

St. John's Sinking Valley
December 8, 2024

Advent
A Season of Hope
& Expectation

Second Sunday of Advent: PEACE

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 – Rachel Pedersen

Opening Prayer

***The Opening Hymn –**

Prepare the Royal Highway (LBW #26)

***Call to Worship – from Isaiah 7:14, 9:6**

L: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:

P: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son,

L: He will be called Emmanuel.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

L: and the government will be on his shoulders.

P: He will be called Wonderful Counselor,

L: Mighty God,

P: Everlasting Father,

L: Prince of Peace.

P: God with Us!

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Log-
Second Week of Advent — PEACE

We serve a God who gives peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos. Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, God, the Father, offers us peace that passes understanding.

That first Christmas, God sent His Son, the one who is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Even the angels cried out, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” The angels knew His purpose. They know the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that Christmas held. They recognized that the fullness of God was wrapped in the tiny flesh of an infant as Jesus humbled Himself and dwelt among us. Emmanuel. God with us as the baby Jesus.

Scripture- Luke 2:14

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Prayer:

O God of hope, give us endurance, encouragement, joy, and peace. Move us to repentance, change our hearts with your eternal Word, and dwell with us forever. Father, this second week of Advent, keep us in perfect peace as our mind stays on the truth of your powerful love. Thank you for your mighty, sovereign hand. Help us to trust fully in you and rest in the peace that you offer. It's in the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Offertory

* The Doxology

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Today we tell the Christmas story through various Biblical passages and then sing corresponding songs or carols that go along with the passage that was just read. We hope that in this manner the Christmas story will come alive for you this day!

ANGEL APPEARS TO MARY

Ryan Fleck

Luke 1:26-38 – In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary....the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus... "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God..." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Sing: Joy to the World (LBW # 39)

ANGEL APPEARS TO JOSEPH

Jerry Shetler

Matthew 1:18-23 – This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 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. 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." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to son, and they will call him Emmanuel"- which means, "God with us."

Sing: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (LBW #54)

BIRTH OF CHRIST

Ryan Fleck

Luke 2:1-7 – In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world...And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Sing: O Little Town of Bethlehem (LBW #41)

SHEPHERDS

Jerry Shetler

Luke 2:8-15 – And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to

you: You will find the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men...”

Sing: The First Noel (LBW #56)

L: As the Shepherds worshipped by bringing gifts of themselves to the Christ child, we too, worship by offering our prayers before the throne of the King who came as the baby in the manger.

***The Prayers**

***The Lord’s Prayer**

***Closing Hymn –**

Angels from the Realms of Glory (LBW #50)

***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

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

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 / **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

Reader/Acolyte/Offering Schedule

December	Reader	Acolyte	Count Offering
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	Aidan Luther	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. 15th – Children's Program

Dec. 15th – Christmas in the Valley 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Dec. 21st – We Care Meals

Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Cookies Needed!** – We need cookies for Christmas in the Valley! If you could help, please sign up on the back table. Thank you!!!!  
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**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.**  
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**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.  
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**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).  
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**Favorite Hymns** – If you have a favorite hymn, please be sure to put it on the list on the back table.  
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**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.  
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**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.  
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