

NOW YOU ARE LETTING
YOUR SERVANT DEPART
IN PEACE, ACCORDING
TO YOUR WORD



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas

Lessons & Carols Service

December 27, 2020

Greeter This Week: Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Greeter Next Week: Candy Cowley

Reader This Week: Youth

Reader Next Week: Johnna Kethan

Acolytes This Week: Open

Acolytes Next Week: Hayden Leist & Hudson Zengerle

Altar Guild This Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Altar Guild Next Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

Communion Assistant This Month: Glenn Ruschhaupt

Communion Assistant Next Month: Obert Sagebiel

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.

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

Thank you for attending. We thank God that we are once again able to gather inside the church. For those who are not comfortable entering the church we are also broadcasting as we have for the past several weeks and you are more than welcome to remain in your car. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel 101.5. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

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

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

"OH, COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL"

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, Oh, come . . ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him Born the King of angels:

Refrain:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,

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

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!

Refrain:

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God....In....the....highest:

Refrain:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee . . be . . glory giv'n!

Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:

Refrain:

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light
C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined
C **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**
P For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
C **In Him was life, and the life was the Light of all people.**

OPENING PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; though your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 ~ *Peyton Diebel*

CAROL

"Lo, How a Rose Is Growing"

Lo, how a rose is growing, A bloom of finest grace;
The prophets had foretold it: A branch of Jesse's race
Would bear one perfect flow'r Here in the cold
Of winter And darkest midnight hour.

The rose of which I'm singing, Isaiah had foretold.
He came to us through Mary Who sheltered him from cold.
Through God's eternal will This child to us was given
At midnight calm and still.

The shepherds heard the story The angels sang that night:
How Christ was born of Mary; He was the Son of light.
To Bethlehem they ran To find him in the manger
As angel heralds sang.

This flow'r, so small and tender, With fragrance fills the air;
His brightness ends the darkness That kept the earth in fear.
True God and yet true man, He came to save his people
From earth's dark night of sin.

O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt all human woe;
O Savior, king of glory, Who triumphed o'er our foe:
Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven
And into endless day.

SECOND READING: Micah 5:2-5a ~ *Hayden Leist*

CAROL

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless 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 tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, And Peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; But, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

THIRD READING: Luke 1:26-35, 38 ~ *Madyx Blain*

CAROL

“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!

Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The king of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

FOURTH READING: Luke 2:1-7 ~ *Pastor John*

CAROL

“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 bright sky . . . looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep 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.

FIFTH READING: Luke 2:8-16 ~ *Mackenzie Blain*

CAROL

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Infant holy, infant lowly, For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

SIXTH READING: Luke 2:21-36 ~ *Hudson Zengerle*

CAROL

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

**Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, And we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

SEVENTH READING: Matthew 2:1-11 ~ *Johnna Kethan*

CAROL

“The First Noel”

**The first Noel the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night . that was . . so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw . . a star Shining in . .
the east . . beyond . . them far;
And to the . . earth it gave . . great light,
And . . so it continued both day . . and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that . . same star
Three . Wise . Men came . . from country far;
To seek for a King was their . . intent,
And to follow the star . . wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**This star drew nigh to the . . northwest,
O'er . . Bethlehem . . it took . . its rest;
And there it . . did both stop . . . and stay
Right . . over the place . where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**Then entered in those Wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the kind of Israel.**

EIGHTH READING: Matthew 2:13-18 ~ *Marlee Blain*

CAROL

“Cold December Flies Away”

**Cold December flies away At the rose red splendor.
April's crowning glory breaks While the whole world wonders
At the holy unseen pow'r Of the tree which bears the flow'r.
On the blessed tree Blooms the reddest flow'r. On the tree blooms
the rose Here in love's own garden, Full and strong in glory.**

**In the hopeless time of sin Shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay underneath. Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night, Came the sun whose golden light
Brings unending joy, Brings the endless joy Of our hope, highest hope,
Of our hope's bright dawning, Son beloved of heaven.**

**Now the bud has come to bloom, And the world awakens.
In the lily's purest flow'r Dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth From the moment of its birth;
And its beauty lives. In the flow'r it lives, In the flow'r, and it spreads
In its heav'nly brightness Sweet perfume delightful.**

NINTH READING: John 1:1-14 ~ *Pastor John*

CAROL

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

Refrain:

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.**

Refrain:

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High.**

Refrain:

**Myrrh is mine; it's bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

Refrain:

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice;
heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.**

Refrain:

OFFERING

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

**P Glory to God in the Highest.
C and peace to God's people on earth.**

**P Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.
C Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

**P Blessed are you, son of Mary. You share our humanity
C Have mercy on the sick, the dying and all who suffer this day.**

**P Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.
C Reveal Yourself to us in Word and Sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.**

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.**

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever.

C **AMEN**

SENDING HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail the heav'n-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 man 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 newborn King!”**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 12/27 First Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Worship ~ *Lesson's & Carols*

Mon 12/28 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Tues 12/29 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Wed 12/30 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Thurs 12/31 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours ~*New Year's Eve!*~

Fri 1/1 *Office Closed ~ New Year's Day, Happy New Year! ~*

Next Sun Second Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Worship



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.

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.

Sunday, December 20, 2020

General \$810.00, MOM- Samaritan's Purse \$165.00, Sunday School \$103.80, Building \$150.00, Reno. \$1,050.00

Total: \$2,278.80

Attendance: Worship - No count Sunday School - 17 - Children, 11 - Adults Confirmation - 5

New Member Class

Pastor John will be holding a New Member Class starting on January 10, 2021. The class will be on Sunday evenings from 7-8 PM for four weeks in the Parish Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a new member please contact Pastor John. If you are already a member and would like to attend you are welcome to attend. Please advise Pastor John so he can order the workbook.

Thank you
Pastor John



UPDATE - Worship Team Notes - UPDATE

We will be having church in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. from now on, unless something changes. Communion will be by stations on the 1st Sunday until further notice. Please note there are certain guidelines that have to be followed. These specific guidelines are posted on our website & FaceBook page. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. The service will also be videoed & posted to the church website on Sundays, after noon sometime. Please continue to check the church website & FaceBook page for updates.



Mission of the Month of December



Samaritan's Purse COVID-19 Response Mission Statement

In response to the COVID-19 international emergency Samaritan's Purse has set up medical tents and brought assistance to most of the world. At this moment they are responding to the Bahamas and other countries around the world who continue to have the spread of COVID-19.

All of the monies collected during this month for mission will go specifically to the COVID-19 Response.

BIG
Thank You!

Special Thank You

Thank you to Johnny & Virginia Jank for all of their hard work through all of the changes due to COVID-19. They have done a wonderful job getting the services onto the big screen, church website & YouTube! We are very grateful to them!

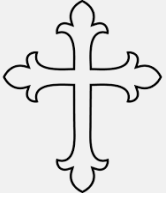
Christmas Program

We had a great turnout for our first outside Bethlehem Village. About 100 people signed in at the Census Booth, and there were more Drive Through visitors. At least 34 youth participated in the program. We will post more pictures on the Church Website and Facebook Page. It was a wonderful celebration of Jesus birth!



Youth Group News

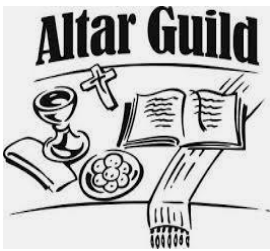
St. John's is looking for someone who enjoys working with young people to be our new youth leaders. Please prayerfully consider this and let Pastor John or Laurie Pokluda know if this is your calling.



NALC Warehouse and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will be collecting combs & brushes starting in January. Thank you.

St. John collected **86 shoe boxes** for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child this year! How AWESOME!!! Thank you to everyone who participated in any way!

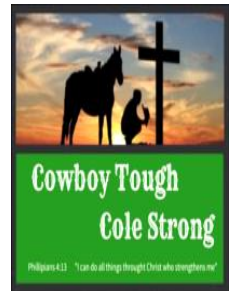


ALTAR GUILD OPPORTUNITY/PLEA

One of our faithful Altar Guild teams is no longer able to serve. Therefore, the Altar Guild is urgently asking for each of you to prayerfully and seriously consider being a part of a team to serve on the Altar Guild. You and your teammate (as do the 5 other teams) serve approximately 2 months per year setting up communion before and cleaning up afterward and filling candles. Please contact Carol Ann Sagebiel (361)243-0122 or any Altar Guild member for more information, etc. Thank You.

Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and will soon also be doing therapy in Victoria. God continues to be with Cole each and every day strengthening his faith, patience, and courage as he travels down this long and difficult journey. We thank each and every one again for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for you to continue praying for Cole's healing and for strength and patience for him and his family. Thank you and God Bless.



**+Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+
At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list:**

Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

To help family stay strong

Patience

Stay positive

The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to complete the canopy and final grade the site. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched-up. 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 December 20, 2020: \$561,798.30



***St. John wishes everyone many blessings in 2021!
Have a safe & Happy New Year!!!***

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request please contact Evelyn Diebel (361)275-5979 Or Linda Ruschhaupt (361)275-4990 or the Pastor. We ask that you would update the prayer request regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel at (361)275-5979.

Our Military and their families:

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army NG, Kuwait
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force
Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army
Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL
Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Hunter Jacob
Glynn Yurick
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Carly Waters
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Janice Turner
Sarah Cooper
Jimmy Caskey
Britany Jank Tomas
Dugan Chandler

Nursing Home:

Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus
Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow
Twin Pines Nursing Facility-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun, Meta Bennett



Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>
Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Christmas 1
December 27, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas (Year B)

St. Paul reminds us that Jesus was born under the law of Moses and his parents did their religious duty to fulfill the covenant law when they took him to the Temple after his birth. This law, however, is not what saves humanity from sin and death; instead it is the lifesaving sacrifice that is prefigured here in the Temple ritual. Salvation came to the house of Israel, and it was witnessed by two elderly saints.

