



Wait & See

Who has God used in their time?

December 26 - Joseph

[#stjohnsludington](#)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH **Ludington, Michigan**

Welcome in the name of Jesus!

We're so glad you chose to worship with us this morning.

May God's Spirit touch us all through His Word today
and through the love of His people. Nothing is too hard for our God!
If you are physically unable to stand for any or all of the worship service,
please feel free to remain seated.

*(Assistive Listening is available –
Ask for a Sound Mate personal listening system)*

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021

✕ PREPARATION ✕

HYMN

“Joy to the World”

#387

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *John 3:16; Titus 2:11; 1 Timothy 2:3–4; 1 John 2:2*

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

People: **For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people.**

Pastor: This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

People: **He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Romans 3:22b–25a, 6:23*

Pastor: For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the

redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.

People: **For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **O Giver of all good gifts, we come to You today acknowledging our foolishness and shortsightedness. As we live in this world, we succumb to the thinking of this world, which does not always align with Your thoughts. Amid the strains and stresses of life, we forget about Your unfailing love for us and for all in our world. For the sake of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, forgive our sins and renew us by Your love.**

Pastor: Our God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, loves us dearly and blesses us with every spiritual blessing. We have redemption through Jesus' blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Thank You, Jesus! Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

#374

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious heavenly Father, You have shown repeatedly throughout history how much You love Your chosen people. Fill our lives with Your love so we may share it with all whom we interact; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE READINGS Genesis 37:23-27; 39:20-21; 40:20-23; 41:1,14,25,32,39-41

²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. ²⁴ And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵ Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him.

²⁰ And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. ²¹ But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

²⁰ On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants and lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants. ²¹ He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand. ²² But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. ²³ Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, ¹⁴ Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh.

²⁵ Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do.

³² And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about.

³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. ⁴⁰ You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." ⁴¹ And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Go Tell It On the Mountain"

#388

SERMON

"Joseph"

CREED

Apostles' Creed

People: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING & PRAYER

(Members and Visitors: We would appreciate it if you would please take this time to fill out and pass the “Who’s In The Pew” folders, located at the center aisle end of each pew.)

Leader: Gracious God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, symbols of your gracious love.

People: Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ, our brother and Lord.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - Response

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your dear love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: We sing our Lord’s Prayer:

“Lord’s Prayer”

HFG 440

**Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the Kingdom,**

and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION *Ephesians 1:3, 13–14*

Pastor: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. . . . In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you all. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—abide with you, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “Angels We Have Heard on High”

#368

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Organist: Sharilyn Rotta

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Holy Communion is shared on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month.