craft Show – Sun., Dec. 5th** from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM at the Ridgeville American Legion. See flyer!
- **A Christmas Concert** by The Toledo Symphony String Orchestra – **Wed., Dec. 15th** at 7:30 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp. See "red" flyer for all the ticket information and details.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...
Eat, drink, and be ... thankful.

"And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God." (Deut 8:10)