

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE

Altamont, Illinois



† ADVENT 4 †

DECEMBER 21, 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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DECEMBER 21, 2025

Today's Worship

Order of worship: Setting Three with Holy Communion - p.184

Hymns: 357; 333, 350; 349

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), Ron Siebert, 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

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

ZION's 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 join us on December 21, 6:30pm at Immanuel Lutheran Springfield 2750, E Sangamon Ave. Springfield, IL 62702

Young Adult Bible Study – The Young Adult Bible study will begin a new series of studies starting on January 9, 2026. The series will explore the differences between Christian denominations. The group will meet every other Friday at 6:30PM. Locations will vary depending on which pastor is leading. Pastor Niermann from Immanuel, Altamont, Pastor Burdick and Pastor Dille from St. John's Lutheran Church, Effingham, and Pastor Cornelius from Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Vandalia, will lead the studies. All young adults ages 18-35 are invited. For more information, please contact Violet Wendling at 618-704-6114.

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.

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON... “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come,” “O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is,” “Once in Royal David’s City,” “Silent Night, Holy Night,” “Joy to the World.” Beginning Christmas Eve, you can listen to sacred music for the Christmas season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

ATTENDANCE

12/14

31

OUR CURRENT GIVING

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly amount needed: | \$ 1,300.00 |
| (ALIS tuition per week = \$710) | |
| Received 12/14 | \$ 971.00 |
| Received YTD: | \$ 62,356.75 |
| Difference in actual needed YTD: | \$ -2,643.25 |
| | |
| Missions budget goal: | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Received 12/14 | \$ 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 Points Everyone to the Messiah

The coming of God in all His unveiled power at Mount Sinai was terrifying to the people of Israel. The thundering voice of the Lord puts sinners in fear of death (Deut. 18:15–19). God, therefore, raised up a prophet like Moses—the Messiah, the Christ. God came to His people veiled in human flesh. The skies poured down the Righteous One from heaven; the earth opened her womb and brought forth Salvation (Introit) through the blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of the Lord (Luke 1:39–56). The fruit of her womb is the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, the One whose sandal strap John was not worthy to loose (John 1:19–28). In Jesus we are delivered from fear and anxiety. In Him alone we have the peace of God which surpasses all understanding (Phil. 4:4–7).

HOLY COMMUNION: *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.*

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

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

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