

LESSONS

AND

Carols



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas

Lessons & Carols Service

December 26, 2021

Greeter This Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Greeter Next Week: Candy Cowley

Reader This Week: Youth

Reader Next Week: Cathie Bettge

Acolytes This Week: Peyton Diebel

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Altar Guild Next Month: M'Liss Moore & Virginia Abrameit

Communion Assistant This Month: Wanda Hays

Communion Assistant Next Month: Johnny Jank

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 this morning's service. We thank God that we continue to be able to gather together and worship inside our church. We are not mandating any seating, nor do we mandate wearing a mask. However if you feel more comfortable wearing one, please feel free to do so. There is hand sanitizer available at each door as you enter and smaller bottles in each pew for your use. At the place in the service where we "Share the Peace" and we would typically move about the church sharing the peace of Christ, we would ask that you remain at your seat, where you might share the peace with immediate family members or look around the church "share the peace" at a distance or give an "air-hug" to others you see. For those uncomfortable with this amount of personal contact we welcome you to continue to take part in the service by listening in your vehicle in the parking lot. We will continue to broadcast the service on FM 101.5 and you can follow the service in the bulletin as the liturgy, the organ music, hymns with the lyrics by our song leaders, and Pastor John's message will be on the broadcast. Thank you for your patience as we all look forward and pray for the day when we might worship without the concern for this pandemic.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 12/26 **First Sunday after Christmas**
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship ~ *Lesson's & Carols*

Mon 12/27 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Tues 12/28 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

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

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

Fri 12/31 *Office Closed ~ New Year's Eve! ~*

Sat 1/1 *~ Happy New Year! ~ 2022*

Next Sun **Second Sunday after Christmas**
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship



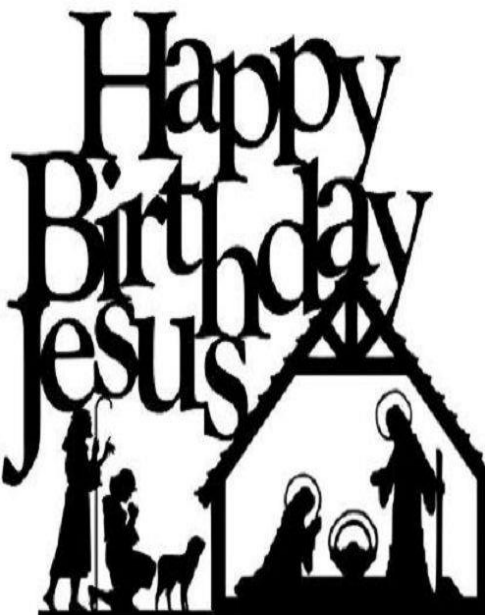
Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

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 19, 2021

General \$455.00, MOM- Samaritan's Purse \$1,920.00, NALC Disaster-Tornado \$120.00, Sunday School \$23.00, Cemetery \$20.00, Building \$1,718.94, Organ \$3,175.00 **Total: \$7,431.94**

Attendance: Worship - 91 Sunday School - 8 - Children, 11 - Adults Confirmation – No class



~ Thank You ~

Thank you to everyone who helped make The Bethlehem Village possible. It will be up through Christmas if you want to visit.

Like the star of Bethlehem we can lead others to Christ. Over 50 people attended.



Mission of the Month of December



Samaritan's Purse Mission Statement

Three examples of their outreach are:

U.S. Disaster Relief: Since 1998, over 83,000 volunteers have worked with our staff to help more than 28,000 families impacted by U.S. natural disasters—hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, floods, and ice storms—by quickly providing emergency supplies, repairing, cleaning and rebuilding homes. Five disaster relief units, tractor-trailers stocked with tools and cleanup supplies, are ready to deploy when disasters strike.

Children's Heart Project: This project brings children to North America to receive life-saving surgery not available in their home countries. To date, Samaritan's Purse has arranged surgery for more than 1,000 children with heart defects.

Operation Heal Our Patriots: This program is designed to strengthen the marriages of wounded and injured members of the U.S. Military. The primary component is Samaritan Lodge Alaska, a wilderness retreat offering outdoor activities and Biblically based marriage enrichment classes. To date, more than 500 people have been through the program.

NALC Disaster Response ~ Tornado Disaster

NALC Disaster Response is ready and waiting with supplies and more to help in the areas devastated by the tornadoes. Mary Bates, national coordinator, is working to see where the NALC can do the most help.

NEEDED: Lots of prayers for the people in the affected areas.

NEEDED: Gift cards from Walmart, Target and similar stores.

Mary wants to help families with toys for their children for Christmas.



Mail gift cards to NALC Disaster Response, 16500 Noble Ave., Caldwell, Ohio 43724.

God bless,

Michael Dittrich

Cell: (281) 381-5588 (Call if you have questions)

Serve each other with love--Galatians 5:13b



We keep the family of Alfred Rangnow in our thoughts & prayers. May God comfort his family at this time of loss.



Update on Pastor John

Pastor John is home recovering & doing well! Praise God, the doctors & nurses for a successful surgery! Keep the prayers coming for a wonderful recovery!

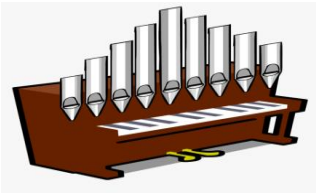
NALC Warehouse

We will be collecting for the warehouse all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will start collecting again in January 2022. Thank you to all who donated in 2021.



Organ Fund

The congregation voted on October 17, 2021 to upgrade our organ which is in need of a major overhaul. The cost of the upgrade is \$69,117.00 and we have received \$67,750.35 in designated giving to the fund to date. Any contributions should be marked as Organ Fund. Thank you from the Organ Committee and Church Council.



NEW Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to correct construction errors related to landing elevation and drainage, modification of steps to meet original architectural plans, and elimination of flatwork ponding on approach to elevator, at contractor's cost. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched up. The current invoiced total for cost of construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, grass planting, and incidentals is \$600,850.80. Designated giving and memorials received to date total \$603,083.30.



NEW UPDATE: Worship Team Notes

Worship services will be in the church sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Communion will go back to the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month by stations. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. We will continue to commune those worshipping remotely "in the parking lot" in their vehicles. Please note state and local guidelines are subject to change and we will continue to attempt to follow those for the health and safety of all. Guidelines and changes in those will be posted in the bulletin, on our website & FaceBook page. Please check these for changes and updates. Please Note: The service will NO longer be videoed & posted to the church website.

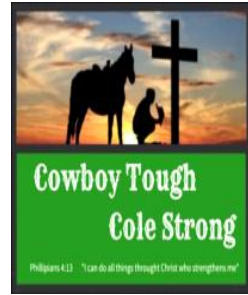


*St. John wishes everyone many blessings in 2022!
Have a safe & Happy New Year!!!*



+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family and friends. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and is now receiving therapy in Victoria on his new fabulous walking machine, the Lokomat Pro. This machine is a robotic training system that allows Cole's legs to be attached to robotic legs that assist with basic walking functions. It's an awesome machine and God has truly blessed Cole once again. Cole and his family want others, in need of this type of therapy, to share in this wonderful blessing and be able to also use this machine. God is truly at work thru Cole. 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)

Fill the Warehouse!
(The cheapest place to shop for supplies!)

NALC Disaster Response
What's in a Flood Bucket?

- 1 bucket (5 gallon) with a lid – Firehouse Subs \$3.00 ea.**
(Check other restaurants, donut shops, school kitchens, etc.!)
- 1 roll paper towels – Walmart 44 cents a roll**
- 1 powder cleanser – Walmart 88 cents ea.**
- 1 floor cleaner – small! (like Pine Sol, Fabuloso) – Dollar Tree \$1.00 ea.**
- 1 bottle bleach – small! – Dollar Tree \$1.00 ea.**
- 1 pair rubber gloves – Dollar Tree \$1.00 ea.**
- 1 scrub brush – Dollar Tree \$1.00 ea.**
- 1 pair leather gloves – Home Depot 3 pk under \$6.00**
- 1 pair cotton gloves – Walmart 6 pk under \$5.00/Home Depot or Lowe's \$1.00 ea. Pr**
- 2 contractor trash bags (3 mil) – shop around.....**
- 2 rags – Don't buy! Cut up old bath & beach towels, dish towels, wash cloths.....**

What's in a Health Kit?

- Soap: 1 regular size bar or 2-3 travel size***
- Shampoo: 2 or 3 travel size* (or 1 small size)**
- Lotion: 1 or 2 travel size***

***Ask for donations from people you know that stay in hotels!**

- 1 deoderant – Walmart 88 cents ea.**
- 1 toothbrush – Dollar Tree 4 for \$1.00**
- 1 toothpaste (travel size) – Walmart (or for a bigger tube) 77-90 cents ea.**
- 1 comb – Dollar Tree 12 pk for \$1.00**
- 1 bath towel – Walmart \$1.97 ea.**
- 1 drawstring bag – Make 2 from an old pillow case!**

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. 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.

Our Military and their families:

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army, Louisiana
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Hawaii
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Virginia
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
Hunter Jacob
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Britany Jank Tomas
Bea Fagg
Clint Coles
Mrs. Stiles
Ryon Preslar
Pastor John
B. Bagwell (*Brenda Boor's Mom*)
Donald Boor (*Pastor's Brother*)

Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus



Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>
Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Christmas 1
December 26, 2021

First Sunday after Christmas (Year C)

Fulfilling the command of the Lord first given to Moses on the wilderness journey to the Promised Land, Jesus' parents presented their firstborn son in the temple at Jerusalem on the eighth day of his life. The prophets Simeon and Anna recognized the fulfillment of the covenant promise when they saw the child, and their witness is recounted for all generations following them: God's redemption has arrived!

