

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

December 22, 2022



Christmas Eve services



Join us on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m. for our Candle Light Service or the 8:00 p.m. service at the St. John Lutheran Church. Remember, there **will not** be a service on Christmas Day. Sunday School resumes on Jan. 8.



Merry Christmas

The church offices will be closed on Monday December 26th. We will re-open on Tuesday December 27th for normal operating hours.

Below is the link to this year's Advent message from Bishop Kevin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25HID7xD7Z8>

SERVING IN WORSHIP:

Reading the Lessons and Prayers December 24

Reader: Margaret Cole

Usher: Rick Rhodes & Glenn Murrelle

Greeter: Phoebe Marshall & Linda Murrelle

Acolyte: Kayla Marshall

Reading the Lessons and Prayers Sunday, January 1

Reader: Diane Siebecker

Usher: Walter Chaykosky

Greeter: Sherry Gabauer

Acolyte:

A graphic with the words "Happy Birthday" in a colorful, cursive font. The word "Happy" is on the top line and "Birthday" is on the bottom line. Each letter is a different color, including shades of green, yellow, orange, red, purple, and blue.

John Johnson	12/23
David Cole	12/26
Tory Henry	12/27
Charles Lattimer	12/27
Bryson Hoffman	12/27
Alice Bennett	12/28
Brenda Zello	12/28
Pat Haggerty	12/30

Community Supper

Our Community Supper takes place on 12/29 from 4– 6 p.m. Stop in for a hearty dinner, delicious desserts, and fun fellowship.

Daily Devotions for Advent Week Dec. 22-Dec. 25

You can also look for these daily devotions on our Facebook page.

Thursday, December 22

Luke 1:46b-55

O God, give us the strength and resolve to continue your work in our world, that we might serve those in need, seek justice for the disenfranchised, and extend our love and mercy to all. In so doing, we offer praise to you for your steadfast love and grace, and may we extend that to all in need. **Amen.**

**Rev. Betty Long.*

Friday, December 23

Galatians 3:6-14

O Emanuel, you are God with us; you are the true blessing of Abraham and the coming light of the world. In the days of Advents busy-ness and seemingly endless tasks, we realize that your Spirit fills us and we pray that we recognize the true power of your love. This power blesses the lives of all who believe in faith and not only those we judge as recipients of that blessing; indeed we are blessed to be blessing for all of creation in this earthly kingdom. May our lives share your Glory and Honor in thought, word and deed and may our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. **Amen**

**Deacon Dr. Nancy Gable.*

Saturday, December 24

Luke 2:1-20

Glory to you, O Lord, for you have come into our world to bring peace; yet peace seems so elusive. Show yourself to us— your vulnerabil-

ity, your need, your purest love— so that, like the shepherds, we may return to our homes, our work, our living, praising you for what we have heard and seen. Be born in us today and borne by us into a world that labors to bring forth your peace. **Amen**

**Bishop Craig A. Miller*

Sunday, December 25

John 1:1-14

O Word incarnate, speak wisdom to us as we seek clarity in the midst of a confusing world. On this Holy Nativity, we pause and pray at the manger in praise and honor to the light of knowledge and understanding that you share so freely with your children. Give us ears to hear. Inspire us to love and cherish the vulnerable in our midst as the shepherds once did so long ago. **Amen**

**Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin.*



Readings for Christmas Eve:

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

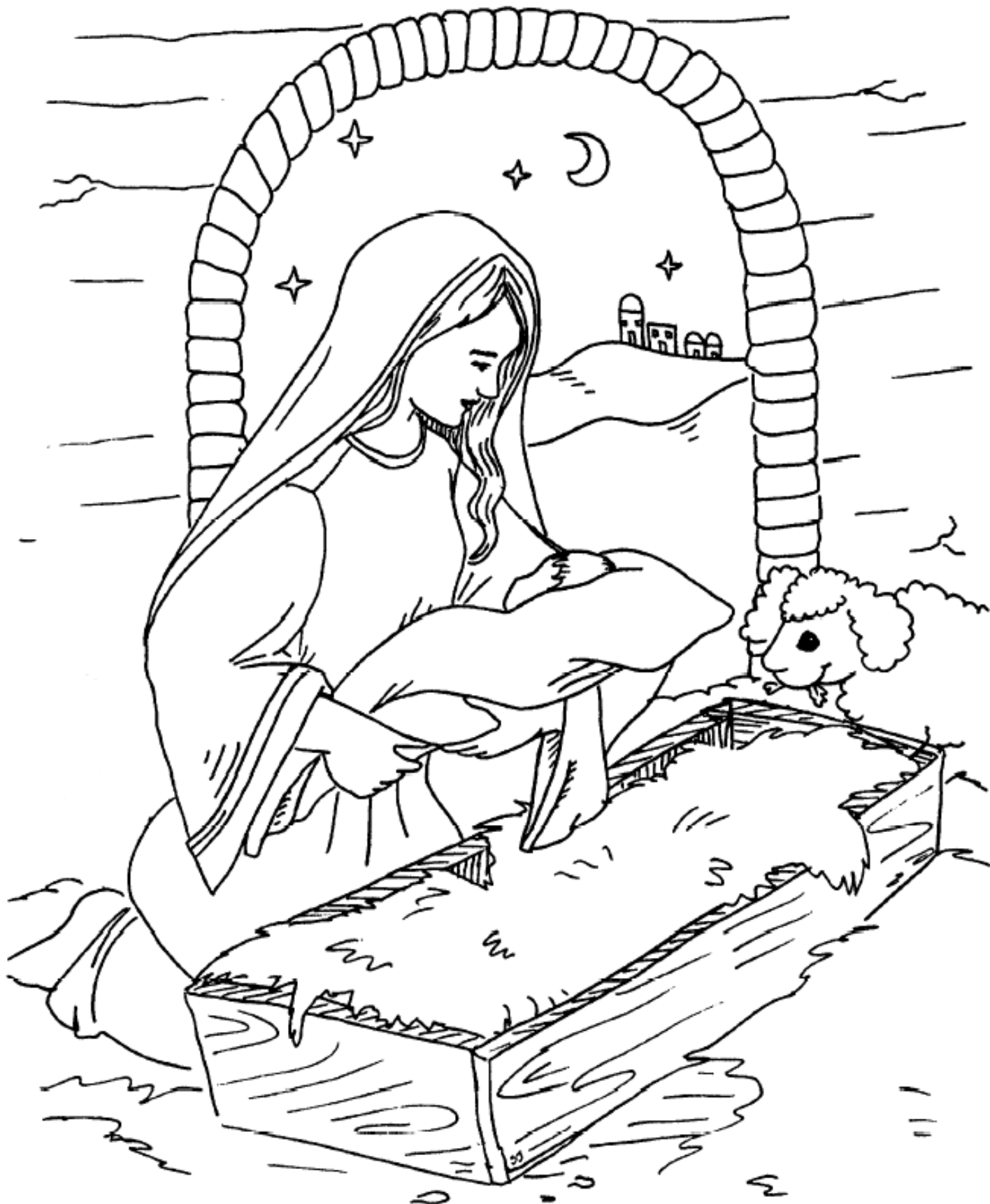


Scripture Reflections

Reflection on the Gospel by Daniel Harris from Daily Feast: Meditations from Feasting on the Word

For weeks television advertisements have told us how we ought to feel this night. We ought to feel warm and loving, especially if we have spent a small fortune on gifts for our family and friends. We hope that most in our congregations this night do feel great peace and joy, but let us take care not to presume. Some may come to church this night dealing with the death of a loved one, worrying about mounting financial debts, or struggling with tensions in their relationships. The good news from the Scriptures this night is more powerful than the pain that some may bring. A child has been born for you. A Son has been given. How will you respond?





Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11

The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20



J B E T H L E H E M N G I H K
 S A F P V T E N C D N Z B H H
 F H A T Y F S O N B B D Q B J
 A V E R E P D R K C A M G Z O
 S S A P N P V U R I B G Q D S
 E M D B H A E O I Z Y A K H E
 L B X I C E I C E N S U S L P
 S Q O H V V R B R O O M G R H
 I M U R A N R D B S W S A R K
 Y F E S N C A B S C H I L D R
 C M A S L V A X F T E I S E G
 A J H E S Q M E Z I Z L G K P
 Y T G K Z I T G S C M N W R Y
 A N G V W E A G J A A S R X G
 A Z H X Y W Y H M M R S F F C

SAVIOR	CENSUS	MARY	MANGER	BORN
CAESAR	SON	JOSEPH	MESSIAH	ROOM
CHILD	SHEPHERDS	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BABY

The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



L	S	W	M	H	Y	N	J	G	A	O	Z	P	X	K	F	I	U	B	E	T	C	V	Q	D	R
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 8-11-2-20-13-5 _____
- 4-10-26-6 _____
- 19-20-21-5-1-20-5-20-4 _____
- 19-10-19-6 _____
- 19-11-26-7 _____
- 4-10-7-9-20-26 _____
- 10-7-9-20-1 _____
- 2-5-20-13-5-20-26-25-2 _____
- 2-10-23-17-11-26 _____
- 4-20-2-2-17-10-5 _____

SHEPHERDS	BETHLEHEM	BABY	MESSIAH	JOSEPH
SAVIOR	MANGER	BORN	MARY	ANGEL