

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

December 29, 2022



A Prayer for the New Year

“

God of Love,

You are with us in every
transition and change.

As we enter into this new era with
excitement and even some anxiety,
we recall your deep compassion,
presence, and abounding love.

We thank you for the gifts, talents
and skills with which you have blessed us.

We thank you for the experiences
that have brought us to this moment.

We thank you for the work of others that
gives breadth and depth to our own work.

Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing
with you and supporting one another.

We ask this in your Holy Name.”

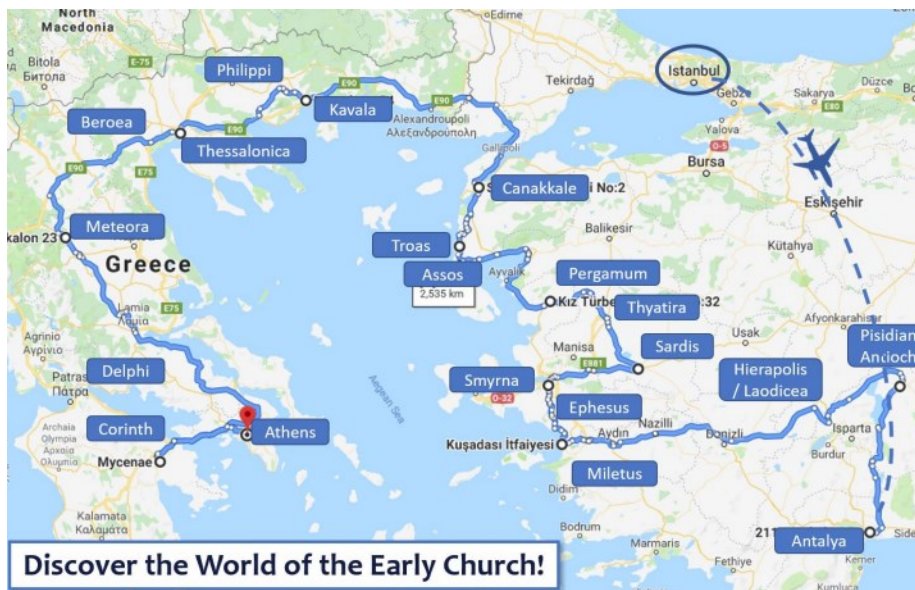
JOSEPH P. SHADLE



Welcome back Pastor Melinda after completing her Sabbatical on January 1, 2023.



In the Steps of Paul and Revelation



I am heading out to begin my journey that followed a path of St. Paul across Turkey and Greece with the United Lutheran Seminary. We will be visiting every city that is named in the Book of Revelation. We start in Istanbul seeing multiple sites then fly to Antalya, an ancient port of Attalia where Paul and Barnabas sailed (Acts 14.25). Then we go to the site of Perge visited twice by Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13.13-14 and 14.25). Following Paul and Barnabas, we head north to the city of Antioch in Pisidia (Acts 13.14-51) then following what probably was Paul's third trip passing Colossae to Pamukkale (Colossians 4.13) visiting several sites. Then

we continue to Laodicea (Revelation 3.14-22) to see some sites before arriving in Kusadassi on the coast of the Aegean Sea.

We then head to Ephesus (Acts 18.19-26;19.1-41) which is where Paul caused a near riot at the theater. This is one of the famous cities in Revelation (2.1-7). Then we go to Miletus before going to the ancient city of Smyrna (Revelation 2.10) then Sardis (Revelation 3.1-6) and then to Thyatira (Revelation 2.18-29). Then we visit Pergamum (Revelation 2.12-17). After several sites we continue to Behramkale to explore Assos (Acts 20.13-14). We will be visiting Macedonia (Acts 16:8-11) and where Eutyches fell asleep while Paul was preaching (Acts 20.5-12).

Our final day in Turkey would be visiting city of Troy with a ferry ride across the Dardanelles (Hellespont) straight and seeing the World War I Gallipoli battle-field before going to Kavala in Greece. Following Paul's path on the Via Egnatia to Philippi (Acts 16.14-15, Acts 16.18-23). Continuing along the Via Egnatia to Amphipolis continuing to Thessaloniki (Act 17.1, Act 17.10-13) before visiting Mount Olympus then onward to Kalabaka. After a few sites we visit the city of Itea on the Gulf of Corinth. We finish the trip driving along the coastal road visiting several sites while finishing in Athens before returning home.

Expecting to offer to have a presentation including pictures and fun information along with reflections of the sites that I visit.

Blessings,

Pastor K. Scott Harvey

Sad News

Gretchen Rentschler's Brother, Walter R. Rentschler died on December 22. If you would like to send condolences to Gretchen you may do so at:

105 Tara Lane
Sayre, PA 18840



Request for Help

We received an email from a fellow Episcopalian from Springfield NJ. She has an elderly widowed friend who lives here in Sayre and is in need of help moving in a couple of weeks. She has no way of moving her belongings. If you or anyone you know are will to help please call the church office and we will put you in touch with this person for more details.

Thank you.

Poinsettias

If you ordered poinsettias, please feel free to take them home if you are in church this Saturday or Sunday.

SERVING IN WORSHIP:

Reading the Lessons and Prayers January 1

Reader: Diane Siebecker

Usher: Walter Chaykosky

Greeter: Sherry Gabauer

Acolyte: Volunteer

Reading the Lessons and Prayers Sunday, January 8

Reader: Alice Bennett

Usher: Rick Rhodes

Greeter: Mary Rhodes

Acolyte: Volunteer

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: H (green), a (red), p (blue), p (purple), y (yellow), B (orange), i (green), r (red), t (blue), h (purple), d (yellow), a (orange), y (green).

Pat Haggerty 12/30

Ruthe Barber-Wheeler 1/1

Colleen Wayman 1/3

William Brougham 1/4

Community Supper

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

Sunday School and Youth Group will resume on January 8th at their normal times.

Readings for Christmas Eve:

First Reading: Number 6:22-27

Psalm 8

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:1-18



Scripture Reflections

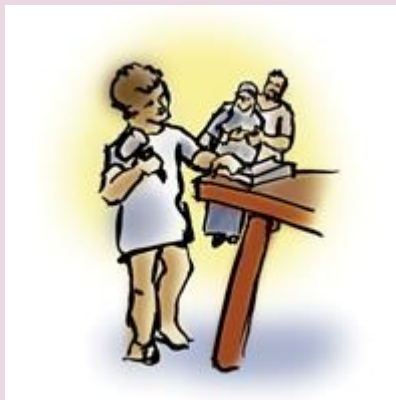
Reflection on the Gospel by Frank A Thomas from Daily Feast: Meditations from Feasting on the Word

The first eighteen verses of the book of John form the prologue and contain the themes of the entire Gospel: the divine Savior has come into the world and has been rejected by many, but to all who believe he has given the power to become children of God and the gift of eternal life. If the prologue is the summary statement of the entire Gospel, then one verse culminates and sums up the entire prologue: “And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth” (v. 14). Eugene Peterson, in his contemporary rendering of the Bible, *The Message*, has given us an alternative version of the text:

The Word was made flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.*

I love this rendering of this text because of the choice of the word “neighborhood.” The Word was made flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. Neighborhood reminds me of the place where I grew up and the people with whom I grew up. What aspects of your neighbor-

hood are hospitable to Jesus? What would be unwelcoming about your neighborhood?





The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18 (NIV)



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

CHILDREN
GRACE
GLORY

BELIEVE
BLESSING
CHRIST

DWELLING
JESUS
FLESH

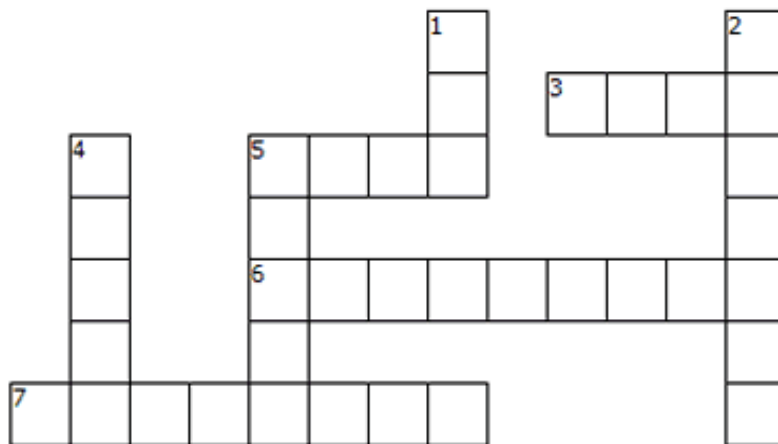
TRUTH
WORD
WORLD

RECEIVE
GOD
NAME

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. The word or words by which a person is known
5. A title used for Jesus in the Gospel of John (John 1:14)
6. To know someone because you have seen them before
7. Boys and girls from the time of birth until they are adults

DOWN

1. The One who created the universe
2. To think that something is true
4. The soft part of the body of a person which is between the skin and the bones
5. The earth with its inhabitants

FLESH

BELIEVE

CHILDREN

GOD

WORLD

RECOGNIZE

WORD

NAME