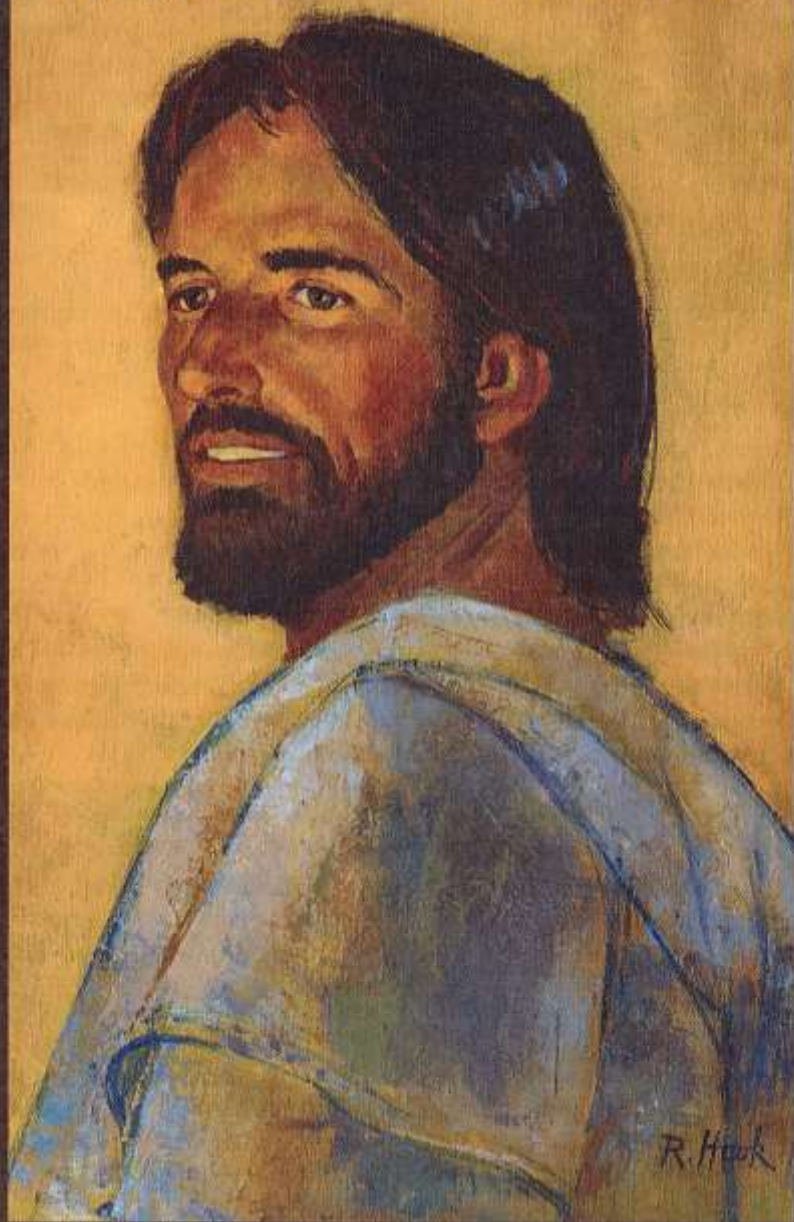


Are You the one who is to come?



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnvlutheran@juno.com

PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895

(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)

jboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

Greeter This Week: Candy Cowley

Greeter Next Week: Daren & Dawn Otto

Reader This Week: Jeffery Bennett

Reader Next Week: Cathie Bettge

Acolytes This Week: Carlie Parsons

Acolytes Next Week: Carlie Parsons

Altar Guild This Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Altar Guild Next Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

Communion Assistant This Month: Obert Sagebiel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Brian Wendel

Large Print Bulletins are available on the narthex table. Please ask an usher for a copy if you would like one.

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Lighting of the Advent Candle

HYMN: WOV #630 3rd Verse *“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”*

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN: LBW #40 *“What Child Is This”*

page 57-58: KYRIE

page 59: HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

All: Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in

the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**²Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.**

³When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.

**⁴Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

⁵Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise forever;

**⁶Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.**

⁷The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

⁸The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

⁹The Lord shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Stand page 62: GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia”

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:2-15

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*sung*)

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are

in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*sung*)

Sit MESSAGE

HYMN: WOV #770 "*I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*"
HOLY BAPTISM (LBW pg. 121)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Stand page 66: SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sit OFFERING

Stand page 75: OFFERTORY "Create in Me"

page 76: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

page 76: THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN: LBW #41 "*O Little Town of Bethlehem*"

P Go in peace, serve the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 12/11 Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

10:15 a.m. Worship

**Called Congregational Meeting after church*

**Christmas play practice after church*

Mon 12/12 Office Closed

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

7:00 p.m. Finance Team

Tue 12/13 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Wed 12/14 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

10:00 a.m. Comm. Service Yorktown Manor

1:30 p.m. Quilters

7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Thurs 12/15 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Fri 12/16 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Next Sun Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School (*No Confirmation*)

10:15 a.m. Worship

**Christmas play practice after church*

Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

Sunday, December 4, 2016:

Offering:

General \$3,118.48, MOM \$410.00, Sunday School \$53.00,

Sunday School Bags \$54.00, Church Reno. \$379.00, Building \$210.00,

Old Stone Church \$22.00, Organ \$20.00, Christmas Families \$145.00

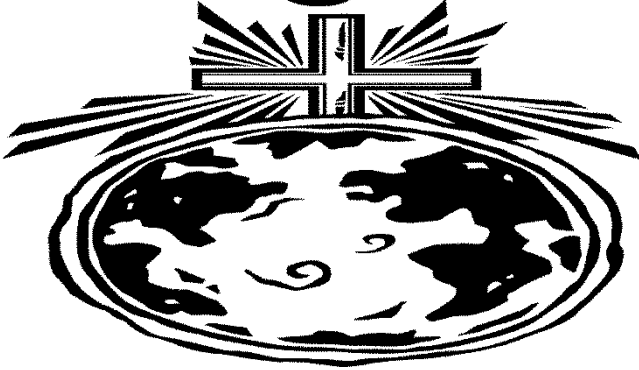
Total: \$4,411.48

Attendance: Worship- 106 Sunday School- 12 Adults, 28 Children



Mission of the Month of December:

Mission Project



CAMAL House

Mission Statement

St. John's Mission of the Month of December is CAMAL House which is the local food bank. December is a busy month at the CAMAL House. Volunteers run this food bank.



3RD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

HOLY BAPTISM

Today we welcome as a member by Holy Baptism
*Jayce Oscar Garcia, son of Johnny & Shelly
Garcia. Sponsors for his Baptism are Chris &
Rachel Camacho.*



Christmas Eve Program

St. John Lutheran Sunday School will be performing “Silent Night, Holy Night” on Saturday, Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m. in the church. We need to know if your child will be able to participate in the presentation so that we can assign parts. We will have practice on Sunday:

December 11th after church

December 18th after church

Please call (361-275-4322 or 361-648-4033) or let us know at Sunday School or church. It is very important that we know as soon as possible, so that we can start giving out parts. We will serve a light lunch for the practices after church. We are looking forward to another wonderful Christmas Eve Program, as we celebrate Jesus’ birth!

Yours in Christ,

Wanda Hays, Jackie Parsons & Kathy Dunn

Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone during Christmas time, please fill out the insert in the bulletin. The deadline to purchase poinsettias is today!!!



Services:

Communion Service 3:00 pm

Christmas Program 6:30 pm

Candlelight Service w/ Communion 10:30 pm

Confirmation

There will be no Confirmation classes on Sunday, December 18th, 25th or January 1st.
Classes will resume on January 8, 2017.



Sunday School

There will be no Sunday school classes on December 25th or January 1st. Classes will resume on January 8, 2017.



Finance Team

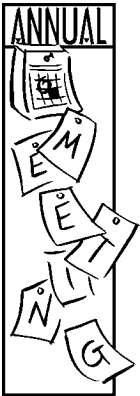
The Finance Team will meet tomorrow, December 12th at 7:00 pm.

Quilters

The Quilters will only meet in December on Wednesday the 7th & 14th. Quilting will resume to every Wednesday in January.



Annual Congregation Meeting



Council has voted to hold the annual congregation meeting immediately following the service on Sunday, January 22nd, 2017. In addition to the usual agenda items, will be consideration of two proposed amendments to our constitution. One is per the recommendation by the NALC's legal staff regarding inclusion of a statement of doctrine on marriage and sexuality in the congregation's governing documents. The second is related to the council seat provision for the leader of The Women of the Church Team. Copies of the proposed amendments, together with additional related detail, are available in the narthex.

Church Renovation Fund

On August 28, 2016, our congregation voted to establish a fund for installation of the elevator and other church renovations. Anyone wishing to give to the renovation project may do so by designating "Church Renovation" or "Elevator Fund" on their check or on the pew giving envelope.



Attention Acolytes

Please see the acolyte sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed for the upcoming months!



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current and up to date. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (361-275-5979)

Our Military and their families:

Nicholas Jacobs - U.S. Air Force,
Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
John Otto - USMC, Norfolk, VA
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Germany
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Hunter Jacob
Glynn Yurick

Homebound: Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg, Bette Jo Haun

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.



St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>

Advent 3

December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)



Jesus lifted up the work and character of John the Baptist, of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said that one would come to prepare the way of the Lord. With the promises of a desert in full bloom, the blind receiving sight, and the lame walking, the exhortation to be patient and persevere until the coming of the Lord's Messiah gives us hope and courage as we wait for Christ's return.