

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE

Altamont, Illinois



† ADVENT 3 †

DECEMBER 14, 2025

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod -

5534 E. 600th Ave., Altamont, IL 62411

zionaltamont.org

Pastor – Rev. Marcus Manley (712) 880-2452

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ADVENT 3

DECEMBER 14, 2025

Today's Worship

Order of worship:

Matins - p. 219

Hymns:

344, 346, 347

Ushers serving in December: Dwayne Beccue & Jason Suckow

Reserve: John Wohltman

We welcome our visitors in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ! We pray that your time of worship with us today will be a blessing to you. Please sign our guest register and introduce yourself to our members and our pastor. If you are interested in learning more about Zion, membership, or our teachings, please don't hesitate to speak with Pastor Manley or an Elder.

In Our Prayers This Week

In need of healing: Karly Brummer (leukemia), Heather Davis (cancer), Lillian Grobengieser, Janice Heiden (lung cancer), Brad Suckow (recovering from back surgery), Kathryn Suckow (cancer), Steve Voelker, Catherine Zumwalt (cancer)

Receiving skilled care: Judy Stuemke (LCC), Lucille Beccue (LCC), Bernice Graumenz (LCC)

Serving in the military: Cole Stuemke, Brandon Voelker

Upcoming December Birthdays & Anniversaries*

Pastor Manley (12/27), Ken & Imogene Clark* (12/28)

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in the bulletin, please fill out a member contact form (found in the narthex) and turn it in to Tonya.

ALIS News/Upcoming Events

Mon., Dec. 15 – ALIS Board of Directors Meeting – 7PM

Thurs., Dec. 18 – Early Dismissal 2:15PM

Fri., Dec. 19 – Early Dismissal 2:15PM

Sat., Dec. 20 - Mon., Jan. 5 – No School – Christmas/New Year's Break

Tues., Jan. 6 – Students Return to School

Mon., Jan. 19 – No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Midweek Advent 3 Service - *From Where does my help come from? Our help comes from THE LORD. (Psalm 121:1-2) Our midweek Advent and Christmas Services will teach us where the Lord is for us. **Where is the Lord? "with Mary"** Wednesday, December 17 – 7:00pm at Bethlehem*

ZION UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

Christmas Eve - *Children's Program* – Wednesday, Dec. 24, 5:30 P.M.
Christmas Day - *with Holy Communion* – Thursday, Dec. 25, 8:00 A.M.
New Year's Eve - *with Holy Communion* – Wednesday, Dec. 31, 5:30 P.M.

LCC Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Mon., Dec. 29, at 7 PM.

"Service of the Longest Night" – Sunday, December 21, 7:00 PM The holidays are not easy for everyone. If you or someone you know is struggling with grief or loss, join us for the "Service of the Longest Night" at Salem Lutheran Church, 1401 Hawthorn Road, Salem, IL. This peaceful service offers Scripture, prayer for healing & hope, special music, and silent reflection—a time to rest in God's presence and find hope in His promises. Following the service, we will share a brief time of fellowship—an opportunity for encouragement, support, and connection with others who understand.

German Christmas Worship Service: Immanuel Lutheran in Springfield is inviting you to its first German language Christmas Worship Service. If you speak the language and would like to praise God in German, this will be a Gottesdienst für alle. Or, if you don't speak German, come experience worship in a different language and see how the Word of God is comforting and effective even through a language barrier. Almost all of the worship service will be familiar since we will use a traditional divine setting. The sermon will also be spoken in German, but an English transcript will be provided so everyone will be able to follow along. Please invite anyone you think might be interested to join us on December 21, 6:30pm at Immanuel Lutheran Springfield 2750, E Sangamon Ave. Springfield, IL 62702

St. John's Lutheran of Effingham is hiring an Office Assistant. This 28-hour position on Tuesday through Friday is a vital ministry role. Competitive wages and PTO are the lesser reward – working with members and neighbors for the proclamation of the Gospel is the greater. Interested? Read the full job description and download an application at www.stjohnsLCMS.net. Questions? Call Pastor Burdick or Sarah Mellendorf at 217-342-4334, or email office@stjohnsLCMS.net.

Thought for the week...

Matthew 11:10 – **"This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'"** John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

ATTENDANCE

12/07	52
12/10	40

OUR CURRENT GIVING

Weekly amount needed:	\$ 1,300.00
(ALIS tuition per week = \$710)	
Received 12/07	\$ 732.00
Received 12/10	\$ 248.00
Received YTD:	\$ 61,385.75
Difference in actual needed YTD:	\$ -2,314.25
Missions budget goal:	\$ 2,000.00
Received 12/07	\$ 0.00
Received 12/10	\$ 0.00
Missions received YTD:	\$ 1,005.00



The following Lectionary Summary, provided by the LCMS, serves as a guide to help understand the theme of the readings for each Sunday as well as how they fit into the particular season of the Church Year.

John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: *“Prepare the way of the Lord . . .”* (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah’s coming through repentance, for *“all flesh is grass”* (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, *“Are you the one who is to come . . .?”* (Matt. 11:2). Jesus’ works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord’s hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The *“stewards of the mysteries of God”* (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ’s overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God’s people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.

KFUO - 850AM / KFUE.org – Programs are archived for 24/7 on-demand listening **Issues, Etc.** broadcasts live weekdays from 3:05 to 5:00 P.M. Central.

ANSWERING ARGUMENTS AGAINST CHRISTIANITY... The Christian God is Misogynistic, The Meaning of Life Is Found in Using Technology, We Don’t Need the Christian God to Be Good. **Issues, Etc.** is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to responses to common objections to Christianity at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

Bulletin Announcements E-mail zion.altamont@gmail.com or call/text Tonya at 618-780-7732. Please submit announcements by 12 PM on Friday.