



Weekly Scripture Readings & Sermon Summaries

December 2026

Christmas Preparation

December 6, 2026 – Second Sunday in Advent

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

At this time of the year, we are very busy getting ready to celebrate Christmas. We are making plans for traveling, shopping, meals, and parties. However, the best, and most important preparation, is repentance.

Sermon Text: Mark 1:1-8

Readings: Psalm 85; Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:1-8

Featured Choirs: Holy Cross Sanctuary Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. John Lutheran Church, Kendallville, Ind.

The Secret of Complete Joy!

December 13, 2026 – Third Sunday in Advent

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

John the Baptizer both experienced the blessings of Jesus and declared who He is. In this experiencing and declaring, witnessing and confessing, John discovered the secret of complete joy. And so can we!

Sermon Text: John 3:29

Readings: Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Featured Choirs: Holy Cross Angelis Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

The Word Became Flesh

December 20, 2026 – Christmas Day (Observed)

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

In the beginning of his Gospel, John explains that the Word of God became flesh and lived among us, bringing us special gifts. Those gifts were life, light, fullness, grace, and truth. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, let us remember the gifts He came to bring.

Sermon Text: John 1:1-18

Readings: Psalm 2; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

Featured Choir: Concordia Lutheran High School Chamber Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind.

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2026 – Christmas Eve

Rev. William Mueller

What a holy night this night is! The beauty of a Christmas Eve candlelight service is held near and dear in each of our hearts. The simple candlelight in the darkness reminds us of the earth-shattering, heaven-opening, and destiny-changing action of our God. In this message, we seek to journey through God's Word with our destination being the manger of Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem!

Sermon Text/Readings: Genesis 3:8-15 and Luke 2:1-14

Featured Choirs: Concordia Lutheran High School A Cappella Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; The Kapelle – Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Ill.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

This program will be released on Christmas Eve on our digital platforms:

- *WorshipAnew.org*
- *Mobile App*
- *TV Apps*
- *YouTube*
- *Facebook*
- *KFUO Radio*

Depart in Peace!

December 27, 2026 – First Sunday after Christmas

Rev. Shayne Jonker

Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of mankind, whose blood cleanses us from our sins. The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world is brought under the Law, as His mother offers the sacrifice of the poor. The Lord of all becomes the Servant of all to redeem you from sin, death, the devil, and the power of the Law to condemn you.

Sermon Text: Luke 2:29-32

Readings: Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Featured Choir: Holy Cross Junior Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.