

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

October 16, 2025



WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAY AT 11 A.M.

HUGE SALE

CANCELLED

Our anticipated Fall Rummage Sale has been cancelled. St. Mary's Guild was unable to recruit sufficient volunteers to staff the event. Watch this space for an an-

nouncement regarding our next rummage sale event.

ALTAR GUILD CELEBRATES THE MINISTRY OF PHOEBE AND SHERRY

Several of our Altar Guild members gathered for breakfast on Saturday, October 11 at Beeman's to celebrate the decades of faithful service by Phoebe Marshall and Sherry Gabauer.

The mother-daughter team have decided it's time to pass the Fair Linen on to others. (Don't know what Fair Linen is? Ask an Altar Guild member.)

Each and every week, our Altar Guild prepares for three worship services, insuring that linens are washed and pressed, vessels are cleaned, the candles are filled with oil, and wine and wafers are stocked. They serve at every wedding and funeral. They do it prayerfully and reverently, and all behind the scenes. Thank you Phoebe and Sherry for all your hard work. Pictured: Back row: Diane Siebecker, Margaret Cole, Mary Rhodes, and Mitzi Mohn. Sherry and Phoebe—front row. Absent from photo are Alice Benette, Heather Romano, Linda Murrelle, and Rose Carpenter.



SKILLED CRAFTSMAN SOUGHT

Our magnificent front doors are in need of refinishing. The last time they had any attention was nearly a decade ago when former Junior Warden George Lewis gave them some TLC. Due to the age of the doors, they need someone who knows how to strip old varnish, sand the doors and apply new varnish. This is most likely a summertime project. Do you know someone who could do this job? If so, please call the parish office at 570-888-2270 with your recommendation, along with his/her contact information. THANK YOU!



JOIN US ON SUNDAY MORNING BETWEEN 10:15 AND 11 FOR FELLOWSHIP, A CUP OF COFFEE, AND A SNACK.

Then join us for worship. Amy Murrelle is our hostess . Plan on joining us most third Sundays of the month for an informal gathering before worship.

CORN MAZE ADVENTURE!

On Saturday October 25th, you are invited to join us at Miller's Farm in Columbia Crossroads for a trip through their corn maze, as well as smores and brief Bible Study at a fire pit. Our Youth Group is going and invites you to join the fun. We gather in the parking lot after the 5:15 Service and plan on carpooling.



FALL CLEAN-UP SCHEDULED

SATURDAY OCT 25

8:00 a.m. until ?



Many hands will make light work and we anticipate that the Fall clean-up will take about two hours. We need to sweep the parking lot, pull weeds and dead flowers, pick up cigarette butts and the like.

Please bring gloves and garden tools. Thank YOU for helping us out!

Pictured earlier this summer: Bob Cole, Alex Murrelle, Jeff Watson, Bruce Carpenter, Keith Carpenter and Zack Cole.

NO WEDNESDAY SERVICE OCTOBER 22 & 29

Canon Melinda is needed elsewhere the next two Wednesdays. She regrets that she is unable to celebrate the Eucharist on Wednesday. Part of her duties will include receiving additional training on creating parish partnerships through the NEPA Synod of the ELCA.



October 18& 19 Lessons

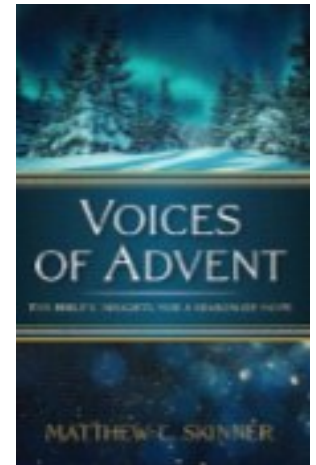
First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:27-34, **Psalm:** 199:97-104

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5, **Gospel:** Luke 18:1-8

Our Fall Bible Study: Voices of Advent

Books have been ordered and are on their way. Two sessions are being offered here at St. John in the South Wing: Mondays at 10:00 am until 11:30 [note the half an hour earlier start time] and at 6:30 until 8:00 pm.

We hope you can join us for one of these four week sessions. The Bible Study begins October 27 and concludes November 17.



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Emily Cole Skjöld 10/16

Elizabeth Garrity 10/17

James Bennett 10/21

Jerry Evans 10/21

Sean Lewis 10/22

James Nobles 10/24

Joseph & Sherry Gabauer 10/23

Nina Seebeck 10/20

Scripture Reflection

Luke's parable of the widow who continually came to the judge seeking justice encourages us not to lose heart. We are to pray and to be persistent in the life of faith on behalf of the justice God intends. God is pictured in contrast to this unjust judge who doesn't care a bit about justice but does care about his own peace of mind! God, of course, has no peace of mind without justice. If we think of ourselves as the widow in the parable, then few of us have her stamina in the hard, exhausting work of seeking justice on behalf of the powerless. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus asks the closing question of the parable: "...when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" Will he find faith in us- persistent, tireless faith seeking justice? Notice that the widow represents not only our need to pray relentlessly but also to see the Holy Spirit in this insistent widow. The Spirit is at work, earnestly, unrelentingly encouraging us to pray. What causes you to lose hope in your own prayer life? What might the Spirit be urging you to pray and work for on behalf of someone else?

Results of Joint-Parish Worship

We had a lovely luncheon at St. John last Sunday followed by “table topics” addressing the question of whether the two congregations should consider worshipping together all year. This was the first of what promises to be several conversations.

On the next two pages you will find the responses to the four questions asked as well as a page where you can offer additional input.

Question 1: What do you think are the reasons some are suggesting we worship all year together? Do you agree?

- We have a fuller Congregation (2x)
- Okay for Summer & 5th Sunday of the Month
- So we can consolidate resources
- So we can have one supply clergy when pastor is out of town
- Music could be richer/maybe have a choir again.
- Our activities can be combined
- So we can attract newcomers
- We’d have greater strength
- It would be easier on the pastor.

Question 2: What concerns do you have if we were to make this change? What should we consider carefully before we make this decision?

- How do we communicate where we worship when? How do we make sure everyone who needs to know, knows?
- We’ll lose members
- CotR is too difficult to access
- There are mobility issues at CotR – both parking and walking
- Loss of rituals & traditions
- Loss of identity
- Loss of SJLC members
- Start one to two times per month at first
- It’s hard to see at CotR
- This change will be confusing for members
- There are still two buildings to maintain – heat/electric bills to pay
- What will the time be?
- How will we attract new members
- The 5:15 service will have to move into the Church (because there will be too many people for the parlor to hold.)

Question 3:

What benefits can you envision if we were to ultimately worship together all year?

See comments under question 1.

More voices

Appealing to newcomers

More activities (2x)

Bigger Bible studies; choir

Get to know one another better

More spiritual growth

Larger everything

More time & new ideas with the other congregation

Connection with one another

None.

Question 4:

How does this idea pose any sort of threat to our identity and our ability to thrive as a congregation?

Loss of members

Happy & grateful to be together

How to keep Lutheran and Episcopal faith & liturgies alive and be combined

Some of our members won't go to the other church

Fear of Change

Would we be willing to share our traditions?

Individuals are different so reactions will be different

Lifelong Episcopalians and Lutherans won't like it.

Folks willing to be on a working group to sort through the issues/concerns:

Katie Zeller, Mary Rhodes, Lousie Morningstar, Sheila Slawta

Suggestion: Vestry & Council should meet together at least quarterly at a time OTHER THAN normal meeting time.

Positives to the idea: 10:00 a.m. start time. Negatives to the idea: different liturgies, inability to hear at CotR, Jesus is on the cross at CotR: Jesus is NOT on the cross.

NOTE: CotR = Church of the Redeemer

If you did not attend the Potluck on October 11 and would like to give us some input, please complete this page and return to the parish office.

Question 1:

What do you think are the reasons some are suggesting we worship all year together? Do you agree?

Question 2:

What concerns do you have if we were to make this change? What should we consider carefully before we make this decision?

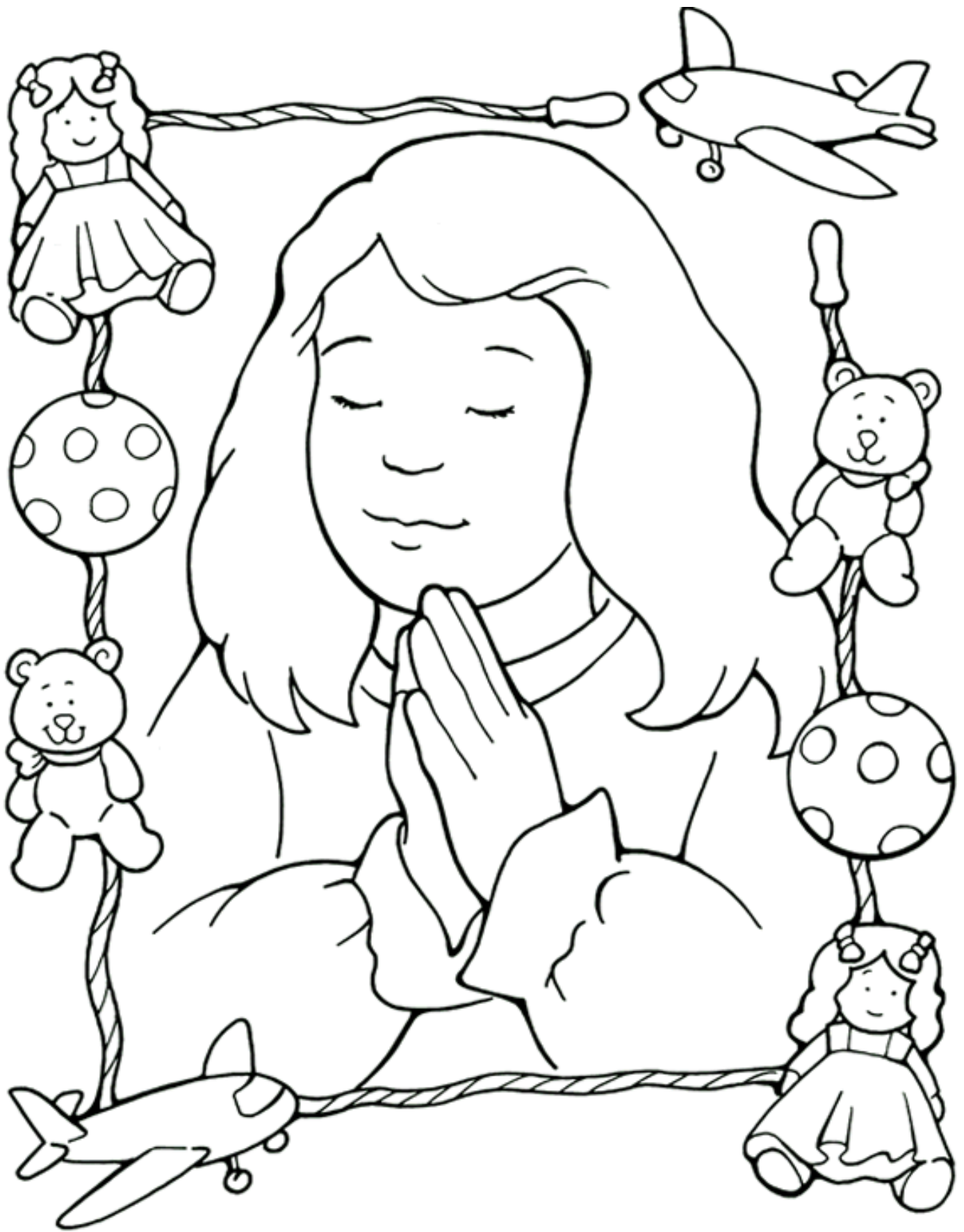
Question 3:

What benefits can you envision if we were to ultimately worship together all year?

Question 4:

How does this idea pose any sort of threat to our identity and our ability to thrive as a congregation?

If you are willing to be part of a small group working through the issues/concerns raised please give us your name and best contact information:

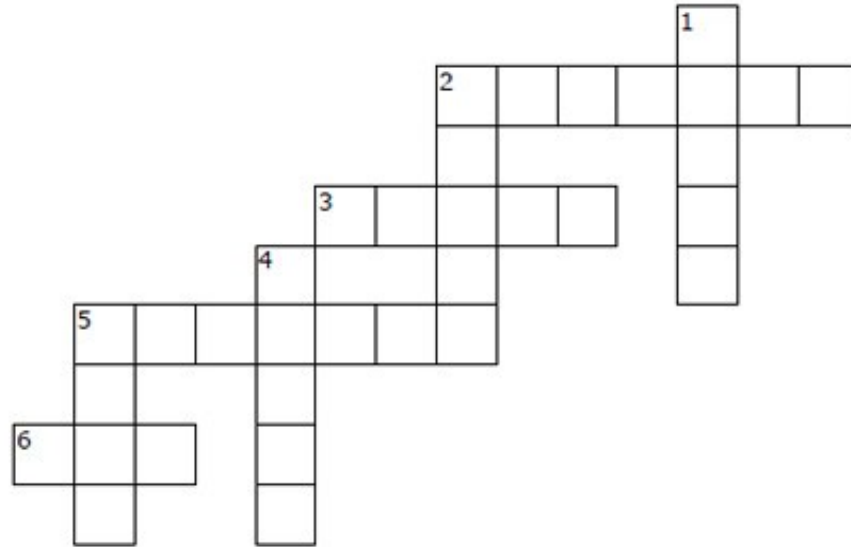


Keep on praying and never give up.
Luke 18:1-8

Keep On Praying

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 18:1-8 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. To be treated fairly
3. A woman whose husband has died and who has not remarried
5. A simple story illustrating a moral or religious lesson
6. The period from sunrise to sunset (light)

DOWN

1. The period between sunset and sunrise (darkness)
2. An official who hears and decides cases brought before a court of law
4. A belief that does not require proof
5. To speak to or make a request to God

justice	night	pray	widow
faith	day	judge	parable

Keep On Praying

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

UNJUST
SHOW
WIDOW
JUSTICE

LISTEN
LORD
FEAR
WIDOW

JESUS
REFUSED
NIGHT
TOWN

CHOSEN
DISCIPLES
PARABLE
BOTHER

DAY
JUDGE
PERSISTENT
PRAY