



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH –  
HAMBURG**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, November 16, 2025**

**8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.**

**Monday, November 17, 2025**

**6:30 p.m**

**Luke 21:6 – “As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”** Everything in this world is headed for the graveyard, but some things are also destined to rise from the grave. On that Day of Resurrection — as we look back on our earthly life — what will we see? What will have really mattered? This is a good question to ask ourselves in this season of the church year that focuses on The Last Things.



**WELCOME VISITORS.** We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible based church family.

### **RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT**

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of closed communion. We believe that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (*1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17*). Likewise, since one's membership helps promote that church's major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you have any question please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord's Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers."*



### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Divine Service III page 184**

### **OPENING HYMN**

***"Christ Is Our Cornerstone"***

**LSB #912**

## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all  
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### PSALM 98



**P**<sup>1</sup> Oh sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.

**C**<sup>2</sup> The LORD has made known his  
salvation;  
he has revealed his  
righteousness in the sight of the  
nations.

**P**<sup>3</sup> He has remembered his  
steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.

**C**<sup>4</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**P**<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

**C**<sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

**P**<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who dwell in it!

**C**<sup>8</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together  
<sup>9</sup> before the LORD, for he comes  
to judge the earth.

**P** He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy  
Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## CATECHISM REVIEW

**P** *The Third Petition*

**C** Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**P** *What does this mean?*

**C** The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

**P** *How is God's will done?*

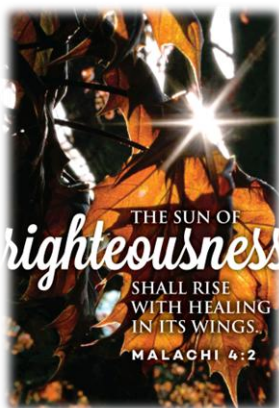
**C** God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Malachi 4:1–6*

<sup>1</sup> “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

<sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping



like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>4</sup>“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup>“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

<sup>6</sup>And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

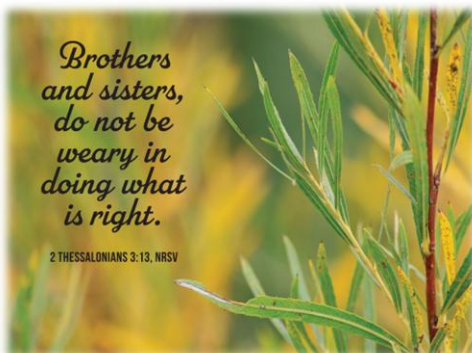
**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

### 2 Thessalonians 3:1–13

<sup>1</sup>Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, <sup>2</sup>and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. <sup>3</sup>But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. <sup>4</sup>And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. <sup>5</sup>May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves



know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. <sup>9</sup>It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

<sup>13</sup>As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA**

*LSB 190*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 21:5–36*

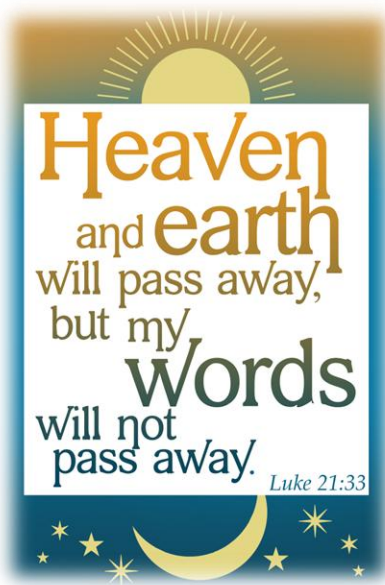
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup>While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” <sup>7</sup>And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup>And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

<sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup>There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences.





And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup>This will be your opportunity to bear witness.

<sup>14</sup>Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer,

<sup>15</sup>for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able

to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your lives.

<sup>20</sup>"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. <sup>21</sup>Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, <sup>22</sup>for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. <sup>23</sup>Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. <sup>24</sup>They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

<sup>25</sup>"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great



glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And

He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## SERMON HYMN

*“Have No Fear, Little Flock”*

LSB #735

## SERMON

## OFFERTORY

LSB 192

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## OFFERING

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| Service of the Sacrament |
|--------------------------|

## PREFACE

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **SANCTUS**

*LSB 195*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*LSB 196*

**P** Our Father who 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*LSB 197*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **PAX DOMINI**

*LSB 197*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <i>“Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior”</i> | LSB #619 |
| <i>“The Church’s One Foundation”</i>      | LSB #644 |
| <i>“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”</i>        | LSB #474 |

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### *“Christ Be My Leader”*

LSB #861

#### Acknowledgments. Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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**Sunday:** Jeremiah 31:1-17, 23-34;  
Revelation 16:1-21; Matthew 27:1-10

**Monday:** Jeremiah 33:1-22;  
Jeremiah 34:1 – 36:32; 45:1 - 51:64;  
Matthew 27:1-32

**Tuesday:** Jeremiah 37:1-21;

Revelation 17:1-18; Matthew 27:33-56

**Wednesday:** Jeremiah 38:1-28; Jeremiah 39:1 – 44:30;  
Matthew 27:57-66

**Thursday:** Daniel 1:1-21; Matthew 28:1-20

**Friday:** Daniel 2:1-23; Revelation 18:1-24

**Saturday:** Daniel 2:24-49; Revelation 19:1-21

## FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann   Joe Calmes

David Czech   Rodney Dahlke

Alice Fromm   Christopher Emmerich

Wallace Emmerich   Duane Grunenwald

Gerhard Hanneman   Angie Harkner

Dale Janisch   Cecelia & Lucille Klade

Lorraine Kleinschmidt   Rob Koebe

Kim Love   Bob Meyer   Gene Mootz

Debbie Olson   Hayden Partyka

Mark Pester   Bob Porath

Marge Radenz   Karen Rajek

Rod and Laurie Runge   Jo Schedler   Audrey Steckling

Lorraine Steckling   Carl Uttech   Deb Wiederhoeft

Florence Williamson   Susie and Ellie Zastrow





PROVERBS 27:17

Shutterfly

## ISI Group Meeting

Sunday, November 16

4:30 p.m.

Ballyhoo's Restaurant & Grill, Merrill

### ST. JOHN'S and FAITH CALENDAR

#### Sunday, November 16

8:30 a.m.      **Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's**

*Sunday School during the sermon at St. John's*

9:15 a.m.      Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m.      **Worship with Holy Communion at Faith**

11:15 a.m.      Bible Study at Faith

4:30 p.m.      ISI at Ballyhoo's Restaurant and Grill, Merrill

#### Monday, November 17

5:30 p.m.      Choir rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m.      **Worship with Holy Communion at Faith**

#### Wednesday, November 19

5:30 p.m.      Confirmation Class at Faith

6:00 p.m.      Meal at St. John's

6:30 p.m.      **Hunters' Service at St. John's**

#### Thursday, November 20

10:30 a.m.      Community Bible Class at St. John's



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** on Wednesdays  
at 5:30 p.m. at Faith.

**THURSDAY COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS** at  
10:30 a.m. at St. John's

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
Classes will meet during  
the sermon at St. John's.  
classes are at 9:15 a.m. at Faith.





# Annual FRUIT SALE

Order forms are in the  
back of the church.

Deadline to order Wednesday, November 26

For more information, contact Terry Seidler  
at 715-203-5736

*All are welcome to order*

**THANKSGIVING IS NEAR!!!** Whether you are hosting at home or invited away, get scrip cards for your celebration supplies whether at home or away. It's also time to remember those supplies for fall harvest or yard work. And remember, holidays are coming up soon. Pick up scrip for all your household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*



## FALL EVENT

### LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

N5302 Townhall Road and Highway 17,  
Gleason

**Harvest Dinner on November 16**

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Buffet of Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes,  
Stuffing, Squash, salads and desserts

*Dine In, Carryout, Drive Through*

Adults \$13 Child 6-12 \$7

5 and under Free



# ST. JOHN'S HUNTERS' SERVICE

**Wednesday, November 19**  
*Meal 6:00 p.m. Worship at 6:30 p.m.*



**THANKSGIVING EVE  
WORSHIP AT FAITH**  
**Wednesday, November 26**  
**6:30 p.m.**



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## A request from Pastor Ruhbush. If anyone has **STRINGS OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

that do not work or have some bulbs burned out, don't throw them away – he goes through all of the strings and fixes what he can and uses what he can to repair others. Everything that he repairs he takes to Ablelight Thrift Shop to be sold. He enjoys doing it and has been fixing 100's of strings for many years. There is a white plastic container in the coat room that lights can be put in.



In the beauty and celebration of Christmas, we are decorating the Faith Sanctuary and Narthex with poinsettias this year. Donations for the **POINSETTIA FUND** will be taken through **Sunday, December 14.** Please fill out the form on the Scrip table and enclose it with your check payable to Faith Lutheran Church. Place the form in the basket on the Scrip table or drop off at the church office.



## *St. John's Tree of Giving*

The Tree of Giving are items that families from Maple Grove School are in need of for the winter months.

Take 1 or more tags and sign your name on the sign-up sheet next to the appropriate tag number. Purchase item(s) requested and include gift receipt(s) in case the size doesn't work. Put your tag(s) on the bags so it can go to the appropriate family.

Bring purchased bags to St. John's Church by November 23, 2025. They will then be delivered to Maple Grove School on November 24, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Baumann at (715) 573-8923.



## CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR PINE CREST RESIDENTS

Pine Crest is asking for donation of Christmas presents and/or money which allows Pine Crest to give a gift to each resident. Items should be dropped off by Sunday, December 7 at Faith. A list of items can be found in this newsletter and on the Scrip table in the back of church.



**Gifts for children:** *Watch for the tree with tags in the back of church at Faith.* Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 14.

For information, contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003 or e-mail at [bkg9005@gmail.com](mailto:bkg9005@gmail.com)



*Thank you to all who made the Pancake Dinner at Faith a great success. Whether you helped prepare and serve, donated food items, joined us for a meal ... we are grateful.*

*Thank you to all who joined in the Veterans' Day Celebrations. Your participation speaks volumes to all those we remember and honor on this special day. We thank and praise God for the special music at both congregations for this service. Also thank you to all who helped with the Veterans' breakfast served at St. John's. It was great!*

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at**

#### **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**15425 County Road K South  
Merrill, WI 54452 or**

#### **ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**134058 County Road L  
Athens, WI 54411**

*(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)*

**Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Merrill Facebook Page**

**<https://faithmerrill.webs.com/>**



## **Christmas Stars**

### **A Christmas Spectacular**

### **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

***THERE ARE STILL OPEN SEATS.***

***If interested, contact Bonnie  
Grueneberg ASAP at 715-613-0003***

Enjoy a day away! We will travel via Progressive Travel motorcoach to the Appleton area. **Departure from Faith Lutheran Church - Merrill - will be at 8:00 a.m.** to arrive at the **Fox River Mall** for a little shopping time and lunch on your own. Our next stop is at the **Xavier Fine Arts Center** to see the Christmas Stars production of “**A Christmas Spectacular**”! Get ready to see some fantastic talent from local folks of all ages from little tots on up to senior adults. Xavier Fine Arts puts on two shows a year, All Rise! for Easter and Christmas Stars for this time of year. The show last year included over three hundred people! Enjoy a mixture of comedy, dance, singing and the full Christmas Story! On our-way home we will make a stop at **Culver’s** in St. Point with an estimate return time to Merrill at 6:00 p.m.

**Cost: \$80.00 per person** (inc. deluxe motorcoach transportation and show ticket)

**Reserve a seat today by calling or texting Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003.** Once confirmed, fill out the form below and send it along with your full payment to:



**Progressive Travel, Inc.**

**211085 State Highway 13, Spencer, WI 54479**

**Attn: Bonnie**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: Progressive Travel, Inc**

THIS IS HIS COMMANDMENT,



THAT WE SHOULD BELIEVE  
IN THE NAME OF HIS  
SON JESUS CHRIST AND  
LOVE ONE ANOTHER...

1 JOHN 3:23, NRSV