



ADVENT 2022

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA
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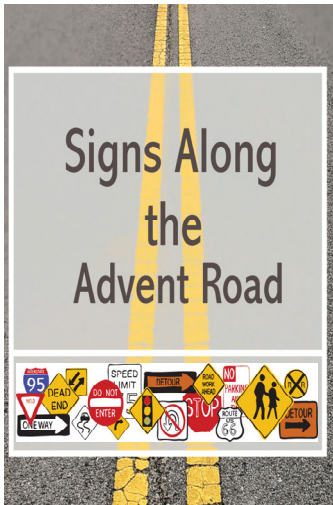
Dear Friends:

This week we pause to give thanks to God for the abundance of blessings we share as observance of Thanksgiving. Then on Sunday, November 27, we enter into a new church calendar year and the liturgical season of Advent. This season which marks the four weeks leading up to Christmas is a time of waiting and watching. Advent is a journey that beckons us back to Bethlehem where we hear again the stories of promise and prophecy that culminate with the re-telling of the miraculous story of God coming to earth through the Christ-child. It is a season that invites us to create space for watching and waiting and observing God's presence moving among us, propelling us into the hope-filled future God has prepared for us. We continue to live into the here and now of God's kingdom.

In our watching and being ready this Advent...we are also called to faithfully carry out the tasks God has given to the church and to use our own God blessed gifts fruitfully and to God's glory. Pay attention to those who may be lost, lonely, or lacking. Share God's love and care with those who need it most. Resist the temptation to rush headstrong into the cultural Christmas that is pressing in and enjoy the wait.

In Christ's Love and Peace,

Pastor Rachel Connelly



Beginning on Monday, November 28, Pastor Rachel and Vicar Emily will be **streaming a daily Advent Devotional at 10AM** throughout the season of Advent! To guide us on this road through Advent and to the birth of Jesus, our devotional series will center around **road signs**: notices of winding roads, yielding, times of acceleration and reduced speed, to name just a few.

We will be streaming this series live via St. John's Facebook page, Mondays through Saturdays, everyday! We are excited to share in this Advent season of anticipation



CHRISMON TREE

Decorating

All ages welcome!

Thur., December 1st

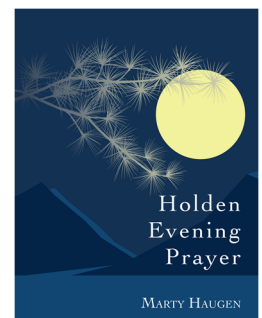
1:00pm

St. John's Sanctuary

MID-WEEK ADVENT VESPERS SERVICES

Wednesdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 8, 15 at 7:15pm in the Sanctuary

Holden Evening Prayer is a musical setting of the liturgy written by Marty Haugen. This lovely vespers service follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. It is perfect pause during Advent to focus on the light of Christ coming into the world.



*****Be on the watch for our December CHIMES that will have the full array of our Advent and Christmas services and ministries.*****

FAIR TRADE CHRISTMAS MARKET

In December, St. John's will give you the opportunity to give a holiday gift that keeps on giving. We will be hosting a "Fair Trade Christmas Market." You will have the opportunity to shop at our boutique and purchase handcraft items made by master artisans around the world. These unique gifts will be treasured by those who receive them. Your purchase gives the gift of income to help support the family of each artisan.

Each item is handmade with a story: "Fair Trade creates change, the kind of change that empowers women and children. Laxmi Meharjan excelled at weaving as a young girl. Her weavings were sold, but she never saw any of the money. All her earning went to her father and later to her husband. That all changed when Laxmi began working with SERRV's partner in Nepal, India. For the first time in her life, she was able to take back her earnings into her own hands. She used her income to put her daughter Sudha through school. Sudha earned her master's degree in social work. That is real change for future generations."

SERRV is a nonprofit organization with a 60+ year commitment to fair trade. They ensure that the artisans are treated fairly and with the respect they deserve. A portion of the proceeds are donated back to our Advent Giving ministry for 2022. Some of you may remember the sale we had more than 10 years ago. This year we will be opening our sale to the community. Please bring your friends and neighbors. *Spread the word.*

We will be searching for volunteers to help with the sale. Risse Snelgrove has extensive background with SERRV sales and will be using her expertise to guide us.

The dates and times are:

- * Friday, December 2nd from 10am-7pm (private sale for St. John's)
- * Saturday, December 3rd from 10am-7pm (open during parade hours)
- * Sunday, December 4th from 10am-1pm (St. John's members)
- * Friday, December 9th from 6pm-9pm
- * Saturday, December 10th from 12 noon-7pm (open during Tour of Churches)
- * Sunday, December 11th from 10am-1pm (St. John's members)

So...Wait...Don't holiday shop yet...not until after you have visited the St. John's Fair Trade Christmas Market"!



SERRV
INTERNATIONAL

ALTAR GUILD

Reminder that you have the opportunity to purchase a poinsettia for our Christmas eve service. Forms are also available in the church office, on the Spiritual Gifts table, or the Sunday bulletins.

Poinsettia Order Form

Your Name: _____ Your Phone Number: _____

Circle One: In Honor or In Memory of: _____

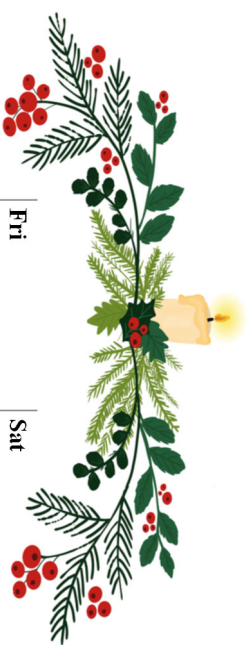
Circle One: In Honor or In Memory of: _____

Cost per plant is \$12.00. Amount per order form: \$ _____

Please return this form and a check to the Church Office **by December 18.**



December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 27 1st Sunday Advent Worship 9am Fellowship Hall 11am Sanctuary	Nov 28	Nov 29 Bible Study 10am Handbells 5:15pm	Nov 30 Choir 6pm Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:15pm	1 Decorate Chrismon Tree 1pm	2 Serrv 10am-7pm	3 Serrv 10am-7pm Walkalla Christmas Parade 5pm
4 2nd Sunday Advent Worship 9am Fellowship Hall 11am Sanctuary Serrv 10am-1pm	5	6 Bible Study 10am Handbells 5:15pm	7 Choir 6pm Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:15pm	8	9 Serrv 6-9pm	10 Tour of Churches 3pm-7pm Serrv noon-7pm
11 3rd Sunday Advent Worship 9am Fellowship Hall 11am Sanctuary Serrv 10am-1pm	12	13 Bible Study 10am Handbells 5:15pm	14 Knitters/Crocheters 10am Lunch 11:30am Choir 6pm Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:15pm	15	16	17 Wreaths Across America 1pm
18 4th Sunday Advent Worship 9am Fellowship Hall 11am Sanctuary	19	20 Bible Study 10am Handbells 5:15pm	21 Choir 6pm Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:15pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Meal Delivery @ 10am Worship 5pm Biggerstaff 7am & 10:30pm Sanctuary
25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Worship ONE SERVICE 10am Sanctuary	26 Office Closed	27 Handbells 5:15pm	28	29	30	31

