

*St. John's Sinking Valley*  
*December 1, 2024*

*Advent*  
*A Season of Hope  
& Expectation*

*First Sunday of Advent: HOPE*

[www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com)

PO Box 222  
Tyrone, PA 16686

\* = Please stand as you are able

The Call to Worship on the Bells

The Announcements/Birthday Celebrations/Anniversary Recognitions

Organ Prelude –

Lighting of Candles: Acolyte – Peyton Harper

*Opening Prayer*

**\*The Opening Hymn –**

**Hark the Glad Sound (LBW #35)**

**\*Call to Worship – from *Psalm 25: 1-5***

L: In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.

**P: I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

L: No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.

**P: Show me your ways,**

L: Lord, teach me your paths.

**P: Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.**

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**Lighting of the Advent Log-**

**First Week for Advent - HOPE**

Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Christ Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the Old Testament is full of glimpses of God's plan to redeem His people and restore them into a relationship with Him, but we are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your His for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture. That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger.

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6-7**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. -

**Prayer:**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Keep us watchful and ready for the signs of your return, keep us from being overcome with anxiety and sorrow, and keep us faithful to the end. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray.

**Offertory**

**\* The Doxology**

**Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

**\* Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*The Liturgy of the Word – Remington Fleck*

*Today's Old Testament Lesson comes from the book of Isaiah*

**Isaiah 7:11-14**

11 "Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." 12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test." 13 Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Today's New Testament Lesson comes from the book of Matthew*

**Matthew 1:18-23**

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*The Gospel Response –**

**Thy Word**

\*L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**\*C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**Luke 21:25-36**

25 "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." 29 He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. 30 When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. 34 "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

L: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Message –*

**\*Hymn –**

**Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (LBW #30)**

**\*The Prayers**

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn –**

**O Come O Come Emmanuel (LBW #34)**

**\*St. John's Mission Statement**

L: As a reminder of God's goodness to us, we proclaim the Mission of our church together. Collectively,

**C: We praise God for all His bountiful blessings. We desire to grow together in faith and love, acknowledging that we are a family, a congregation, and a community.**

**\*Benediction—**

*The Dismissal from Worship on the Bells*

*\*Extinguishing of Candles – Let us look ahead with great anticipation to the arrival of the King!*

*Organ Postlude –*

**Prayer Requests For:** Lori, Kathy, Brandon, Emily, Craig & Michelle, Gwen, Mikey, Terry, Jamie, Joe, Joyce, Georgette, Barb, John, Cody, Bob, Dave, The Lardieri Family, The Brua Family, Jim, Matt, Elaine, Ernie, Jaxon, Judy, Mary, Mike, The Kost Family, Bonnie, Janet, Sally, Jeff, Brian, Judy, Tom, Jason, Joyce, Albert, Carly and Justin, Jaclyn, Bob, Sr., Jill, Lana and Andrea, Kelsi, Fred, Sr., Kathy, Ken, Mary Lou, Curt, Sue, Kim, Wendy, Linda, Mark, Peggy, Sarah, Dalton, Nico, Michael, First Responders, Members of our Military and their families, Cancer treatment patients and the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church.

***If you would like anyone added (or if someone can be removed) please let Carey Williams (brooke2235@yahoo.com) know. Thank You.***

**Pastoral Care –** For anyone needing pastoral care, Drew Baker is our Worship Leader. Please feel free to contact him at 814-932-4085. Drew's Email: [jesus2thevalley@gmail.com](mailto:jesus2thevalley@gmail.com)

**Prayer Chain –** There is a prayer support chain in place. If anyone would like to commit to praying and being part of the chain, please contact Charlene Detwiler or Drew Baker. In addition, if you have someone to be added to the prayer chain, please let Charlene or Drew know.

Give to St. John's online for a one-time or a recurring gift using the church's website:

[www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com)

Scroll down the home page and click on the PDF "Online Giving DIRECTIONS" for more information. Click on the "Online Giving Web Site" link to create a free profile and get started.

Or give through the mail. Please send checks made out to "St. John's Lutheran Church" to:

St. John's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 222

Tyrone, PA 16686

Please include your name and envelope number if applicable. Thank you for your generosity.

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com) / **FACEBOOK PAGE:** st-johns sinking valley

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

PO Box 222

Tyrone, PA 16686

Ph: 814-684-4613

Email: [stjohnssv548@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnssv548@gmail.com)

### **Reader/Acolyte/Offering Schedule**

<b>December</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Count Offering</b>
12/1/24	Remington Fleck	Peyton Harper	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano
12/8/24	Lauren Fleck	Rachel Pedersen	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano
12/15/24	Lori Cushion	Colin Luther	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano
12/22/24	Madison Coleman	Wyatt Lannen	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano
12/24/24	Chad Pedersen	Emily Pedersen	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano
12/29/24	Lyndsey Fleck	Jaelyn Rockwell	Charlene Detwiler Randy Turiano

### **Upcoming Dates**

**Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.**

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – We Care Meals**

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – Children's Program**

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – Christmas in the Valley 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> – We Care Meals**

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 p.m.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

~~~~~  
**Cookies Needed!** – We need cookies for Christmas in the Valley! If you could help, please sign up on the back table. Thank you!!!!

~~~~~  
**Christmas in the Valley** – Mark your calendars to join us for our Annual Christmas in the Valley on **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** from **4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

~~~~~  
**Church Council** - There are a few openings on church council for next year. If you are interested in joining council, please see a member or Drew. Council meets one evening a month.

~~~~~  
**Sunday Evening Bible Study** – Adult Bible Study will continue to meet Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Drew Baker (814-932-4085), or Jerry & Heidi Shetler (814-327-4808 / 814-686-2347).

~~~~~  
**Favorite Hymns** – If you have a favorite hymn, please be sure to put it on the list on the back table.

~~~~~  
**We Care Meals** - We Care Meals, providing free meals for people in the Community on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, some recipients are elderly, young, home bound, recovering from illness or accident, or just could use a good meal and a smiling face delivering the meal. If you know of “**ANY ONE**”, please contact Jeanne Fleck.

~~~~~  
**Good Samaritan Fund Recipients** – The Good Samaritan Fund was established to help anyone in need. If you know of anyone (individuals/families/missions), please pick up a form on the back table, complete it and put it in the offering plate or in the basket on the back table.