



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

November 13, 2022

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Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sermon & Text: **“SONrise”** *Malachi 4:1-6*
Order of Service: Morning Prayer (*LSB page 235*)
Hymns: **508 ~ 348 ~ Psalm 98 ~ 515**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! We are here at the Savior’s invitation; therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in every time of need. If you have no church of your own, we invite you to make this your home church. But above all, we invite you to come to worship with us at any time.

If you are a visitor, please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the basket by the door as you leave this morning.



SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Brice Baumert, Cayden Ruffer, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop, Nick Sonnenberg, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lou Ann Rosebrock, Diane Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

FLOWERS ON THE PIANO are placed today in celebration of the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Matt & Shawna Schroeder, who were married on November 15, 1997. Congratulations to the Schroeder’s on this milestone anniversary. Wishing you many more happy years of marriage!

VETERAN APPRECIATION: The St. John Girls Basketball team has a table set up in the narthex today for anyone to stop by and pick up one of their free homemade patriotic pins to display on your apparel to show your thankfulness for our veterans. God bless each of them!

NOMINATION PROCESS – **Letters have been mailed** as the Stewardship Board begins the process of nominating individuals for the various offices of our congregation. Please keep this process in prayer, as it is often difficult to identify willing candidates. And please, if you are asked about accepting a nomination, give it prayerful thought, and consider how God may want to use you in service to His people, for the blessing of us all!

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service with Communion following Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	School Chapel Women of Freedom Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class (<i>until 7:30 PM</i>)
Thurs.	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Breakfast
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp" Jr High LYF High School LYF
Mon.-Sat	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, at Defiance Hospice Center
- ❖ **Military:** *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst and Dave Crandall*, health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *The Family of Walter Rosebrock*, who mourn the sudden passing of Walter on Friday, Nov. 11th. Pray that God gives strength and comfort to Lois, Teresa, Donna, and Alan at this difficult time. Arrangements are pending as of this printing.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE STUDY

Christians in a Woke World - A Call to Courage, Confession and LOVE

It's a different world we live in now. A world many of us barely recognize. Victimhood is power. You can be 'cancelled' for even reasonable viewpoints. Employers force employees to train for cultural sensitivity, and one misspoken word can get you fired. Discriminating on the basis of race is good and righteous, and it is considered racist not to do so. Words like *woke, white privilege, Cis, non-binary, cultural appropriation, critical race theory, and antiracism* have formed a new vocabulary.

What's going on? Some have referred to these trends as 'cultural Marxism.' Group identity (by gender, race, sexual orientation, etc.) is emphasized over individuality, and groups are pitted against each other as oppressors or oppressed. How do we as Christians make sense of all this? How should we respond as witness for Christ? Join us for this new Bible study on Sunday mornings:



Christians in a Woke World ♦ A Call to Courage, Confession and LOVE

We will analyze this new Marxism from a Biblical perspective, and find courage to confess the truth to this 'Woke' world that our true identity is in Christ. We are not defined by any humanly devised identity group, but by the cross at which ALL of us were redeemed to be the children of God.

STATUS ON GRADE 5&6 TEACHER: I wanted to let the congregation know that Mr. Stephen Benson decided to leave his teaching position at St. John Lutheran School, effective at the end of the school day Thurs., Oct. 27th. He has decided to move on. We thank him for his service to our school and pray for God's guidance as we move forward. In the interim, we will continue to have a substitute until we find a full time replacement. Please contact the school office (419-598-8702) or my email at tgermann@sjl.org if you know of anyone interested in filling this position. Thanks to everyone for your prayers and support. Signed, *Miss Germann*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 11/06/22	\$12,405.00	\$352.00	\$318.00

ATTENDANCE: 190

JR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL LYF will be meeting next Sunday, Nov. 20th, at 4:00 and 5:00 PM, respectively, at the Youth Center. We will be having a Thanksgiving feast and signing Christmas cards for the shut-ins. There will also be game night competition!

SCRIP: Plan to get a jump start on your Christmas shopping this year. The SCRIP Order Form has been inserted in today's bulletin. Additional order forms are available on the narthex table and in the "School Info" rack outside the school office is you should need more. Thank you and happy shopping!

Bible Study



MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST THIS THURSDAY – *The best part of waking up is a delicious breakfast, great fellowship, and the Word of God!* The men's breakfast Bible study will meet at 6:30 AM this Thursday (Nov. 17) for a study titled, 'Spoken.' Through spoken words, all things were created, demons were scattered, storms were quelled, and sicknesses were healed. Through spoken words the Gospel advances, relationships are mended, and people are forgiven.

God's Word, spoken forth, is powerful to heal and to save! *Please join us for a breakfast of good food and a good word from God!*

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP --- "*Come, ye thankful people, come!*" Join us for worship Thanksgiving Eve, on Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 7:00 p.m. That evening, as we traditionally do, we will receive two thank offerings with the goal of benefitting our neighbor.

*Thanksgiving
Eve*

- An offering of non-perishable food items for our ***Bread from Heaven Food Pantry***. You can take your items to the front of the sanctuary as you arrive, or bring them forward during the offering.
- A monetary offering to support ***Henry County Christmas Cheer***, which will be received with the passing of the offering plates.



LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS DECORATING – A day for decorating the sanctuary for Christmas has been tentatively set for Monday, Nov. 28 (the Monday after Thanksgiving). We plan to gather in the late afternoon or early evening. Everyone is welcome to come and join the fun!

POINSETTIA SALE –The poinsettia sale for Christmas starts today and orchid order forms are inserted in today’s bulletin. **The deadline for ordering is Sun., Nov. 27th. The cost has gone up to \$9.00 per plant.** Our previous supplier has closed their business, so we have had to “scramble” to find a replacement...similar to our hunt for a new Easter flower supplier. You may put your form and check payable to *St. John Lutheran School* in the box on the narthex table. Be sure to fill in the line, “*In Loving Memory of*” or “*In Honor of*”. This information will be published in the church bulletin as an insert the Sunday the poinsettias are placed in the sanctuary.



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 in 2023. If you feel you would like to give this a try, please sign up on the sheet at the narthex table. You can even pick the month that works 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.*

CHRISTMAS CARDS & CUTLERY: Check out the table in the hallway by the cry room! The Women of Freedom have put out boxes of Christmas Cards for sale. 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, please contact *Nancy Glaser, Deb Wachtman, Pat Maassel, or Marian Dickmann* to purchase these.

PTL FALL PENNY DRIVE – The Fall Penny Drive begins tomorrow, Nov. 14th and runs thru Nov. 30th. Gather up your pennies and bring them to the school office. You can specify which classroom you would like them to be given to or they can be divided between all the classrooms. The winning classroom will be treated to a pizza party. Jump on board and support the PTL! Thank you!

BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL: The 2022-2023 basketball season is fast approaching. The 3-6 grade teams (both boys and girls) will consist of any active church member’s children that are currently in grades 3-to 6 and are interested in participating this year. **Girls’ practices are Mon/Wed/Fri from 4-5:30 PM. Boys’ basketball practice times to be announced.** Please contact AD, Joe Badenhop at 419-438-5435 if your child is still interested.

SPORTS SCHEDULE: To view the most recent sports schedule, please go to AD Joe Badenhop’s “Calendar” in Fast Direct, as this is where he will post the sports schedules and any changes. Simply 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, then click on “BulletinBoard/Calendar” on the left side of page, and scroll down to Joe Badenhop, Athletic Director and click on **his** “Calendar”.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER MEMBERSHIP: St. John Athletic Booster membership drive is still underway. Fees remain the same as in the past with \$20 for husband/wife; \$10 for a single membership. Make checks payable to *St. John Boosters*. Forms available on the narthex table.

SCAM E-MAIL ALERT – It has been reported that a scam email is out there that appears to be from Pastor Niermann, asking you to purchase gift cards as a way of rewarding the staff. **Do not respond if you receive such an email.** It is a scam!

WORSHIP ANEW: Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called *Worship Anew (formerly Worship For Shut-Ins)*. Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. For over 50+ 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 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.*

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: The Ridgeville Sons of the American Legion are asking you to join them in their mission to place "wreaths across America" in 2022. National Wreaths Across American Day is Sat., Dec. 17, 2022. Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreath Sponsorship forms and more information is available on the narthex table. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/OH0229P or via the QR code on the sponsorship form. **Order deadline is Wed., Nov. 23rd.**

SYMPHONY OF TREES will be presenting *THE LIGHT BETWEEN THE PINES* on Thurs., Nov. 17 thru Sun., Nov. 20th at The Armory Arts & Event Center, 127 E. Clinton St., Napoleon. All the festivities can be found on their website at www.symphonyoftrees.com. All proceeds to benefit programs in Northwest Ohio through the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, Northwest Ohio CASA, and the Henry County Hospital.

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. The campaign runs from now through December 3rd. If you would like to make a donation, please drop it in the container marked "Christmas Cheer" on the narthex table. **Make checks payable to Henry County Christmas Cheer.** If you or someone you know living in Henry County needing help during the holidays, please pick up an application for them on the narthex table. The Christmas Cheer Board of Trustees thanks you for your support!

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Food For Thought...

"In the end, we and the world will be fine. Better than fine!"

"We are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." 2 Peter 3:13



Make a
Joyful
Noise to
the Lord

Psalm 150:1

GOD