



Salem Lutheran Church

shalom - salaam - salem - peace

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*1st Sunday After
Christmas*

*December 26,
2021
9:30 AM*



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Welcome

Council has decided to move worship back indoors as the weather is growing cooler. It was also decided that if you are fully vaccinated, a mask is recommended but not mandatory inside. If you are immune-compromised and fully vaccinated, a mask is strongly recommended inside. If you are not fully vaccinated, a mask must be worn inside. **Although Council voted to not require masks for the vaccinated Pastor Marjo asks that you please wear one.** Despite the fact that she was vaccinated just 6 months ago, is younger than most of the congregation, in excellent health, and is pretty cautious about wearing her mask, she ended up with a breakthrough infection and was sick for 12 days. **Although the vaccine kept her from being seriously ill, she could have easily transmitted the virus to someone who was not vaccinated and that person could have ended up being hospitalized or even dying. Thank God that did not happen. Soft singing of hymns will be permitted BUT PLEASE SING ONLY IF YOU ARE WEARING A MASK.** While we know not everyone will be happy with this decision, please understand that whether it's about indoors vs. outdoors, masks vs. no masks, singing vs. no singing, there is simply no way we can please everyone. As Christians, however, it is our call to put aside our own preferences and focus not on our own desires, but on what God asks of us – which is to provide a place where even the most vulnerable in our midst feel safe. We have too many attendees with comorbidities and too many who are in contact with unvaccinated grandchildren to be less than cautious. Thank you for your understanding and your support.

THIS AFTERNOON! COOKIES, CAROLS, COMEDY AND KWANZAA!! That's our next Sunday Night Alive inter-church event! **So come, join us in the Salem Lounge today at 4:30. And bring a friend!**

Wednesday at 12:00 noon we meet on zoom for prayer. You can pray out loud if you want, or you can simply ask others to pray for you or for the concerns on your mind or heart. The link is also on the calendar on our website at Salembridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study will resume on January 5th at 6:30, as we begin our study of the book of Acts and the early Church. It was written for a time like our own in that the Church was not supported by the general culture of the day, and yet it managed to grow in both numbers and in power. It could very well be that the secret to the future of the Church lies in this ancient story! Please join us on zoom for a fascinating discussion, followed by a brief service of Holy Communion at 7:15. The link is on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgerpot.org under the Resources Tab.

Gathering

GATHERING CAROL **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

ELW # 288

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

OPENING CAROL **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

ELW # 270

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

Word in Lessons & Carols

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1–5, 14–18

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day....

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

FIRST CAROL

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ELW # 284, vss. 1, 3 & 4

- 1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
that *God the Lord of all the earth sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim, and wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!
- 3 The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!
- 4 O children of the forest free, the angel-song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

SECOND LESSON

Micah 5:2–5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³ Therefore God shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the remnant of the ruler's family shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴ The ruler shall stand and shepherd them in the strength of YHWH,
in the majesty of the name of YHWH their God.

And they shall live in safety, for now the ruler shall be great to the ends of the earth;
⁵ and shall be their peace.

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.**
- 2 Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.**

THIRD LESSON**Luke 1:26–35, 38**

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a young woman engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The young woman's name was Mary. ²⁸ And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! God is with you!" ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by the angel's words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a child, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Child of the Most High, and YHWH God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy and will be called the Child of God.... ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

THIRD CAROL**Once in Royal David's City****ELW # 269, vss. 1 & 2**

- 1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.**
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of YHWH appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel" which means, "God is with us".

²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

FOURTH CAROL

That Boy-Child of Mary

ELW # 293, vss. 1, 2 & 6

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

1 What shall we call him, child of the manger? What name is given in Bethlehem?

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

2 His name is Jesus, God ever with us, God given for us in Bethlehem.

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him, love and adore him, give ourselves to him in Bethlehem.

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:8–20

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.**
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.**

SIXTH LESSON**Matthew 2:1–11**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

SIXTH CAROL**In the Bleak Midwinter****ELW # 294, vss. 1 & 3**

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.**
- 3 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man I would do my part;
yet what I can give him — give my heart.**

SEVENTH LESSON

John 1:1–14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² The Word was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through the Word, and without the Word not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There came one sent from God, whose name was John, ⁷ who came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe. ⁸ John himself was not the light, but came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ The Word was in the world, and the world came into being through it, yet the world did not know it. ¹¹ The Word came to what was its own, and the Word's own people did not accept it.

¹² But to all who received the Word, who believed in that Name, was given power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of human will, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen the Word's glory, the glory as of a parent's only child, full of grace and truth.

SEVENTH CAROL

Let All Together Praise Our God

ELW # 287, vss. 1, 2 & 5

- 1 Let all together praise our God before the highest throne;
today God opens heav'n again and sends the only Son, and sends the only Son.
- 2 From God's right hand the Son descends, is born an infant small,
and lies in poverty, his bed a manger in a stall, a manger in a stall.
- 5 A wonderful exchange you make: you take our flesh and blood,
and in return give us to share the shining realm of God, the shining realm of God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *You may stand if you so desire.*

Let us affirm our faith together.

**We believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,
of Sarah, Rebekkah and Rachel,
We believe in the God of Miriam and Ruth, of Deborah and Esther.
of Moses and David, of Elijah and Isaiah.**

**We believe in Jesus, the incarnate God,
who visited us at Bethlehem, who lived with us in Galilee, who died for us at Calvary,
and who exploded the power of death on Easter morning.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who is the Spirit of God among us,
and is the Spirit of Christ within us.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

So they can be heard online, these petitions will be offered by the leaders at the microphones.

You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe.

Unite us with those who celebrate your birth

even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice.

We pray for our mission partners,

especially today for Seafarers and International House, the Lions Club and 12-step groups,

and for Salem members and families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:

Priscilla Schultz and Ray Anderson

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe.

Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation,

that we live in service to you and the natural world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You come to us through relationships of many kinds:

families, friendships, communities, and nations.

Guide us in these relationships,

that we recognize the Christ child in one another and show your love to those most vulnerable.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You come to us through people whom the world forgets.

Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news.

Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell,

or in any need this day, especially Barbara, Dolores, Eron, Frank, Grace, Steve, Sue,

and all we name in our hearts.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness.

Open our hearts to forgive one another, without permitting injustice.

Supply us with the wisdom to be clothed with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You come to us through those who have died yet live with you forever.

We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are invited to offer your own prayer petition at this time, either silently or aloud.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

Thanksgiving

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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, forever and ever. Amen**

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you said, "Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION

Please be seated.

In response to God's grace,
it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
-which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.

If you are a member of another congregation,
we encourage you to give to your home congregation first,
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also
so that we can continue to take our worship online
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.

Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click "donate"
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.



- 1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we, and come your lowly bed to see;
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.
- 3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all your grace accord;
true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold you in our heart.

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS, THANK YOU and BLESSING

Please be seated

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!
Open your hearts!
Let us give thanks to the God of all!

And also with you!
We open them to God and one another!
It is right to give God thanks & praise!

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

*During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship
or hold on to your kit until you get home.*

*If you take the elements inside the church,
open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet.*

*After the service, please dispose of your own kit
either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.*

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in divine grace! **Amen!**

- 1 Cold December flies away at the rose-red splendor.
April's crowning glory breaks while the whole world wonders
at the holy unseen pow'r of the tree which bears the flow'r.
On the blessed tree blooms the reddest flow'r.
On the tree blooms the rose here in love's own garden, full and strong in glory.**

- 2 In the hopeless time of sin shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay under death Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose golden light
brings unending joy, brings the endless joy of our hope, highest hope
of our hope's bright dawning, Son belov'd of heaven.**

- 3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world awakens.
In the lily's purest flow'r dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth from the moment of its birth;
and its beauty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it spreads
in its heav'nly brightness sweet perfume delightful.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace,
Sing the praises of God who has done great things so that all the world might know!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE CAROL**Love Has Come****ELW # 292**

**Love has come—a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.**

**Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas; Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

Announcements

The next Salem and Friends Breakfast & Faith Discussion, sponsored by the Salem Men but open to ALL, will be held Saturday **January 8th** at 8:00 am. Please join us...and invite a friend! Volunteers to help prepare breakfast welcome to come at 7:00 am. Thanks!

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart! We have an amazing God who provides for us and our Congregation in so many ways. Just as a reminder, we are still collecting pledges for 2022. If you need a pledge card, extras are available next to the offering box at the entrance to the sanctuary. Or you can simply email your pledge to salemsec123@sbcglobal.net. Remember God is good so “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”.

Let's stay connected! Pastor Marjo and Salem's Office Manager, Karl, work primarily from their homes but generally come in once a week to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely. If we can help in any way, please know that you can call Salem's church office at 203-330-3300 and leave a message and your message will be picked up remotely and your call returned. **Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!**

If you would like to call, or send a card or note to one of our shut-ins, please contact our Parish Nurse, Carol Lansing. She will let you know if the person would prefer a call or a note. If you have extra cards that you do not need, please let her know.

UniteCT - Emergency Rental Assistance for Connecticut's Economy - The UniteCT Program is administered by the Department of Housing on behalf of the US Treasury. UniteCT provides up to \$15,000 rental and electricity payment assistance on behalf of Connecticut households financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. UniteCT is stabilizing CT's rental housing market by financially supporting those households up to 80% of HUD's Area Median Income (AMI) - Select [here](#) for an interactive AMI map. Tenants and landlords use the UniteCT Rent Relief software to submit their own sections of the application creating a unique case file for decision making evaluation. UniteCT will provide continued rental and electric utility assistance to eligible households until all funding has been committed. There is no current end date of the program. *For more info, go to: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT> You must first register to get an email invitation to start your application. Paper applications will not be accepted. Do you qualify for UniteCT funding? If you need to share your eligibility status with a new landlord or court, check your eligibility by taking this survey at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT---Survey> and print the results for your records.*



*Turning Faith into Action...
Leveraging Hope...
Transforming Communities...*

37TH ANNUAL
**ANGEL
APPEAL** 2020

We invite you to participate in our annual **ANGEL APPEAL** by making a gift to **The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport** in honor or in memory of one or more of the "ANGELS" in your life who has inspired, encouraged, or partnered with you in making a difference in our community. The challenges faced by our poorest neighbors are significant, but hope abounds! We at The Council are acutely aware of the unmet needs throughout Greater Bridgeport, and with your help are making a difference. You may donate by going to: <https://ccgb.salsalabs.org/angelappeal/index.html>, or by mailing a check to The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, 1718 Capitol Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604. Or see Sandra Brown, Tom Larson, or Bonnie McWain for more info.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist

Monday, December 27, 2021

Son of Zebedee & brother of James, John was 1 of 12 disciples & witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

Name of Jesus

Saturday, January 1, 2022

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life.

The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

CREDITS AND PERMISSIONS:

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GATHERING CAROL “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Text: based on Isaiah 1:3, Luke 2:10-12, Revelation 3:7-8,

Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866; Meter 6 6 7 7 7 8 5 5

Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856

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OPENING CAROL “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Text: based on Isaiah 9:6, Malachi 4:2, Luke 2:13-14, John 1:1-14, 2 Corinthians 5:19

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Meter 7 7 7 7 D and refrain

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847;

arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

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FIRST CAROL “’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”

Text: Luke 2:8-16, Jean de Brebeuf, 1593-1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872-1960, alt. ;

Meter 8 6 8 6 8 8 and refrain

Music: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk tune, c. 16th cent.

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SECOND CAROL “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Text: based on Isaiah 11:1, Luke 2:7-16, German carol, 15th cent.;

tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3;

John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4; Meter 7 6 7 6 6 7 6

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1599;

arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

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THIRD CAROL “Once in Royal David's City”

Text: based on Micah 5:2, Philippians 2:5-11, Revelation 7:13-17;

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Meter 8 7 8 7 7 7

Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

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FOURTH CAROL “That Boy-Child of Mary”

Text: based on Luke 2.7, 21 by Tom Colvin, 1925-2000; *Text Meter:* 5 5 5 4 and refrain

Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional, adapt. Tom Colvin

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FIFTH CAROL “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Text: Matthew 2:1-3, Luke 2:8-14, James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3;

Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4; *Meter* 8 7 8 7 8 7

Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

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SIXTH CAROL “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894; *Meter Irregular*

Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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SEVENTH CAROL “Let All Together Praise Our God”

Text: Genesis 3:24, Luke 2:1-14, John 10:7, 9, Philippians 2:6-8, Revelation 3:7,
Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561; tr. hymnal version; *Meter* 8 6 8 6 6

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman

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OFFERTORY CAROL “Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

Text: based on Luke 2:14-20, Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764;

tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845-1925, alt.; *Meter* L M

Music: HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747-1800

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SENDING CAROL “Cold December Flies Away”

Text: based on Song of Solomon 2:1, 11-13, Isaiah 11:1, Luke 1:78-79, Catalonian carol;
tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953; *Meter* P M

Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol

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POSTLUDE CAROL “Love Has Come”

Text: based on Luke 2:14, Ken Bible, b. 1950; *Meter* 9 9 10 11 9 6

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856

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