

The joy of Advent ... a season of hope & expectation
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA

Today is ---- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

Welcome to our "humble temple" ... and humble it is!!

We hope your soul is nourished, being with us this morning. We are honored by your presence. We enjoy having kids in church. When they are noisy and restless ... we ask you PLEASE TO RESPECT the sanctity of our worship experience, and the comfort of your neighbor.

We have a fine nursery for kids age 5 and under. Our highly paid, moderately Lutheran, and ever-festive staff is always anxious to care for your kids. Please accompany your son/daughter to the nursery, and introduce yourself to the attendants. The coffee of your dreams (and Don's imagination) awaits you in Charter Hall. Most of all, welcome ... it good to have you with us.

An announcement or two??

OPENING PRAYER

Advent has so many faces ... right, Lord??

The face of "peace" ... a child, so humbly born. A fire with the glow of love in the living room. Then there is the often-harsh pace of trying to be all things to all people.

The "alleluias" of expecting our savior. And then the moments of doubt ... when our child-like hope escapes us.

In the middle of all this is ME.

My journey.

My heartsong.

My own hopes and dreams.

My soul and spirit ... my longing to make a difference in this world. This morning ... sitting here in thought and prayer ... I hear your voice: telling me and everyone gathered: we do matter. Each of us has a place and purpose in your kingdom. Help me live-out that purpose one moment, one person at a time. As you reach into my heart ...

inspire me to reach into the hearts of others ... and together, we can all share a journey of hope ---- amen.

ADVENT VERSE: *Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, Come and be born in our hearts. (2x)*

opening song

"Prepare the royal highway" 264

the liturgy ... page 138

"This is the feast" page 140

readings for the day

*1st lesson *the psalm *2nd lesson
please rise for the gospel "alleluia" page 142

"will my younger friends come forward?"
kids' time

song

"It came upon a midnight clear" 282

meditation

the creed ... page 105

offering and offertory

"holy, holy, holy" page 144

choir anthem, 11:00 "Let there be peace on earth"

prayers and sharing the Lord's Supper

"Lamb of God" page 146

Communion songs: 257 (vv. 1,2,3), 269, 275, 277

"alleluia, he's my savior, alleluia"

closing song

"Joy to the world" 267 ... followed by benediction & 3-fold "amen"

We have beautiful altar flowers gracing our church today ...

*from Megan, Dave, and Jenna Mitchell ... in loving memory of their son Jack, and in honor of Don's birthday.

*from Blair Kelch, in loving memory of his wife Dawn.

The eternal light shines brightly this morning ...

*from the Naughton family, in loving memory of Amber Naughton.

*from Blair Kelch, in loving memory of Dawn.

*from the Svehla family and Don's staff, in honor of his birthday.

Tuesday: *Book Club, 7:00 in Charter Hall

*Stitch and Sew, 6:30

Thursday: *Advent Supper, 6:30

*Evening worship, 7:30

YOU MAY DONATE A POINSETTIA PLANT for our Advent and Christmas worship --- forms and payment envelopes are in narthex. We will list your donations and acknowledgments in our Christmas Eve bulletins.

OUR OUTREACH IS IN FULL SWING ... and we are off to a good start.

Folks to adopt are on far table ... and we welcome your financial contributions, too ----- thanks for sharing and caring.

GIFT WRAPPING FOR OUR FAMILIES --- Wednesday, December 13.

ADVENT SUPPERS ---- Thursdays, December 7, 14, 21 ... please make your rsvp's on the sign-up table.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS DINNER --- Monday, December 11, 6:00 at Papa Joe's ... only \$10, and you can order off the menu ... your loving church is helping with the cost.

THANKS TO ALL ... FOR HELPING US KEEP THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT ALIVE AT ALL SAINTS!!