

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Christmas Eve

Service of Scripture and Carols

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

"The true light, which enlighten everyone was coming into the world." John 1:9

*Ringing of the Bell

The assembly stands.

First Lesson John 1: 1 – 4 (Please turn to the back of the sanctuary for the reading)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Christmas Dialog

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

C: He is the Light no darkness can overcome.

P: At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

C: With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."

P: In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

C: With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.

Processional Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold Him. Born the king of angels:

O come, let us adore Him, oh, come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, In the highest;

O come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The assembly is seated.

Second Lesson: Genesis 22: 15 – 18

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the

seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Hymn **"What Child is This"**

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king. Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud. The babe, the son of Mary!**

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2 – 7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymn **"From Heaven Above"**

**From heav'n above to earth I come. To bring good news to everyone!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring. To all the world, and gladly sing.**

**To you this night is born a child. Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This new-born child of lowly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.**

**This is the Christ, God's Son most high, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will himself your Savior be. And from all sin will set you free.**

Fourth Lesson: Micah 5: 2 – 5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace.
If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above the deep and dream-less sleep, The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee to-night.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christ-mas angels, The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, -bide with us, Our lord Immanuel!**

Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 60: 1 – 6, 15 – 20

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

¹⁵Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
with no one passing through,
I will make you majestic forever,
a joy from age to age.

¹⁶You shall suck the milk of nations,
you shall suck the breasts of kings;
and you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

¹⁷Instead of bronze I will bring gold,
instead of iron I will bring silver;
instead of wood, bronze,
instead of stones, iron.

I will appoint Peace as your overseer
and Righteousness as your taskmaster.

¹⁸Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
devastation or destruction within your borders;
you shall call your walls Salvation,
and your gates Praise.

¹⁹The sun shall no longer be
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give light to you by night;
but the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.

²⁰Your sun shall no more go down,
or your moon withdraw itself;
for the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your days of mourning shall be ended.

Choir Anthem "The First Noel/Pachelbels's Canon"

Sixth Lesson: Luke 1: 26 – 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with

God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High"

**Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in re-ply, Echoing their joyous strains.**

Glo- -ria in excelsis Deo;

Glo- -ria in excelsis Deo.

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the new-born king.**

Glo- -ria in excelsis Deo;

Glo- -ria in excelsis Deo.

Seventh Lesson: Matthew 1: 18 – 25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

**O come, O come, Emanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel, Shall come to you, O Israel.**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

The assembly stands.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2: 1 – 7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The assembly is seated.

Christmas Homily “Joy Comes in the Small Things”

The assembly stands.

Hymn “Away in a Manger”

**Away in a Manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus, laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down, where He lay.
The little Lord Jesus a-sleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes.
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay.
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.**

The assembly is seated.

Ninth Lesson: Luke 2: 8 – 20

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angel Sing”

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald an-gels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time be-hold Him come, Off-spring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!**

**Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild he lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"**

Tenth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1 – 12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn "We Three Kings"

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
Oh,...star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High.
Oh,...star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

WE DEMONSTRATE OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD

The assembly stands.

Prayers of Intercession

A: With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease (*regions in crisis may be named*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children, and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain (*especially*). Shelter refugee families and those who have no home. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving (*especially*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

Holy God,

Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time
your word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time,

you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness
and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again

when all things will be restored in him.
By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,
that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

Everyone who believes in the "real presence" of Christ in this Sacrament of Holy Communion is invited to come forward and receive forgiveness of sins, life and salvation Christ has offered us on the cross..

Hymn during Communion:
282 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Prayer after Communion

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

*Lighting of the Candles

To prevent the dripping of wax, please hold the unlit candle on an angle and light the wick from the candle already burning.

*Solo – Pastor Aucker

“Stille Nacht”

Hymn “Silent Night”

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of re-deeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

Pastor: Go in the Peace of Christ and Serve the Lord!

Congregation: *Thanks be to God!*

(extinguish the candles and hold them for a while so no wax drips on the carpet or cushions)

Hymn “Joy to the World”

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let every heart pre-prepare Him room. And heav'n and nature sing.
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns in-fest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteous-ness And wonders of his love.
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.**

Postlude

“Every time a hand reaches out to help another...

that is Christmas.

Every time someone puts anger aside and strives for understanding...

that is Christmas.

Every time people forget their differences and realize their love for each other ...

that is Christmas.”

On behalf of the Congregation, God’s Blessings and Merry Christmas!

Communion Cards are in the pew racks. We ask that all worshipers who commune sign one and place it in the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice “Open Communion” at St. John.

Anyone who believes in the “real” presence of Christ in the bread and wine are welcomed to come forward and receive the “real body and blood of Christ.” We offer two choices for communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshippers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving the bread.

We thank everyone who shared their poinsettias with us. You may pick up yours after the 10:30 p.m. service or Sunday after worship. Please be mindful to take only the color that you ordered.

Many thanks to the lectors, communion assistants, and to all who shared their gifts of music during the service.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ.”

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Dave Barner, Agnes Cryder, Ken Dean, Don & Helen Delaney, Joanne Fisher, Joann Hall, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, the Snyder family, Charles and Candace Welshans, and all of our shut-ins. The family of Cheryl Millard.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and we pray for peace in Ukraine and an end to war.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jade Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, and Jenna White. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on often with added stress.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Cozette Stoltzfus.

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

Christian Education is seeking volunteers to lead Children’s Church once a month. If interested please see Cathy Eisner. The 4th and 5th Sundays are open.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO RESUME NURSERY. We are in need of adult and teen volunteers to supervise toddlers/babies in the nursery during church. Please contact Molly Hollick, or Ken Dougherty if you

would be willing to help out or have any questions. Our hope is to get enough volunteers to have a monthly rotation cycle.

Annual Reports - A reminder to the chairs of all ministries of St. John Lutheran – your annual reports must be submitted to the office **by January 12** to be included in the annual report to the congregation at the annual congregation meeting on February 6, 2022.

Your 2023 Offering Envelopes are available in the Tower of the Church. Please pick up yours and any of your relatives. Only a small number of people use envelopes but it is an important stewardship tool. If there are no envelopes with your name on, please contact Laurel Gottschall for envelopes. It costs us \$3.60 to mail one box of \$1.30 envelopes. Please save us money and pick up your envelopes or give electronically. Forms are available from the office or you can give on-line via the Vanco app.

There are **Advent/Christmas Envelopes** in each pew. Of this year's Advent/Christmas offerings, half will go to Mission Support of the ELCA and half will go to United Churches of Lycoming County. Only a small number of people use offering envelopes so these envelopes are available for those who wish to donate..

THANKS TO ALL who planned, prepared and decorated the sanctuary, the doors, the planter, the nativity scene – all the wonderful Christmas decorations! Thank you to those who prepared and assisted with the Christmas dinner. Thank you!

“My sincere thanks to St. John Council and congregation for the thoughtful Christmas card and gift.”
Laurel Gottschall

Thank you to the congregation for the Christmas card and gift. May you have a blessed Christmas as we celebrate our Savior's birth.
Pastor Aucker

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship. You are invited to attend.

4:00 p.m. Gloria's Birthday Celebration

6:30 p.m. **NO** Choir rehearsal

Friday, December 30, 2022

11:00 a.m., Memorial Service for Sarah Davidson at St John

Sunday, January 1, 2023

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

GROW in the Snow Looks at Baptism: All youth in 6-12th grade and their youth leaders are invited to attend this synod youth retreat on March 17-18. The theme of this year's will be baptism. Experience your Creator, play winter games and find refreshment in the peace of camp in winter. The retreat is from Friday night to Saturday afternoon, but there is an option for youth and leaders to come just for the day on Saturday. Each registered group should provide one adult (21 or over) for every seven youth and at least one adult for each gender represented. Cabin assignments will be made based on available adults and the number of youth attending. To register contact Pastor Aucker or Mrs. Eisner. A flyer and registration form are coming soon!