



REDEEMER EBLAST 11/30

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal) Sayre PA

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During the season of Advent, our weekly electronic mailing will feature a devotion and reflection for your use. We hope it equips you for your Advent journey.

Reflections/Devotions for an Advent Journey (From *Sundays and Seasons Year C 2013 Augsburg Fortress*)

Highways, pathways, gates, and journeys figure prominently in the imagery of Advent. We hear the voice shouting, "Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight the Path!" We witness the unexpected detours for Elizabeth and Zechariah, Mary and Joseph. We make way in our hearts and lives for our God. During the season of Advent, add 8 minutes of prayer to your day as one way to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ Child. You may wish to light the candle(s) on your Advent wreath as part of your devotions.

If using an Advent wreath, you may wish to use this blessing as you light the first candle:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light And to seek your ways of justice and peace, For the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, That we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes And welcome him in to our hearts and homes, For he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

Highway under construction. How exactly do you prepare a highway for God? A passage from 1 Thessalonians offers a construction blueprint: **rejoice, pray, give thanks, hold fast to what is good.** In this way we make a straight path into our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Prayer: God of the covenant, we hear the voice of John the Baptist breaking into our world: The kingdom is near! Prepare the way! Come and dwell in the pathways of our hearts, that we may be ready for the Messiah's birth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 or click here: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+40%3A1-11&version=NRSV>

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24 or click here: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+40%3A1-11&version=NRSV>

LORD's Prayer

Blessing: The light of Christ illumine our path,

The love of God remain our guidepost,

And the power of the Spirit sustain our journey. Amen.

St. Mary's Christmas Party will be Tuesday December 4th at Yanuzzi's. Social hour will begin at 5:30 pm with a buffet diner to follow at 6:00 pm. The cost is \$15 per person and we ask that you please pay in advance. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church and you can also call orders in to the church office at (570) 888-2270.



2019 Pledge Cards

By now you should have received your 2019 estimate of giving card. If you have not, you can find one in a bulletin or pick one up from the table in the church.



Do you know of some parents who could use some time away from the kids to do some Christmas shopping or just have a date night? If so, then drop the children off for "Christmas is for Caring and Sharing" at St. John Lutheran Church located at 207

South Hopkins Street in Sayre on Friday December 7th from 6-8:30 p.m. This is a free event for children aged kindergarten through 5th grade. Lots of fun activities in a safe atmosphere are planned for the children and parents get a free evening. Advanced registration is required so please call Cheryl Bottone at (570) 888-4243.



A Touch of Christmas Brass

On Sunday December 9, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at the Church of the Redeemer Larry Hoey and "A Touch of Brass" invite you to come out and enjoy glorious sounds of the season and Christmas caroling as they present their Organ and Brass concert. This is a free concert open to the community.



Another way to observe Advent is to have a daily meditation e-mailed to you. Sign up here to receive 24 daily meditations beginning 12/2 : www.advertword.org

Or you can find it on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: #Advent Word