

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

December 14, 2025: Third Sunday in Advent

Pastor: Rev. Paul Thompson

Organist: Pat Nelson

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:

If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook (in the narthex).
Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf (except for January... the schedule stays the same as December, each year)

WEATHER-RELATED CANCELATIONS



To verify if there is a cancelation for a church service or church activity, **please check: KTTC TV (channel 10 news), or online at www.kttc.com** and click on the tab for WEATHER - then click on Closings and Delays. Decisions are made by council presidents with the pastor.

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER



EARLY SERVICE at 8:30 am (Dec. at West, coffee 9:30 am)

JAM at 9:30 am at West for all students, also West coffee

LATE SERVICE at 10:30 am (Dec. at East, coffee follows)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: 4:00 pm East, 6:00 pm West

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Dec. - Darlene Myhre, Sonya Mansfield

Deacon: Dec.: Terry Zieman

Reader: Dec. 14 - Jenni Braaten Winch

Acolytes: Ushers covering, if no acolyte listed

Coffee Servers: 2nd Sun. – Sarah Circle

READINGS: Dec. 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

INTRODUCTION: *A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in*

church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10: *The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

PSALM : Luke 1:46b-55

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10: *In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.*

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11: *John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.*

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

LUTHER LEAGUE DECEMBER EVENT



Luther League will be having their December event on **this Wed., Dec. 17 from 6-8pm at the chapel.** This will be part of confirmation this evening so all confirmation students should plan to attend. This is for ALL Luther League members though. We will have a pizza party, wrap gifts for our adopted families, and play an assortment of holiday games with prizes.

EAST ST. OLAF CHRISTMAS MISSION (Due. 12/21)



East's *Giving Tree* is up. There are tags that members can take from the tree, and purchase gifts for the 180 Youth Shelter – (this is a NEW mission because the Women's Shelter is in transition to a new facility – so they cannot accept donations at this time).

OUR MISSION: Provide clothing donations for these teens!

Clothing is needed in sizes 10/12 to 2X, for both males and females. You can find tags of “clothing needs” on the Christmas

Tree in the Narthex. *You can also make a donation on their website, directly to 180 Degrees. **Presents can be put under the tree thru next Sun., December 21,** (then those gifts will be dropped off at the Youth Shelter Dec. 22).*

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES



Come celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Eve! Everyone is welcome to attend worship at either church. There will be communion at both churches.

EAST Christmas Eve Candlelight service is at 4:00 pm.

WEST Christmas Eve Candlelight service is 6:00 pm.

>> NO worship services on Christmas Day at either church.

EAST MEMBERS: If you know of anyone who would like a get a card from East St. Olaf, please contact Jane Williams (507) 271-2272 (Talk or Text). *Help us share a blessing!*

PRAYER UPDATES:



Please inform Gina if you have prayer updates... whether someone to add to our prayer list or if someone is now doing well and can be removed.

EAST CONTRIBUTIONS:

(12/07/2025) Current \$3,641

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

Deadline for bulletin information – Wednesdays by 7:30 pm.

Deadline for the newsletter info by the 19th each month.

TODAY	8:30 am	West CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
	>>>>	<i>Due date to drop off gifts for West Christmas Mission family</i>
	10:30 am	EAST Worship (<i>coffee follows</i>)
Monday:	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Tuesday:	10:00 am	<u>East Quilter Christmas Gathering</u>
Wednesday:	7:00 pm	<u>Confirmation AND Luther League PIZZA PARTY at West</u>

Chapel (and wrap gifts)

Thursday: 9am-Noon Pastor at office
Friday: ----- Pastor's day off-work
Sun. 12/21: 8:30 am West worship
9:30 am NO JAM class, *but West coffee*
10:30 am East worship (*coffee follows*)
>>>>> Due date to drop off East gifts
for "180 Youth Center" mission

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

Dec. 22 (Mon.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
Dec. 23 (Tue.): >>>>> NO quilting at East
Dec. 24 (Wed.): ****CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight Services****
All are welcome to attend at either church
4:00 pm East Candlelight Service, Comm.
6:00 pm West Candlelight Service, Comm.
Dec. 25 (Thu.): ----- **OFFICE CLOSED**
No worship - Merry Christmas!
Dec. 26 (Fri.): ----- Pastor's day off-work
Dec. 28 (Sun.): 9:30 am **Joint worship at WEST, with**
Coffee & fellowship following
(Note: NO communion this day and
NO JAM classes this day)
Dec. 29 (Mon.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
Dec. 30 (Tue.): >>>>> NO quilting at East
Dec. 31 (Wed.): >>>> NO class for Confirmation

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY (*same as Dec each year*)

EARLY SERVICE at 8:30 am (Jan. at West, coffee 9:30 am)
JAM at 9:30 am at West for all students, also West coffee
LATE SERVICE at 10:30 am (Jan. at East, coffee follows)

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

East Prayers: Sue Senjem, Gary Braaten (*dad of Jenni Braaten Winch*), Linda K., (*friend of Pat Nelson*), Keith Roeder (*friend of Audrey Carlson*), Salem (*cousin of Keaton DeCook*), Pat Raasch

(*friend of Becky Brakke*), Todd Pyfferoen, Kathy B., Orillie Iverson, Kaysie Peterson, Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (*daughter of Audrey Carlson*), Dalton Mansfield (*in military*), John (*cousin of Pat Nelson*), Sylvia Torstenson, and John Heydt (*brother of Pat Nelson*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Call before driving to office*)

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday 9am-Noon

OR by appointment (*Day off-work is Friday*)

SECRETARY: Gina Moser: (*Call before driving to office*)

Office Phone: 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

JANITORIAL SVC EAST: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

President: Randy Robinson: 507-923-0479

Gary Kearns: 507-206-3158 or 507-254-5285

Bryan DeCook: 208-1590