

## Sunday Morning Liturgy of Lessons and Carols

### God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Christmas Dialog:

- L: 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.**
- L: 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.**
- L: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.  
C: **IN THE WORD WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE.**

Hymn #270 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (*all verses*)

Salutation:

- L: The Lord be with you.  
C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

Prayer of the Day

### We Hear God's Word

Lessons and Carols (*singing all verses of all carols*):

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Read by **R.J. Henry**  
Hymn #294 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Second Lesson: Luke 2:1-14 Read by **Kelsey Henninger**  
Hymn #277 "Away in a Manger"

Third Lesson: Luke 2:15-21 Read by **Gabe Gehring**  
Hymn #289 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:22-40 Read by **Madeline Williard**  
Hymn #283 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 Read by **Hoyt Schlegel**  
Hymn **WOV** #646 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23 Read by **Gracie Gehring**  
Hymn #296 "What Child Is This?"

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-18 Read by **Aidan Roadcap**  
Hymn #267 "Joy to the World"

### We Respond to All That God Gives Us

A New Creed:

**WE ARE NOT ALONE,  
WE LIVE IN GOD'S WORLD.  
WE BELIEVE IN GOD:  
WHO HAS CREATED AND IS CREATING,  
WHO HAS COME IN JESUS,  
THE WORD MADE FLESH,  
TO RECONCILE AND MAKE NEW,  
WHO WORKS IN US AND OTHERS  
BY THE SPIRIT.  
WE TRUST IN GOD.  
WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH:  
TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE,  
TO LIVE WITH RESPECT IN CREATION,  
TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS,  
TO SEEK JUSTICE AND RESIST EVIL,  
TO PROCLAIM JESUS, CRUCIFIED AND RISEN,  
OUR JUDGE AND OUR HOPE.  
IN LIFE, IN DEATH, IN LIFE BEYOND DEATH,  
GOD IS WITH US.  
WE ARE NOT ALONE.  
THANKS BE TO GOD.**

-The United Church of Canada, 1968

Piano Anthem

Prayers

Our 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.**

### God Sends Us to Share the Good News

Benediction:

- L: Let us bless the Lord.  
C: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**  
L: 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 you now and forever.  
C: **AMEN**

Hymn #290 "Go Tell It on the Mountain" (*all verses*)

Dismissal:

- P: Go in peace. Jesus is with us.  
C: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Piano Postlude and Silent Prayer

# Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Berrysburg, PA

717-362-9519

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## Our Mission

*St. John congregation, responding to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, unites together to preach and teach the Word, administer the sacraments, and carry out God's mission. With God's guidance and grace, we strive to boldly proclaim by word and action the reconciling Gospel of Jesus: Working together for justice and peace, and caring for those in need in our community and world. We invite everyone to join us wherever you are on your faith journey.*

*Adopted December 8, 2013*

## Serving Today

Mr. James Watson	Guest Leader
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Judy Ferree	Keyboardist
Youth Group	Lector
Roy Henry	Council President

For the month of January, our **Celebrate** lectionary bulletin inserts, our support of **Tree 4 Hope**, and our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania are all sponsored by the Henry Family for the many blessings in the past year.

### Today, Sunday, January 3

9am Faith Formation Time on Zoom (Adult Bible Study, Youth Class, and SONDay Celebration)

10:15am Liturgy of Lessons & Carols on Zoom (**Thank you to Jim Watson and our readers from Youth Group who are leading this worship in Pastor Tom's absence!** Those folks who for whatever reason do not otherwise access the Zoom platform are invited to the Sunday School Room, where Roy and Rachel Henry – and eventually the other members of the Video Ministry Team – are making it possible to join worship on Zoom on the large-screen TV. Please remember that 1. maintaining safe spacing and 2. wearing a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times is required for everyone over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason. Of course, please do not attend this or any other in-person activity if you are not feeling well for any reason or if you have been exposed any time in the prior 14 days to a person who subsequently develops COVID-19-like symptoms or who tests positive for COVID-19. Since there will not be any other in-person activities in the Sunday School Room or anywhere else prior to 10:15am, those folks coming to the Sunday School Room for their Zoom-ing can arrive as early – or as late – as they wish.)

*Please remember that, until Pastor Tom returns to the office on Wednesday morning, Pastor Godfred Effisah (pronounced eh-FEE-suh), who serves the Rife/Killinger Parish, is on call for any emergency needs for pastoral care. Should you need to get in touch with him, please call Fay Nichols, our Telephone Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 717-329-7447, who will both place the concern on the prayer chain and contact Pastor Godfred. Or Pastor Godfred can be reached directly by calling 571-572-0119. (In these times of COVID-19 precautions, please remember that he, like Pastor Tom, would be responding to any emergency needs via the telephone instead of in-person as would normally be the case.)*

### Wednesday, January 6

Epiphany of Our Lord

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

6:30-8pm Monthly **Celebration Club with Miss Laurie** (In-person at the Church)

7pm Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer 1. for All Educators/Students/Families and 2. for Our Health Professionals (**Please make use of the list of health care professionals at the end of this bulletin information, taking a few minutes to lift each person up to God by name. To add names to the list, please contact Pastor Tom with their information.**)

### Thursday, January 7

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

### Friday, January 8

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours

### Saturday, January 9

**Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East**

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

### Next Sunday, January 10

Baptism of Our Lord

9am Faith Formation Time on Zoom (Adult Bible Study, Youth Class, Confirmation Class, and SONDay Celebration)

10:15am Worship on Zoom, with Installation of New Congregational Council Members (Those folks who for whatever reason do not otherwise access the Zoom platform are invited to the Sunday School Room, where Roy and Rachel Henry – and eventually the other members of the Video Ministry Team – are making it possible to join worship on Zoom on the large-screen TV. Please remember that 1. maintaining safe spacing and 2. wearing a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times is required for everyone over the age of two, with no exceptions for any reason. Of course, please do not attend this or any other in-person activity if you are not feeling well for any reason or if you have been exposed any time in the prior 14 days to a person who subsequently develops COVID-19-like symptoms or who tests positive for COVID-19. Since there will not be any other in-person activities in the Sunday School Room or anywhere else prior to 10:15am, those folks coming to the Sunday School Room for their Zoom-ing can arrive as early – or as late – as they wish.)

11:15am Mutual Ministry Committee Meeting **on Zoom**

4pm Congregational Council Meeting on Zoom

## Looking Ahead

**Next Up for Book Discussion Group** is a gathering via Zoom on **Monday, January 11, at 7:00 P.M.** Everyone is welcome, so if you would like to participate and haven't joined in before, you can pick up a copy of the current book, **God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours** by Regina Brett, on the bench under the bulletin board in the foyer, just inside the main doors. Please let Ann know if we run out of books, and she'll order more. Also, please get in touch with her if you have any other questions – 717.362.7895 or [rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com).)

Our Winter Session of Midweek Bible Study will hold its first gathering on Zoom on Wednesday, January 13, from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.

Friday, January 15, will be the deadline to submit items for the February **St. John's Epistle**.

Our Annual Blessing of Our Lectors will take place during worship on Sunday, January 17.

Part Two of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Zoom immediately following worship on Sunday, January 17. We will review reports of our ministry during 2020 and conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Voting members of the congregation – those confirmed members who have communed and contributed during 2019 or 2020 – are especially needed to attend this brief, but important, meeting. **(For everyone from whom Annual Reports are due, please remember to get them to Rachel as soon as possible, preferably in digital form via email at [henryfamily2004@gmail.com](mailto:henryfamily2004@gmail.com). If submitting a hard copy report, please be sure to have it typed and ready for scanning and copying.)**

Youth Group will gather on Zoom on January 17, from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

\* \* \* \* \*

2021 offering envelopes are available in the foyer. Please stop by the tables any time the church is unlocked, doing your best to be sure to 1. touch/pick up only those envelopes you are actually taking along, 2. maintain safe distancing from anyone else who might happen to be there doing the same thing, and 3. wear a mask covering both nose and mouth at all times.

For the month of February, we are seeking a sponsor 1. for our monthly gift of one pastor's salary in the **Konde Diocese** of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** and 2. for our weekly **Celebrate** bulletin inserts. Please email or call Pastor Tom or sign up on the foyer bulletin board to sponsor either of these ministry gifts in honor or in memory of loved ones or events.

To make sure that our blessed prayer shawls get to as many folks in need of God's healing touch as possible, it is now possible for anyone from the St. John congregational family to deliver a prayer shawl to a person who is known to them to be hurting in body, mind, and/or spirit, and who would be blessed by receiving one of our shawls. To obtain a shawl, please first contact Pastor Tom, who will help you with the process. (Please bear in mind that it is the intention of the prayer shawl ministry that each person receive just one shawl "for life", to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they may face.)

As many in our congregational family have been regularly doing for months now (thank you!!), while we are temporarily not gathering for in-person worship there are **three** very simple options for giving your tithes and offerings. You are welcome to 1. mail your offering to the church (PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270) or 2. drop it by the church and place it in the red plastic tub that is prominently visible in the Sunday School Room, on the table just outside Pastor Tom's office door. **In addition, 3. if neither of those is easily done, you may wish to contact your bank about setting up an automatic payment, as some of our congregational family members also have done, whereby the offering you direct is sent by your bank as a check mailed directly to the church.** In all cases, Pastor Tom will then see that all offerings received get securely passed along to our counters.

Please see the bright blue container at the computer desk in the Sunday School Room to recycle your AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt and Button Cell batteries in Alkaline, NiMH, NiCAD, Zinc Air and Non-Lithium types, 9 volts and below. All batteries must be dry cell only, and they cannot be leaking or have broken cases. Through the efforts of Larry Gessner, batteries that are in especially good condition are being recharged and donated to Bethesda Mission, while all others for recycling are delivered to Dauphin County Recycling in Harrisburg.

Containers are located in the foyer for food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens. Please drop off non-perishable food items at any time and, as the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry. Thank you!

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – on the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethtown. Please place your aluminum in the barrel outside of the door. Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!

## Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Cynthia Carr** – Quarantined at Home with COVID Infection
- **Warren Hassinger** – Rm. #114 – Connections Unit, Providence Place of Pottsville, 220 First Avenue, Pottsville, 17901
- **Lorraine Henninger** – At Home on Hospice Care
- **Marzette Hoffman** – Rm. #803, Premier at Susquehanna, Millersburg, 17061
- **Cora Mace** – Rm. #3647, Roosevelt 3, Masonic Health Care Center, 600 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown, 17022
- **Joyce & Ray Matter** – Rm. #328, Polk Personal Care, 301 North St., Millersburg
- **Craig & Sharon Peters** – Quarantined at Home with COVID Infection
- **Robert Schaffer** – Harrisburg Hospital, Room 953

## Our Faith Active in Worship – December 20, 2020

Current – Budget Goal	\$2,806
Current – Offerings Received	\$3,766
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$207
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$18
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$760
Total Attendance	103

**Medical Professionals in our Prayers in this time of COVID-19:**

- **Paulette Warner, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation**
- **Jenna Troutman, RN**
- **Jodi Thompson, CCMA**
- **Gwen Switzer, RTR**
- **Payton Stutzman, Hospital Clinical Assistant**
- **Kristen Spicher, RN**
- **Sara Shaffer, RN**
- **Steven Schlegel, Paramedic**
- **Michelle Scheff\*, MS, CCC/SLP** (Speech Therapist in Seattle, WA)
- **Joanne Rheem\*, Healthcare Administrator**
- **David Rheem\*, Healthcare Administrator**
- **Alayna Peters, Doctor of Pharmacy** (Practicing in Hagerstown, MD)
- **Courtney Peifer\*, Psych Technician**
- **Sara Paul, Family Practice Center Medical Receptionist**
- **Bobby Paul, BS**
- **Cindy Nicholson\*, RN**
- **Whitni Ney, RN**
- **Haley Nestor\*, BSN, RN**
- **Shannon Motter, RN**
- **Courtney Miller, B.S. R.T(R)(CT)**
- **Roni Mace, RN**
- **Heidi Lehman, RT (R)**
- **Alexis Lehman\*, EMT** (Professional Firefighter/Responder in Metro Washington, DC Area)
- **Shawnita Latsha, RT (RDMS, RVT)**
- **Nichole Holman\*, RN**
- **Dr. Tonya Henninger & Dr. Sarah Bork\*** (Hospitalists in Seattle, WA)
- **Robert Foreman, Paramedic**
- **Courtney Foreman, RN**
- **Glenn Fontaine\*, RN** (Serving in Michigan)
- **Ann Fontaine\*, PA-C** (Serving in Michigan)
- **Olivia Enders, CAN**
- **Dr. Seth Eisenberg\*** (Anesthesiologist in Atlanta, GA)
- **Rachel Denlinger\*, RN** (Serving in Charleston, SC)
- **Terri Daniels, BS, RRT**
- **Gary Daniels, EMT**
- **Timothy Bruner & Gabrielle Fregeau\*, Doctors of Physical Therapy**  
(Practicing in Ocean County, NJ)
- **Daniel Bruner & Richelle Demers\*, Doctors of Chiropractic**
- **Dr. Jerrel Boyer\*** (Neurosurgeon in Chicago, IL)
- **Brett Bellis\*, Doctor of Chiropractic**

\* denotes someone who is a part of our extended congregational family

**Updated 12-22-20**