



December 26, 2021 - 9:30 am

A Voice in the Wilderness



GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Gathering Song *"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"*

Greeting

Kyrie

Hymn of Praise *"Now the Feast and Celebration"* ELW167

Prayer

Song *"I Wonder As I Wander"*

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

John 1:19-34... This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Message Pastor Jim Killough

Hymn of the Day *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* ELW 294

Prayers

Sharing God's Peace

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Song

"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

ELW 290

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

- ⇒ **In-Person Worship Guidelines** Everyone is required to wear masks. There is an option to commune in your seat instead of coming forward. All of our Sunday worship services are live streamed on Facebook.
- ⇒ **Office Closed** the office will be closed Monday, December 27 in celebration of Christmas and Monday, January 3 in celebration of New Years.
- ⇒ **Pastor Jim** is on vacation December 27 through January 4.
- ⇒ **Adult Forum and Sunday School** will resume Sunday, January 9.
- ⇒ **Food Pantry** Our first Saturday of the month Pantry is January 1. [CLICK HERE](#) to help.
- ⇒ **Prayer Requests** If you have prayer requests for Sunday worship, email the [Church Office](#).
- ⇒ **Recycle your Christmas Lights!** Joe Evans is taking old strings of lights to Scrap Central which provides recycling at no cost. There is a bin in the Narthex marked "Christmas Lights Only."

Calendar for Upcoming Week

Sunday, December 26

9:30 am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live

Monday, December 27

Office Closed—Christmas

6:30 pm Boy Scouts

9:00 pm CMA Meeting

Tuesday, December 28

7:30 pm A.A. Meeting

Thursday, December 30

6:00 pm Pantry Prep

7:00 pm Alanon

Saturday, January 1

8:00 am Food Pantry

Sunday, January 2

9:30 am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live

1:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #48012 Meeting

Prayer Requests from our Church Community

Member Concerns

Dottie Norgard as she recovers from knee surgery.

Connie Mertz as she deals with medical concerns.

Marie Pitner as she recovers from broken wrists.

On-Going Member Concerns

Eddie Nabity at Hillcrest Papillion

Friends and Relatives

Stephen Fromm, brother in law of Jim & Peg Schneider, **Ryan Ellsworth**, brother of Marisa Gift, **Amy Churchill**, friend of Barb Kay, **David Gibson**, Jim & Peg Schneider's brother in law, **Dorothy Jarka**, Peg Schneider's mother; **Sue Hill**, Pastor Jim's sister; **Ronald Gulbranson & Sharon Kelley**, Julie Noteman's brother and sister; **Aaron McDonald**, McDonald's grandson; **Larry Rolles**, Linda Kohrs' daughter-in-law's father; **Diane Aden**, friend of Linda Kohrs.

Grieving:

Jen Gitt and her family as they mourn the death of her grandmother Ardyce.