"Are we keepin' it simple? ... is it complicated too keep it simple???? ... oh, well ... " ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA

Today is SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

Welcome to our "humble temple" this morning. We hope your soul is nourished, being with us today.

We sure do enjoy having kids in church. When they get a bit goofy and noisy ... 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 and moderately festive staff is always anxious to care for your kids. Please accompany your son/daughter to the nursery, and introduce yourself to the attendants.

any announcements? ... kind words? ... joy to share?? CALL TO WORSHIP (11:00) ... "Jesus what a wonderful child"

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Trying to "keep it simple" ... Lord --- how about you?? I sometimes wonder what Christmas is like in heaven?

Hopefully more relaxed than down here.

This morning: it feels simple.

A few candles. Good music. Common folks, like me.

Most of all: THE GIFT. YOU. YOUR SON.

As I wend my way through each day ... help me hold onto the gentle strength of the message.

Peace on earth (I wish!!). Hope. Goodness.

Giving unto others. It's ironic, Lord --- I sometimes feel a bit lonely this time of the year. Lots of noise and lots of people, but inside my soul ... there can be an emptiness.

You help fill it: your grace, your unconditional love.

I will stop taking this for granted ... at least, I'll try.

Thanks for listening ---- amen.

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Advent verse: Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel ... come and be born in our hearts.

Come O prince of peace, come O prince of peace, come O prince of peace ... come and be born in our hearts.

Come, our light and life ... come, our light and life, come, our light and life ... come and be born in our hearts.

opening song ... "My Lord, what a morning" 438

the liturgy ... page 98 "This is the feast" page 101

readings for the day
\*1st lesson \*the psalm \*2nd reading
please rise for the gospel ... "alleluia" ... page 102

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

song ... "Rejoice, rejoice believers" 244

meditation

the creed ... page 105

offering and offertory "holy, holy, holy" page 108

prayers and sharing the Lord's Supper
"Lamb of God" page 112-113
Music: Kathryn and Mike ... 296, 298 (vv. 1,2,3,4)
"alleluia, he's my savior, alleluia"

closing song ... "Hark the herald angels sing" 270

Benediction and three-fold "amen"

## Our beautiful altar flowers this morning are from JEANNE TURNOCK, in honor of her mom's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. THE ETERNAL LIGHT SHINES BRIGHTLY TODAY.

\*from Tony and Sharon Nicosia --- in loving memory of Corrine Di Francesca (Sharon's mom) and her twin, Rose Marie Pasqurella (Sharon's aunt) ... and her brother Dennis Di Francesca.

\*from Rick Frothingham ... in loving memory of his parents —
John & Catherine ... who passed away 2 years ago.

\*from Vern and Mary Ann Bock, in loving memory of
Ellen Bock on her birthday today.

TODAY IS OUTREACH SUNDAY ... THANKS TO ALL, for reaching-out and caring.

Tuesday: Stitch and Sew Christmas party, 6:30
Thursday: \*Advent supper, 6:30
\*Advent worship, 7:30 ----- come and enoy!!
Saturday: \*Sunday School rehearsal, 9:00 AM
Next Sunday ... December 23 ... regular schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24
4:00 – Sunday School Christmas program
8:00 – 10:00 open house at the church ... hosted by
Don and Peggy ... enjoy some good food and drink.
10:00 Candlelight service (followed by Communion, for
those desiring to stay.

Christmas Day ---- worship at 10:00 am.
\*\*Still time to order a poinsettia for our worship
at Christmas .... see forms and envelopes in narthex

Enjoy some fine coffee and glogg in Charter Hall.