

December 30, 2018

10:30 AM ONE Worship

First Sunday of Christmas

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad you are here with us this morning. We pray that you will meet God in worship and that your faith will be strengthened as you prepare to go out into the world in the coming week. If you are a guest in worship this morning, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card, which can be found in the pew rack. Once completed, please place in the offering plate and we will be in touch with you! And please join us again!



JESUS
INCREASED IN
WISDOM
AND
IN YEARS,
AND IN
DIVINE AND
HUMAN
FAVOR

LUKE 2:52

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sumneytown

RESTROOMS

From the back of the church: Go through the narthex, down the steps, through the double doors. Walk to the end of the hall and through the 2nd set of double doors. Turn right, restrooms are on your right.

From the front of the church: Go through the door on the right at the front of the church. Turn left through the parlor and down the first set of steps and through the double doors. Men's room is immediately on your left passed the elevator. Ladies' room is just passed that on your right.

FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Children are always welcome in worship. If you need the nursery, it is located at the base of the narthex stairs, through the double doors on the right.

Activity Bags & Pre-Reader Bulletins can be found in the Narthex.

Two blue Autism Friendly Activity bags are available on the top shelf of the coat rack in the narthex for anyone who might need them during worship. Please return them to the coat rack when finished.

LOST AND FOUND

A lost and found box has been added to the shelf in the narthex. If you find something and do not know to whom it belongs, or have lost something, please visit the Lost and Found Box!

COLD?

A collection of wraps are available in a wicker basket under the coat rack in the narthex – feel free to borrow one during worship to keep warm if needed.

WORSHIP NOTES

In the church, the season of Christmas begins on December 25 and lasts for 12 days. And those twelve days are a time when we focus in on the peace that Jesus Christ was born to bring. It is the shortest season of the church year, but it is ripe with symbols that we all know and love. Our Advent wreath is fully lit, as the light shines brightly during Christmas, reminding us that Jesus, the Light of the World has been born. May this Christmas be filled with joy and peace for you and those you love as you gather to worship the newborn King!

PRAYER LIST

The following names have been added to the prayer list: Alex Kunkel, Sammy Smith, Bill Hutt, Jim Fitser, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Willie Herbst, Kathy Reese, Elaine Keller, Paige Seasock, Charlie Krupp, JaneMarie Connell, Linda Hart, Peyton Seasock, Ron Schaffer, Norma Kunkel, Judy Ockenlaender, Fred Ockenlaender and Peg Jacob.

Names are kept on the prayer list for three weeks unless specifically requested by the family or for those struggling through long-term illness or treatment. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please contact Amy in the church office at 215-234-4888 or stj.stown@verizon.net.

SOLO All Is Well - arr. Leonard
Lynsey Quinn

LESSON Luke 2:8-16 *NT Pew Bible pg. 44-45*

CAROL 275 Angels, from the Realms of Glory, verses 1 & 2

LESSON Matthew 2:1-11 *NT Pew Bible pg. 1*

CAROL 300 The First Noel, verses 1, 2 & 5

OFFERING

ANTHEM One Bright Star - Lojeski

Please stand

OFFERTORY What Child Is This?

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG 30

Angels We Have Heard on High

CHIMES

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is born to save.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Joy, Joy, Joy - arr. Hustad

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IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School class will begin meeting on January 6th at 9:30am. Our first topic will be digging into the faith we hold as Christians – the series we are using is designed to offer a unique way of digging into some of the questions we all have about faith and spirituality:

- Is God real?
- Can we be spiritual without being religious?
- What is salvation?
- Why read the Bible?
- What was Jesus up to?
- What really happened on the cross?
- What does it mean to be the church?

Each week will include a video presentation to introduce the topic and share one person's perspectives and wonderings about the topic – and then the group will share and reflect.

No matter how long you've been following Jesus or how many doubts and questions swirl around inside your head, you are welcome to be part of this group as we all seek to explore ideas together and grow deeper in faith while we do so. The Adult Sunday School Class will meet in the Parent Lounge, which is downstairs in the middle of the Sunday school hallway.



Community Meal

St. John's will be serving our first Community Meal of 2019 on Monday, January 7th at Pennsburg UCC. There are several opportunities to volunteer: prep, set-up, serve, and clean-up at the meal. We also need donations of food items which will need to be brought to church by the Sunday before the meal (January 6th). Please look in the Narthex for the Volunteer and Donation sign up sheet. We will be serving Shepherds Pie. If

you have any questions, please contact Jamie Ernst at 215-960-8340 or bjernst97@comcast.net. Thank you so much for your help! This is a great way to serve our community and to get involved!

Directories

If you had your picture taken for the latest St. John's Directory, please pick-up your book from the box in the narthex. Each book has a name sticker on the back (they started out in alphabetical order, but not promising they are still in order).

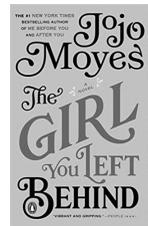
Playground Pieces Available

As the council has been working to update our playground, it has been brought to our attention that much of the equipment currently on the playground is not up to code and is therefore a liability if left there. In early 2019, all playground equipment with the exception of the swings

will be removed. If congregational members are interested in taking any of the plastic playsets that have been donated to the playground throughout the years, please do so by the end of December.

Book Club

Our next book is “The Girl You Left Behind” by Jojo Moyes. We will meet in January, date to be determined.



YPO Superbowl Pancake Breakfast, February 3 from 8:30 to 10 am

Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, breakfast potatoes, breakfast cakes/pastries, coffee, tea and juice. It's a delicious breakfast and a wonderful time for fellowship.

Cost: Free Will Offering -- All proceeds from this event will go towards the cost of the March YPO Retreat and the June Service Mission Trip to Boston Massachusetts. This is a great time to purchase your square in our YPO Superbowl Fundraiser.

YPO Superbowl Pool Fundraiser

St. John's YPO has found a fun way to celebrate the upcoming Super Bowl and raise money for their annual retreat to Harvey Cedars and summer mission trip - a Super Bowl Pool. Each square in the block is \$10.00. Proceeds are divided 50% to the YPO for and 50% divided among the winners of each quarter. Look for more information come January! Once the Divisional Championships have been decided, We will send out an email with the website and login information.

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

Reader - Andi Swavely

Acolyte - Jake Ernst

Audio - Chris Appold

Ushers - Matt Hercek, John Hercek,
Bob Ernst, Justine Quinn

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

MONDAY, 12/31:

OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, 1/1:

OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, 1/2:

- *Choirs* -

SUNDAY, 1/6: Communion Sunday

8:30am Contemporary Worship

9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Traditional Worship

12:30pm Confirmation/Mentor

Event - Bowling

SPONSORSHIPS

The **boutonnieres** are in honor of the Klahr and Perilli families and in remembrance of the Grande family.

3104 Main Street
Green Lane, PA 18054
215-234-4888 (phone)
215-234-0825 (fax) www.stjsumneytown.org

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a community that is



*Ignited by Spirit
Growing in Love*

Rev. Rebecca L. Schanely, Pastor
pb.stjstown1@verizon.net
215-234-4302 (parsonage)

Rev. Charles H. Eiss, Jr., Pastor Emeritus
Amy Hammond, Office Administrator
stj.stown@verizon.net

Janet Aldinger, Director of Music
jeald@yahoo.com

Brian Allebach, Chancel Choir Director

Kim Detwiler, Children's Choir Director

Michele Peart, Bookkeeper

Julie Hovanec, S.S. Superintendent

Bob Ernst, Facilities Manager

Council Members

Erika Haldeman, President

Barry Long, Vice President &
Communications

Colleen Carlin, Secretary & Christian
Education

Dave Lewis, Treasurer & Finance

Jarod Guess – YPO

John Hovanec – Property

Elaine Keller – Heavenly Helpers & Social
Events

Sue Parker – Worship and Music

John Portock – Personnel

Josh Raffle – Property

Kathy Weidner - WELCA