



And as Jesus  
passed forth from thence,  
he saw a man, named Matthew,  
sitting at the receipt of custom:  
and he saith unto him,

**Follow me.**

And he arose,  
and followed him.

Matthew 9:9

# Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

28983 – 181<sup>st</sup> Avenue | New Prague, MN 56071

Church: (952) 758-2828 | Website: [EFriedens.com](http://EFriedens.com)

Pastor Henry Koch

## Welcome to Worship!

### Worship Services

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. | Tuesday: *See Church Calendar* | Saturday: Noon

## Prayer Before Worship

O Holy Spirit, come to me with your  
comforting Word, which alone can drive  
away my doubts. Direct me to my  
Savior, Jesus, that I may trust in him  
with my whole heart.

Amen.

### Notes About Your Visit

- **Worship programs are available in large print.** They are located in the basket with the regular programs.
- **Restrooms** are in the north hallway, by the double glass entry doors, as well as in the basement. **The church park has restrooms north of the Pavilion.**

# THE SERVICE, Setting One

## January 3 & 4, 2026

### HYMN



369

### Beautiful Savior



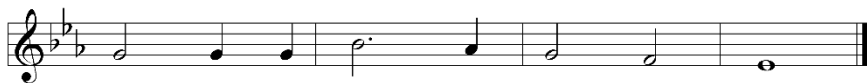
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Robed in flow'rs and bloom - ing spring;  
 Bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, Tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er;  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o - ra - tion



Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.  
 He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
 Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 Now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Münsterisch Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677, abr.; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904.  
 Tune: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU (557 558) Silesian folk tune, 19th century, alt.

STAND

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

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If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

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.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**



# HYMN



## Congregation Sings Verse 6

JUSTIFICATION

### 376 Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness My beau - ty  
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day— Who can a  
 3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, Which at the  
 4 Lord, I be - lieve were sin - ners more Than sands up -  
 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my



are, my glo - rious dress; Mid flam - ing worlds, in  
 word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly through you ab -  
 ver - y throne of God For - ev - er will for  
 on the o - cean shore, You have for all a  
 man - sion in the skies, E'en then this shall be



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.  
 solved I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.  
 sin - ners plead, For me—e'en for my soul—was shed.  
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.  
 all my plea: Je - sus has lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!  
 Your boundless mercy has for me,  
 For me and all your hands have made,  
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–60, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.  
 Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be Seated*



## First Reading

### Lamentations 3:22-32 (Evangelical Heritage Version)

<sup>22</sup>By the mercies of the LORD we are not consumed, for his compassions do not fail.

<sup>23</sup>They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.

<sup>24</sup>My soul says, "The LORD is my portion. Therefore, I will hope in him."

<sup>25</sup>The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

<sup>26</sup>It is good to hope quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup>It is good for a man that he bears a yoke early in his life.

<sup>28</sup>Let him sit alone and be silent, because the LORD has laid this upon him.

<sup>29</sup>Let him stick his face in the dust. Perhaps there still is hope.

<sup>30</sup>Let him turn his cheek toward the one who strikes him. Let him be filled with disgrace.

<sup>31</sup>For the Lord will not push us away forever.

<sup>32</sup>Even though he brings grief, he will show compassion on the basis of his great mercy.

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*The Word of the Lord.*

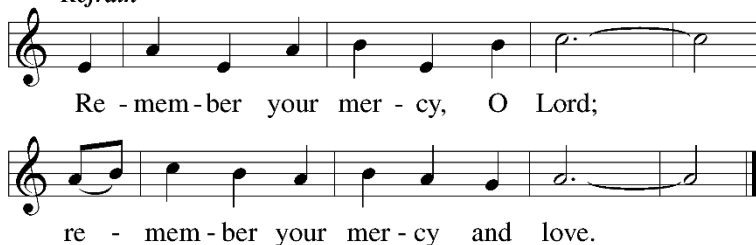
*Thanks be to God.*



# PSALM

## Psalms 130

### *Refrain*



### *Psalms tone*



Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;\*  
O Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive\*  
to my cry for mercy.

If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,\*  
O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness;  
therefore you are feared.

### *Refrain*

I wait for the LORD and in his Word I put my hope.\*  
My soul waits for the Lord more than  
watchmen wait for the morning.

O Israel, put your hope in the LORD,\*  
for with the LORD is unfailing love  
and with him is full redemption.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

Refrain Tune: Michael Joncas. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Second Reading

Romans 3:21-26 (EHV)

<sup>21</sup>But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, <sup>23</sup>because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. <sup>26</sup>He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

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*The Word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

Stand

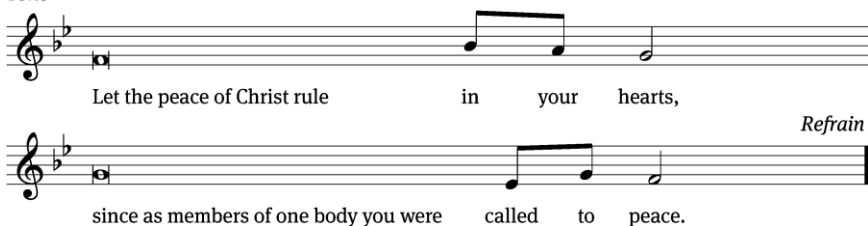
## Gospel Acclamation - Setting 1



*Refrain*



*Tone*



Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11241921

## Gospel

### Matthew 9:9-13 (EHV)

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax collector's booth. He said to him, "Follow me." Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>As Jesus was reclining at the table in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners were actually there too, eating with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "The healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' In fact, I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

-----  
*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

### *Hymn of the Day*



#### Congregation Sings Verses 1-5

JUSTIFICATION

376

### Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness My beau - ty  
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day— Who can a  
3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, Which at the  
4 Lord, I be - lieve were sin - ners more Than sands up -  
5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my



are, my glo - rious dress; Mid flam - ing worlds, in  
word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly through you ab -  
ver - y throne of God For - ev - er will for  
on the o - cean shore, You have for all a  
man - sion in the skies, E'en then this shall be



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.  
solved I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.  
sin - ners plead, For me—e'en for my soul— was shed.  
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.  
all my plea: Je - sus has lived and died for me.

# SERMON

STAND

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and  
became fully human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the  
Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of  
the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

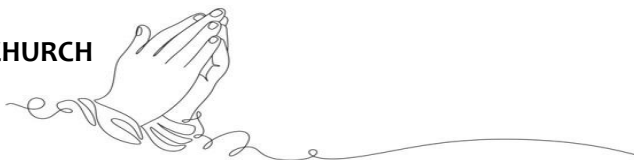
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the  
world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

**OFFERING** (Kindly fill out the red Friendship Registers. Thanks.)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

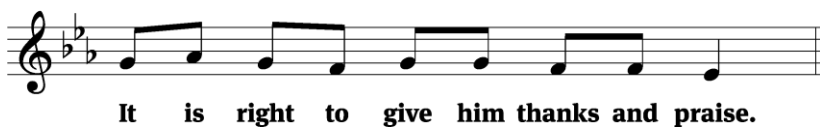
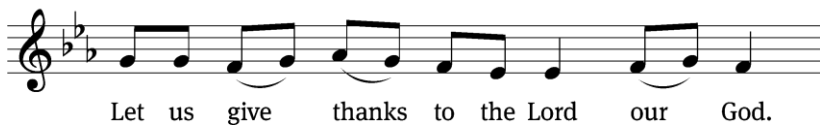


## Participation in the Lord's Supper

At Friedens Lutheran Church, we believe that participation in the Lord's Supper is both a confession of faith and an expression of our unity in that faith. When you commune with us, you are saying that you agree with our teachings about the Lord's Supper and all the other teachings of the Bible. If you have never communed with us before, we ask that you speak with our Pastor to learn how you can establish a communing fellowship with us. We are eager to enjoy that fellowship with you!

## The Sacrament

### Preface



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love.*

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**



## O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano or alto clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final line of the score ends with a double bar line.



## Distribution

### JUSTIFICATION

## 377 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris - tians, one and all, re - joice, With  
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death  
3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, No  
4 But God be - held my wretch - ed state Be -  
5 He spoke to his be - lov - ed Son: "'Tis



ex - ul - ta - tion spring - ing, And, with u -  
brood - ed dark - ly o'er me. Sin was my  
mer - it they at - tain - ing; My will a -  
fore the world's foun - da - tion, And, mind - ful  
time to have com - pas - sion. Then go, bright



nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly rap - ture  
tor - ment night and day; In sin my moth - er  
gainst God's judg - ment fought, No hope for me re -  
of his mer - cies great, He planned my soul's sal -  
Jew - el of my crown, And bring man - kind sal -



sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God  
bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still  
main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer  
va - tion. A Fa - ther's heart he turned  
va - tion. From sin and sor - row set



has done, How his right arm the vic - t'ry  
I fell; Life had be - come a liv - ing  
de - spair Left naught but death to be my  
to me, Sought my re - demp - tion fer - vent -  
them free; Slay bit - ter death for them that



won. How dear - ly it has cost him!  
hell. So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
share And hell to be my sen - tence.  
ly; He gave his dear - est trea - sure.  
they May live with you for - ev - er."

- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will,  
Was born of virgin mother,  
And, God's good pleasure to fulfill,  
He came to be my brother.  
No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;  
A servant's form like mine he bore  
To lead the devil captive.
- 8 "The foe shall shed my precious blood,  
Me of my life bereaving.  
All this I suffer for your good;  
Be steadfast and believing.  
Life shall from death the vict'ry win;  
My innocence shall bear your sin,  
And you are blest forever.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me—  
I am your rock and castle.  
Your ransom I myself will be;  
For you I strive and wrestle.  
For I am yours, your friend divine,  
And evermore you shall be mine;  
The foe shall not divide us.
- 9 "Now to my Father I depart,  
The Holy Spirit sending  
And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,  
My help to you extending.  
He will a source of comfort be,  
Teach you to know and follow me,  
And in all truth will guide you.

10 "What I on earth have lived and taught  
Be all your life and teaching;  
So shall my kingdom's work be wrought  
And honored in your preaching.  
Take care that no one's man-made laws  
Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause.  
This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tunc: NUN FREUT EUCH, LIEBEN CHRISTEN (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524.

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**His mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

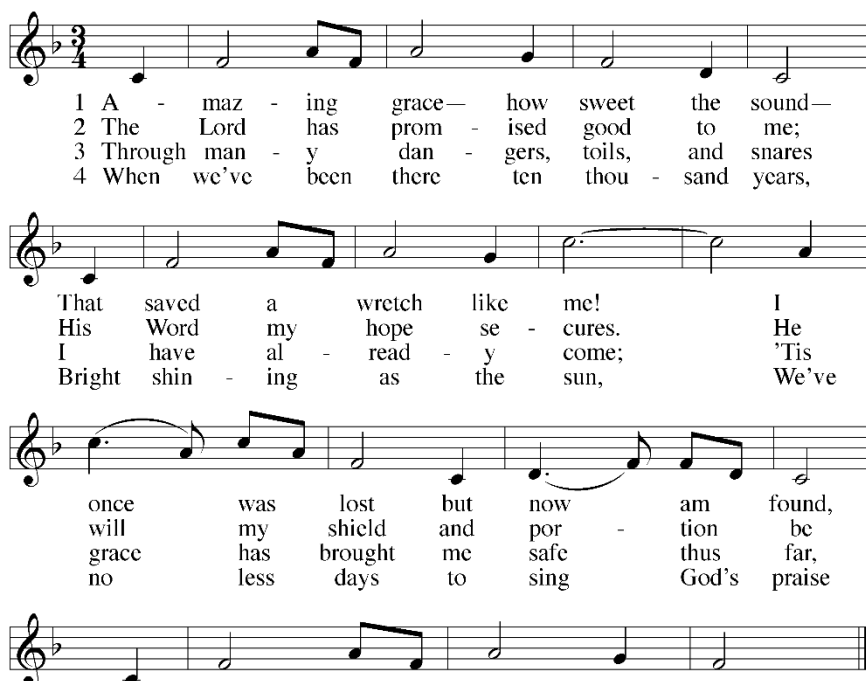
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

### JUSTIFICATION

## 379 Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me;  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares  
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

That saved a wretch like me! I  
His Word my hope se - cures. He  
I have al - read - y come; 'Tis  
Bright shin - ing as the sun, We've

once was lost but now am found,  
will my shield and por - tion be  
grace has brought me safe thus far,  
no less days to sing God's praise

Was blind but now I see.  
As long as life en - dures.  
And grace will lead me home.  
Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4.

Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

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A night scene with a full moon and stars in a dark blue sky. In the foreground, a small white church with a steeple sits on a green hill, next to a single tree.

*Isaiah 40:31*  
*But they who wait for the Lord*  
*shall renew their strength; they*  
*shall mount up with wings like*  
*eagles; they shall run and not be*  
*weary; they shall walk and not faint.*



**ATTENTION ENCOURAGING ELDERS, OUTGOING OUTREACH,  
PEACEFUL PEACE FUND  
& FRIEDENS FANTASTIC FINANCIAL PEOPLE!**

It is once again time to compile the 2025 Annual Report information for our Voters' Meeting coming up soon on Sunday, January 25, at 10:15 a.m. Church Mouse has to put this thing together really soon, so please get your individual committee reports done and submitted before it's too late. *(Please just assume that they are due now.)* I need to also gather some additional information for reporting our church's 2025 statistics to WELS, so please pay attention to your e-mails and mailboxes in order to promptly provide any needed information.

*As always . . .  
please and thank you!*

**CM**



# What's Coming Up at Friedens?

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>Last Week's Attendance</u> |           |
| Saturday (12/27/25):          | 21        |
| Sunday (12/28/25):            | 30        |
| Wednesday (12/31/25):         | <u>24</u> |
| Total: 75                     |           |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday, January 4   | Worship (Communion)<br>Coffee Time<br>Sunday School<br><b>Bible Study</b><br><i>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MTG.</i>            | 9:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>10:10 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.<br>11:15 a.m. |
| Monday, January 5   |   |   |
| Tuesday, January 6  | Worship at Mala Strana<br><b>Choir</b>  | 11:00 a.m.<br>7:15 p.m.   |
| Wednesday, January 7<br><b>Pastor's Open Office Hours:</b><br>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.<br>3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.<br>7:15 p.m.-8:00 p.m. | Bible Study<br>Games<br>5 & 6 Catechism<br>7 & 8 Catechism  | 9:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>4:15 p.m.<br>5:40 p.m.                 |
| Thursday, January 8   | <i>LADIES AID MEETING</i><br><i>ELDERS MEETING</i>  | 1:00 p.m.<br>6:30 p.m.  |
| Friday, January 9   |   |   |
| Saturday, January 10  | <b>Men's Bible Study</b><br>Worship   | 8:00 a.m.<br>Noon   |
| Sunday, January 11  | Worship<br><b>Church Undecorating (See Will &amp; Brenda Rancour for Guidance)</b><br>Sunday School<br><b>Bible Study</b> | 9:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>10:10 a.m.<br>10:15 a.m.               |
| Monday, January 12  | <i>OUTREACH MEETING</i>   | 6:00 p.m.   |
| Tuesday, January 13   | <b>Choir</b>  | 7:15 p.m.   |

## USHER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2026

| DATE       | TEENS           |                 | ADULTS         |                |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| January 4  | Lucas Holicky   | Mason Storlie   | Roger M. Meyer | Eric Schanus   |
| January 11 | Josef Jirik     | Ethan Paler     | Keith Barta    | Scott Gilsrud  |
| January 18 | Sam Workman     | Ruth Workman    | Doug Holicky   | Troy Rabenberg |
| January 25 | Mikkala Quickle | Kameron Quickle | Duane Jirik    | Justin Storlie |

*Thank you for serving as an Usher, as you guide and help worshipers in God's House!*

# "Trailblazers"

Attention EVERYONE (All Ages Invited)!

## How to Fell a Tree!

TIMBERRRRR!!!



**January 24 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

(The tree to be cut down is at the Parsonage.

The Bonfire will be in the Church Park.)

**Please drop off and pick up in the Fellowship**

**Hall. Parents are welcome to stay!**

**LUNCH: ROASTED HOT DOGS AND HOT CHOCOLATE.**

Hosts: Keith Barta and Josh Bulfer.

**There will also be a devotion & snack!**