

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

416 Main Avenue

Clinton, Iowa

Church Office.....242-5588

Pastor Daniel Pool (cell).....593-2502

Pastor Daniel Pool e-mail.....dpool@stjohn-clinton-ia.org

Camil Dell..... cdell@stjohn-clinton-ia.org

Web Site.....www.stjohn-clinton-ia.org

The Lutheran Hour: Sundays at 6:30 a.m. 600 WMT

The Clinton Lutheran Hour: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. 105.9 FM & 1340 AM

December 21, 2025

- Organist: Debbie Pladna
- Elders Early: Jim Schnitzmeyer, Kurt Flathers
- Ushers Early: Daniel, Darrin & Bill Schemers
- Acolyte Early: Elder
- Elders Late: Tom Hardersen, James McHugh
- Ushers Late: Bryce P., Randy S., Kevin & Ryan D.
- Acolyte Late: Elder
- Elder Christmas Program, Christmas Day: Kurt Flathers
- Crucifer Christmas Program: Daniel Schemers
- Crucifer Christmas Day: Donivan Sirna

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN

We welcome all visitors in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless our time together. We ask that you sign our guest register in the entryway.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers today are to the Glory of God, from Robert & Gloria Stamp in celebration of their 59th Wedding anniversary on December 3.

PASTOR POOL’S SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

In December our class will begin a new study of the book of Job. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

-December 21: Put to the Test: Job 1:1-12

-December 28: when Satan Attacks: Job 1:13-22

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelopes for next year are now available on the table in the fellowship hall. Please pick up your box today. Please do not begin using the new envelopes until Sunday, January 4.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL

Children who will be participating in the program on Wednesday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m. are asked to attend rehearsal during the Sunday school hour today.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25, and Friday, December 26. Merry Christmas!

OUR SCHEDULE FOR WORSHIP, STUDY AND WORK:

- Sunday - **Fourth Sunday in Advent**
- 7:45 & 10:15 Divine Service, Holy Communion
- 9:00 Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, PWYK Class
- 9:00 Christmas Eve Program Practice
- 9:00 Pastor Pool's Class
- Monday - **No Preschool, No Planning Council**
- Tuesday - **No Preschool**
- Wednesday - **Church Office Closed, No Preschool**
- **6:30 Children's Christmas Eve Program**
- **11:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
- Thursday - **Church Office Closed, No Preschool**
- **9:00 Christmas Divine Service, Holy Communion**
- Friday - **Church Office Closed, No Preschool**
- Sunday - **First Sunday after Christmas**
- 7:45 & 10:15 Divine Service, Holy Communion
- 9:00 Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, PWYK Class
- 9:00 Pastor Pool's Class

OUR WORSHIP, STUDY, AND GIVING LAST WEEK:

Wednesday Advent Service: Afternoon 27; Evening 37; Total 64
Church Attendance Last Sunday: Early 38; Late 70; Total 108
Staff 6; Sunday School 20; Kurt's Class 3; Pastor's Class 23; Total 52
Offerings: Current \$4,801.25; District & Synod \$95; Building Fund \$2,064; SS \$9.40; Scholarship \$10; Advent \$516.45 Other \$2,738

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM

The Children's Christmas Eve Program will be held this Wednesday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m. If your child is participating, please have them at church around 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday so that they have time to put on their costumes before the program begins. Everyone in the congregation is invited to attend.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held this Wednesday, December 24 at 11:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this beautiful service on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS DAY DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Our Christmas Day Divine service will be held on this Thursday, December 25 at 9:00 a.m. This service will include Holy Communion. Come and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

PASTOR & SALLIE'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

We would like to present Pastor and Sallie with a cash gift for Christmas. If you would like to contribute, please give your donation to one of the Elders. We will give them the gift on Christmas morning after service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday London Collins, Julie Miller, Wayne Suehl, Brian Kostka, Tara Sirna, Mark Hagen, Korynn Kostka, Bethany Dell.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: BLOOD DRIVE JANUARY 2

The next American Red Cross Blood Drive hosted by St. John will be held on Friday, January 2, 2026 from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the St. John fellowship hall. Please go to redcrossblood.org today and schedule your appointment to donate.

HELP NEEDED MAKING BAPTISM BANNERS

We are still looking for a crafty person who would be willing to make banners for our baptisms. This service is only needed 2 or 3 times a year. Anyone interested can let the office know. Thanks!

WANTED PERSON/PERSONS TO DELIVER ALTAR FLOWERS

The church is in need of volunteers who would like to deliver Altar flowers, to shut-ins after late service, on Sunday mornings. Please let the office know if you would be interested in helping with this. Thanks!

HELP IS NEEDED

Kristina & Wyatt Kuhse are relocating to a new apartment and could use some muscle to help them move in early or mid-January. Please call Kathy Schrader at 563-593-1349 for more details. Thanks!

THANK YOU

A special thank you for all the Christmas Cards & gifts you have blessed me with this season. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thanks you again. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! God Bless ~ *Debbie Pladna*

LIFE THOUGHTS FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Advent IV– Gospel motivated voices For Life bring reasonableness to life issue conversations (Philippians 4:5). It means a message of joy and hope instead of an angry and fearful demeanor. Even the unborn rejoice (Luke 1:44) that the God of Christmas lives to elevate what seems insignificant (Luke 1:52). May we not let anxieties about politics (Philippians 4:6) silence the words the Lord Himself has put in our mouths (Deuteronomy 18:18).

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 28: Isaiah 63:7-14; Gal. 4:4-7; Matthew 2:13-23