

*If these were silent,  
the very stones  
would cry out*

*Kristin  
McCain*

## **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](mailto:stjohnvlutheran@juno.com)

**PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895**

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

[jboor1@juno.com](mailto:jboor1@juno.com)

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

### **First Sunday of Advent**

December 2, 2018

**Greeter This Week:** John & Margie Swannack

**Greeter Next Week:** Daren & Dawn Otto

**Reader This Week:** Johnna Kethan

**Reader Next Week:** Dickie Bettge

**Acolytes This Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Acolytes Next Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Altar Guild This Month:** Dawn Otto & Kaley Coker

**Altar Guild Next Month:** Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

**Communion Assistant This Month:** Pam Haun

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Wanda Hays

**Large Print Bulletins** are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher for a copy.

**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.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

*May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*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 1<sup>st</sup> Verse *“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”*

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN: LBW #31 *“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”*

p. 57-58: KYRIE

p. 60: HYMN OF PRAISE *“This is the Feast”*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you,

C **And also with you. (sung)**

P Let us pray:

**All: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

### ***A Righteous Branch***

*The Word of the Lord came to the prophet Jeremiah concerning the renewal of God's people. The people were idolatrous, and the Lord had all but given up on them when he remembered his great love for them and promised them a new beginning in Jerusalem. A righteous branch of the line of David would be their king.*

Jeremiah 33:14-16

(Page 683, RSV Pew Bible)

<sup>14</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

RESPONSIVE READING

### ***God's Compassion is Everlasting***

*The psalmist asked for God's intervention in his life. He did not want to be put to shame or humiliated by his enemies. He pleaded with God not to count the sins of his youth against him, but to instruct him in the Lord's holy ways and to remember him always. The need for forgiveness is present in all human beings.*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup>**Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

<sup>3</sup>Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.

<sup>4</sup>**Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day  
long.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness,  
O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

<sup>8</sup>**He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

<sup>10</sup>**For your name's sake, O Lord,  
forgive my sin, for it is great.**

## SECOND READING

### *Paul Gives Thanks*

*St. Paul sought to provide for the believers in Thessalonica, especially for whatever was lacking in their faith. His great desire was to return to them, to see them face to face, and to encourage them in fervent love toward one another for the sake of Christ Jesus. Paul looked forward to Christ's return and the future judgment.*

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

(Page 1030, RSV Pew Bible)

<sup>9</sup>What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-36

(Page 915-916, RSV Pew Bible)

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>25</sup>{Jesus said,} “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 The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit SERMON

HYMN: WOV #770 “*I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*”

*HOLY BAPTISM* (LBW pg. 121)

Stand p. 65: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

p. 66: SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sit OFFERING

Stand p. 66: OFFERTORY: “Let the vineyards...”

p. 67: OFFERTORY PRAYER

p. 68: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 70: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER #33 (right column)

p. 71: LORD’S PRAYER

p. 72: LAMB OF GOD

Sit DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

SOFT HYMNS FOR MEDITATION

Stand p. 72: POST COMMUNION: “Thank the Lord . . .”

p. 74: PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN**

**Today 12/2**     **First Sunday of Advent**  
9:00 a.m.                      Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.                     Worship  
*\*Christmas play practice during Sunday School*

**Mon 12/3**        **Office Closed**

**Tue 12/4**        9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.    Office Hours

**Wed 12/5**        9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.    Office Hours

**Thurs 12/6**      9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.    Office Hours

**Fri 12/7**        9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.    Office Hours

**Next Sun**        **Second Sunday of Advent**  
9:00 a.m.                      Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.                     Worship  
*(Called Congregation Meeting Following Worship)*  
*\*Christmas play practice during Sunday School*  
*\*2:00-4:00 Confirmation Class*

*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.*

**Wednesday, November 21, 2018 Thanksgiving Eve**

**Offering:** General \$130.00, MOM \$10.00,

Building \$20.00, Church Reno. \$10.00

**Total: \$170.00            Attendance: 21**

**Sunday, November 25, 2018**

**Offering:** General \$937.00, MOM \$170.00, Sunday School \$94.95,

OSC\$40.00, Church Reno. \$305.00

**Total: \$1,546.95**

**Attendance:**    Worship- 84    Sunday School- 11-Adults, 22 -Children



## Mission of the Month of December



### Stevenson's Unit Prison Ministry

#### Mission Statement

The 2018 fundraiser did not make the goal anticipated but they did raise \$6,000.00 which boosted the account to around \$40,000.00. The goal is long way to reach the funding goals.

Progress was made in September when the corporate members along with Kevin and Royce Krueger of Don Kruger Construction met with administrative staff of the Stevenson Unit to pick a location for the chapel on the property. This location must still be approved by TDCJ officials and their engineers.

They will not send their team to Cuero till 85% of the funding goal of \$2 million is met. There is a new chapel opening at the prison in Hondo, and when it is open they will tour that facility. TDCJ provides three floor plans to choose from and due to safety and security do not deviate from these often. The 8,450 sq . ft. plan best fits the property selected at the Stevenson's Unit.

The corporation has made some fundraising plans for 2019 and are always on the lookout for hose philanthropic donors that will help push the fund to funding goals.

The corporation thanks St. John's for the support they have received in the past. Les Rabke said "We need good folks like you to make sure we don't give up on this steep mountain we have to climb. God has called us to this task and we will continue His work regardless of the time and effort it may take to save souls if our brothers-in-white at the Stevenson's Unit."



*We keep the family of Marsha Baacke in our Prayers. May God comfort her family at this time of loss.*



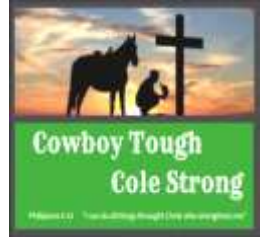
## HOLY BAPTISM

Today we welcome as a member by Holy Baptism *Sebastian Rey Cornett*, son of Jennifer Cornett. Sponsor for his Baptism is Katrina Moritz.

### Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is home now and able to be with his family & friends. Though he has a long road ahead of him, God has been with him every step of the way.

We ask for your continued prayers for Cole's recovery and for spiritual strength, strong faith and unlimited patience for him and his family. Thank you and may God bless you all.



### Christmas Program

St. John Lutheran Sunday School will be performing a Christmas Eve Program on December 24 at 6:30 pm. in the church. We need to know if your children will be able to participate in the presentation so we can assign parts. We plan to have practice during part of Sunday School starting NOVEMBER 25 at 9 am. The FINAL dress rehearsal will be DECEMBER 23 at 9 am.

This year's play is called "Joseph's Shoes" and focuses on the abundant faith both Joseph and Mary had during the Christmas miracle. There are both speaking and non-speaking roles for all ages. We will also need backstage people for older students who may not wish to be in the play but still be a part of the production.

Please call or text Johnna Kethan 361-649-4234 or Kathy Dunn 361-275-4322 or let us know at Sunday School or church.

We are looking forward to another wonderful Christmas Eve Program as we celebrate Jesus' birth!

Yours in Christ,  
Kathy Dunn, Wanda Hays and Johnna Kethan



HOLY BAPTISM







## Called Congregational Meeting

A brief called congregation meeting will be held immediately following the service on Sunday, December 9th. The sole agenda item will be consideration of the proposed St. John Budget for 2019, as approved by Council. Copies of the proposed budget are available in the Narthex.

## 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. Place it in the offering plate with payment. They are \$11.00 each & will be in a gold tin with a Christmas bow. The deadline to purchase poinsettias is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.



## Worship Team

Worship Team is listening for a few leading voices! We are looking for interested voices that would be interested in leading the congregation in song on Sunday morning's services. We have a couple of possible volunteers but really want a few more to spread the joy of assisting with the service through sharing your voice in song. If you might consider God calling you to that ministry please contact Pastor John, Johnny or Virginia Jank, Marv or Noreen Sager, Beverly Bodden, Dawn Otto, Carol Ann Sagebiel or Bruce Weise for more details.



## Readers & Greeters

If you would like to become a reader or greeter for the upcoming year please contact the office or sign-up on in the Narthex. If you are currently a reader or greeter & would like to be removed, please contact the church office by phone or email: [stjohnelutheran@juno.com](mailto:stjohnelutheran@juno.com). Thank you!



## Attention Acolytes

Please see the acolyte sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed.





## Cross Country News

Will Green has been invited to participate in the Down Under Sports Tournaments hosted on the Gold Coast of Australia. He will be representing Texas on the Cross Country Team during the Summer of 2019! Your donations are greatly appreciated & will help tremendously! Ways to donate are below. Flyers with more information are located in the Narthex. Please fill out the Thank you ticket on the flyer to have a chance to win 1 of 2 prizes. Thank you very much for your support! What an amazing opportunity for such a talented young man, congratulations Will!

### Ways to donate

\*Donate online at: <https://DownUnderSports.com/NTQ-JNO>(Case Sensitive)

\*Make Check out to: "Down Under Sports" and mail it along with this letter to: Down Under Sports, PO Box 6010, North Logan, UT 84341

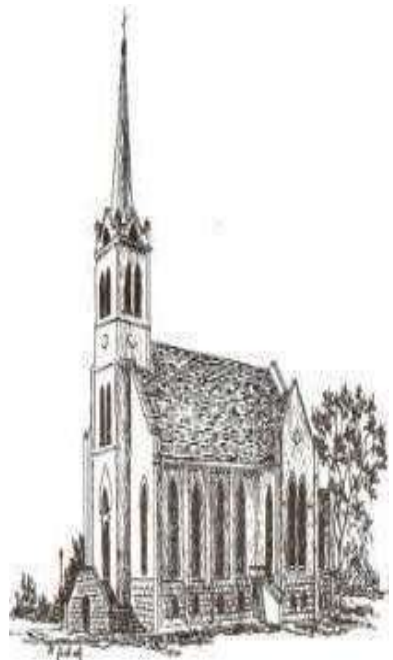
\*Call Down Under Sports at: 435-753-4732

### Church Renovation Update

Our new bathroom is not quite complete, but the contractor is letting us use it until final finish work is completed. The contractor is in the process of pouring necessary concrete for the elevator shaft. The estimated costs for construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, and incidentals is \$599,553. We are required to pay as construction progresses so the bills are coming in on a regular basis. This project received almost unanimous support so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving generously to this project.

GOAL: \$599,553

RECEIVED AS OF November 18, 2018: \$310,468



**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 at (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, Japan

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force

Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant, Fort Rucker, AL,  
going to Warrant Officer Candidate School then to Army

Aviation Flight School

Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

Michael Petrash II - Iraq



**Please Pray for:** Adam Womble

Nate Boehl

Hunter Jacob

Glynn Yurick

Kenny Jacob

Cole Ohrt

Carlton Migura

Robby Bitterly

Carly Waters

Slade Doehrman

*(Slade likes to receive cards, his address is:  
11049 FM 236, Cuero 77954)*

**Nursing Home:** Marjorie Ideus, Yorktown Nursing & Rehabilitation,  
Ruth Peters, Elmcroft, Victoria, TX

**Homebound:** Bette Jo Haun



**Keep up with St. John online**

**St. John Meyersville**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>**

**Or visit our website at: [stjohnmeyersville.org](http://stjohnmeyersville.org)**

# Advent 1

*December 2, 2018*

## First Sunday of Advent (Year C)



Jeremiah was to inform an idolatrous people that the Lord would not forsake them, even though they had disregarded his love and his ways. He would send a righteous branch of the tree of David to be their king. This king would be eternal, and his reign would be characterized by justice and mercy. We know this one as King Jesus, and he will return to earth once more and take his people unto himself for all eternity.

