

*But when
the fullness
of time
had come,*



**Second Sunday after Christmas –
THE GIFT OF GOD:
GOD GIVES SATISFACTION TO
THOSE WHO PATIENTLY WAIT**

**We Welcome Our Guest
Worship Leader:
Pastor Rodney Dietche
Pastor Dietche's Sermon:
Galatians 4:4-7
"God Gave The Gospel
to Give You His Love"**

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at www.stjohnsmontello.org and also at St. John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES-WELS

January 5, 2025

Emmanuel: Sun. 8:00am

St. John's: Sun. 10:00am

THE GIFT OF GOD

When a father puts gifts under the Christmas tree, it is not to compensate his children for doing their chores. That would make whatever is inside that wrapping paper a wage, not a gift. A gift is given voluntarily simply so the giver can show favor to the one receiving the gift, without any expectation of repayment. In the season of Christmas, we receive the gift of God. That does not simply mean we receive the gifts God gives. When we look into the manger, we see that God is the gift. In the person of Jesus, God gave us himself. And because our God became true man and did everything necessary for our salvation, he is able to give us so many other Christmas gifts: forgiveness, hope, peace, a place in his family, eternal life in paradise. "That is too much!" you object. "I don't deserve any of it!" True enough. However, none of these things are wages. We could not and need not earn them. Because they are gifts, given by our gracious God to show us his favor.

GOD GIVES SATISFACTION TO THOSE WHO PATIENTLY WAIT

It is always hard to wait, but particularly if what you are waiting for is extremely important. If you must wait an hour for the waiter to bring your food, it is not a huge deal. But if you need to wait a week for an electrician to restore power to your home, that is more painful. Waiting is harder when we badly need what we're waiting for. After the fall into sin, people of faith waited for God to provide the gift they needed most—a Savior. Century after century passed. "Where is he?" they wondered. People were powerless to save themselves from sin and death and hell. So, there was nothing to do but patiently wait. At the perfect time in history, the first Christmas occurred. The faithful rejoiced! This week, we see that God works on the timetable he knows to be best for us. We also see that those who wait for God to act are never disappointed. For God gives satisfaction to those who patiently wait.

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Setting One, no communion pp. 154-164, 171

HYMNS: 329, 383, 339

PSALM: 148 "Let All Praise the Name of the LORD"

SERMON: Galatians 4:4-7 "God Gave The Gospel to Give You His Love"

OPENING HYMN: 329 "All My Heart Again Rejoices"

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7

(Abram had waited for God to keep his promise to make Abram into the father of many nations.)

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. ²Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." ³Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many

nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

PSALM: 148 "Let All Praise the Name of the LORD"

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7 (Sermon Text)

(The Old Testament believers waited for God to keep his promise to send a Savior. God kept his promise when the time had fully come. Those believers received the satisfaction of sonship.)

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 98:3



Refrain



Tone



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GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:68-70

(In joyful satisfaction that the Lord had kept his promise of salvation, the priest Zechariah sang a song of praise.)

⁶⁸"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David ⁷⁰(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), ⁷¹salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us—⁷²to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³the oath he swore to our father Abraham: ⁷⁴to rescue us

from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, ⁷⁷to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven ⁷⁹to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

HYMN OF THE DAY: 383 "The Only Son from Heaven"

SERMON: Galatians 4:4-7 "God Gave The Gospel to Give You His Love"

APOSTLES' CREED: Hymnal page 163

OFFERING, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS, ALTAR PRAYER * Epiphany Moments WELS
Promo Video during offering*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Hymnal Page 164

CLOSING HYMN: 339 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

WELS Connection video after announcements

****St. John's Voters' Meeting after Worship****

THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

First Sunday after Epiphany – Baptism of Our Lord - EPIPHANY MOMENTS:

BAPTISM IS THE CURE FOR AN IDENTITY CRISIS

Acknowledgments

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St. John's is looking for a few good men to help as Ushers! If you'd like to join the usher crew, please talk to Jerre Duerr, James Wachholz, or Matthew Kath. Thanks!!

The 2025 Emmanuel offering envelopes are now available to be picked up in the parish hall. If you may have any questions, please contact Brian Ninneman.

The 2025 St. John's offering envelopes are now available on the table in the linkway. If you have any questions, see Matt Kath, James Wachholz, Jerre Duerr or Pastor Zietlow.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

For the sick and others facing trials, including Janice Arvidson, Evie Blada, Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Sandy Buchholz, Bob Buehrens, Agnes Dassow, Edith Duesterhoeft, Don Ebert, Kaye Edwards (Mark Emond's friend), Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Kelleen Grucza, Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Samuel Harmon (Linda Lou Wacholtz's nephew), Del & Jean Henke, LuAnn Hoffman-Reber (Barb Hoffman's step-daughter), Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Emily Krueger, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Jacob Kwit (Suzie Weber's son), Mary Luck, Darren Marceau, Garrett Miller (Dawn Marcelain & Candace Sonnenberg's brother-in-law), Julie Moran, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo & Barbara Petrick, Kim Peyton (Church Boetcher's niece), Sharon Priewe, Melissa Prater, Sharon Priewe, Karen Radke, Shelley Rene (Mary Isberner's niece), Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Lynn Sellnow, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Heather Smith (Diane Hintz' step-daughter), DuWayne Sommerfeld, Amanda Stalker, Tom Stempniak (Carol's husband), Billy & Gloria Tucker, James Wachholz, James & Suzanne Weber, Paul & LuAnn Weldon (added this week: __)

- For Ryan Jaeger called by the Lord at the 12/17 CALA board meeting to serve as principal and grade 6-8 teacher next school year
- For Laura Jaeger called by the Lord at the 12/18 St. John's Voter's meeting to serve as Little Lambs director/teacher next school year
- For the New Year

St. John's	Usher's Schedule
Sunday, Jan. 5	Sunday, Jan. 12
Ben Jaster Jacob Jaster Jeff Reimer Mark Emond	Matthew Kath Glen Bubolz Martin Schmanke Mike Kempley Grayson Kempley

CHURCH RECORDS

Dear members of St. John's, In coming months we will be updating our Church records and need your help! Office volunteers will be contacting you to update contact information and Church records. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: January 5-11, 2025

Today	11:00 a.m.	St. John's Voters' Meeting
Monday		School Resumes
	2:30 p.m.	HIP Meeting SJ
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir SJ
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Joint Elders' Meeting SJ
	6:30 p.m.	CALA Meeting SJ MONTELLO
Wednesday	9:45 a.m.	The Residences Devotion
	10:00 a.m.	Montello Care Center Devotion
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechism SJ
Thursday	4:00 p.m.	BoE Meeting SJ
	6:00 p.m.	GriefShare SJ
Friday	9:30/11:00 a.m.	Gene Crook Visitation/Funeral EM

Next Sunday: January 12, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship with Communion
8:30 a.m.	Sunday School St. John's
8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study St. John's
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study Emmanuel
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship with Communion

	Budget	Offerings	All Income	Expenses
November	\$40,014.98	\$21,829.30	\$29,646.05	\$37,904.77
Year to Date	\$200,074.90	\$121,201.90	\$163,734.94	\$182,123.57

*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Corinthians 9:7***

LL, CALA and Sunday School Singing Schedule

Date	
1/19/25	LL/CALA K-8 PRINCETON
2/16/25	Sunday School MONTELLO

Attendance

Date	EM	SJ
12/29/24	38	94
12/31/24	-	16

At our December 18th Call meeting the voters present voted unanimously to extend a call to Mrs. Laura Jaeger. Her husband Ryan has also received a Call for principal and 6-8 grade teacher at CALA.

Following is some information about them:

Laura is 43 years old, a graduate of MLC and has a Wisconsin teachers license. She is presently teaching preschool at St. John's Lutheran School in Two Rivers WI. She has been gifted with musical abilities. Ryan and Laura both attended Lakeside Lutheran High School in Lake Mills. The Jaegers have four children Joseph age 18, Matthew age 14, and twins Silas and Levi aged 10. As a child Laura grew up in Columbus on a vegetable farm and sold produce with her parents at the Princeton Flea Market. In a statement about herself from her bio sheet she says "I have a heart for and love working with younger children. One of my strengths is working with young families. I love making Bible lessons come to life, seeing children I teach be baptized, and planning special events for children such as VBS, Christmas Camps, Easter for Kids, and Trunk or Treats." The Jaegers own their home.

Ryan is 44 years old, a graduate of MLC and has a Wisconsin teachers license. His birth place is Watertown WI. He is presently the Principal and teacher at St. John's Two Rivers WI. He is also the adult and youth choir director.

Laura Phone: 920-629-5793 (cell)
email: laura.jaeger@sitworivers.org

Ryan Phone: 920-657-1163 (home)
email: ryan.jaeger@sitworivers.org

Address:

6716 Sunset Dr.

Two Rivers WI 54241-9613

Please pray for them and reach out to them with encouragement through cards, texts, emails, or phone calls as they deliberate where they can best use their gifts to promote the saving Gospel. Please keep both congregations and all of our called workers in your prayers, as we work together to carry out our Gospel ministries.

Additionally some church finance information. We are moving from challenged to critical. In order to support our present ministries our income needs to improve. As God has blessed you, please consider an end of the year **special gift**. We are committed together to provide a path to bring the Good News of Jesus to the children among us as well as their families.

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." If we can't provide a path, we are in essence hindering them.

May you find the true Joy that Jesus brings as we worship together regularly.

In Christ,

Jerre Duerr, St. John's Chairman

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.--Ephesians 2:8-9

Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.



Welcome to our visitors!

Find & Like us on Facebook

Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org

Pastor Pete Zietlow: 608-408-7830, **Email:** zietlowPL6@hotmail.com

Principal & 6-8 Grade Teacher: Larry Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.102

Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net

3-5 Grade Teacher: Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext.103

Email: bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net

1-2 Grade Teacher: Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext.201

Email: smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net

Kindergarten Teacher: Liz Wolter: 920-481-9002 ext.202

Email: ewolter@christalonelutheranacademy.net

Little Lambs Director: Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext. 203

Email: littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org

CALA Secretary/Office: Ciara Neuhauser: 920-481-9002

School Email: secretary@christalonelutheranacademy.net

Church Office: Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

Church/School Address: 313 E Montello St. Montello, WI 53949

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