

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Belleville, PA**



**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 7, 2021**

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Welcome on this 5th Sunday of Epiphany. Whether we worship at home in the parking lot or sanctuary, we continue to seek the light of Christ and to magnify the light in our souls.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*ENTRANCE HYMN

GATHERING

## Here in This Place *Gather Us In*

718

1 Here in this place . . . new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
call us a - new, to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.

Chord symbols: D, A, C, G, Gm, Dm, C, G, D, A, C, G, Gm, Dm, C, D, C/D, Gm<sup>6</sup>/D, D



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and

A C D G A C

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peop-les to-geth-er,

D G A D A C G

we shall a-rise at the sound of our name,  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Gm Dm C D C/D Gm<sup>6</sup>/D D

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

GATHER US IN  
 10 9 10 10 D

**\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

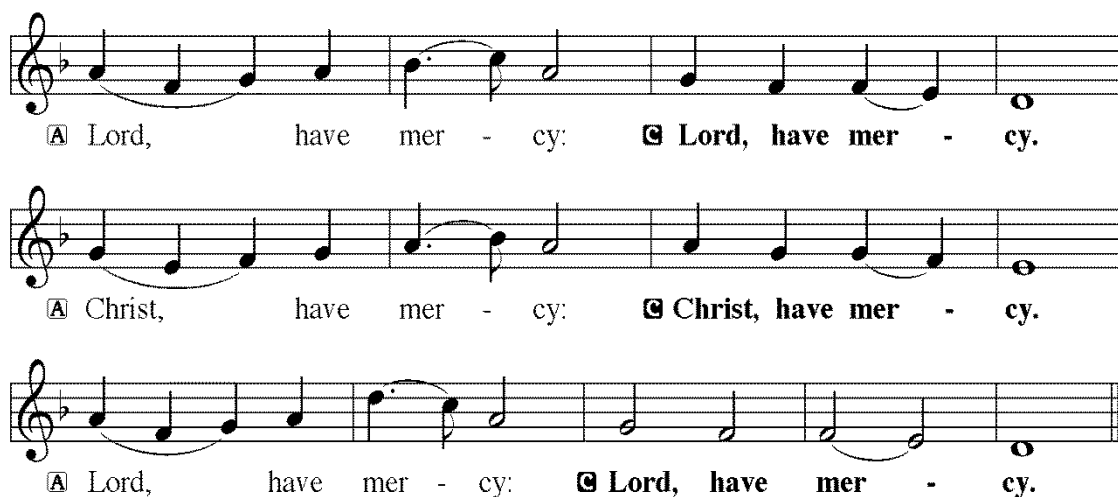
C **Amen**

**\*GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

# **\*KYRIE**



**A** Lord, have mer - cy: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
**A** Christ, have mer - cy: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.  
**A** Lord, have mer - cy: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

# **\*HYMN of PRAISE**



**G** Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.  
**F** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
 wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
**G** Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**\*PRAYER of the DAY** ~ (in unison) *Prayers and Lessons are found in Celebrate*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...

## THE LESSONS

**\*First Lesson** ~ A reading from Isaiah 40:21-31

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Psalm 147:1-11, 20** ~ *with response*

*The psalm is announced, organ plays response 1x, cantor or pastor sings 1x, people join to sing response, then as psalm is read, congregation sings response at each R.*

**\*Second Lesson** ~ A reading from 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \*GOSPEL READING

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is read. After the reading*

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

# HYMN OF THE DAY

WITNESS

752

## I, the Lord of Sea and Sky *Here I Am, Lord*

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

*Continued on next page*



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*  
 D G Gsus4 G C G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G C D G Gsus4 G

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

C G Am7 D G Gsus4 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel Schutte  
 Music: Daniel Schutte; arr. Michael Pope, SJ, Daniel L. Schutte, and John Weissrock  
 © 1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music

HERE I AM, LORD  
 7 7 7 4 D and refrain



**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

**\*PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ *Found in Celebrate***

**P** Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence*

**\*THE PEACE ~** You may greet others with a sign of peace - a wave or a slight bow with hand over your heart and the words "Peace of Christ or Peace be with you!"

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**OFFERING ~** (please leave your gifts in one of the offering plates **at the end of the front and back pews** (Mechanic St. side) on your way out, or if you are worshipping from the back parking lot you may leave them - in the box by the outside basement steps)

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**C** **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

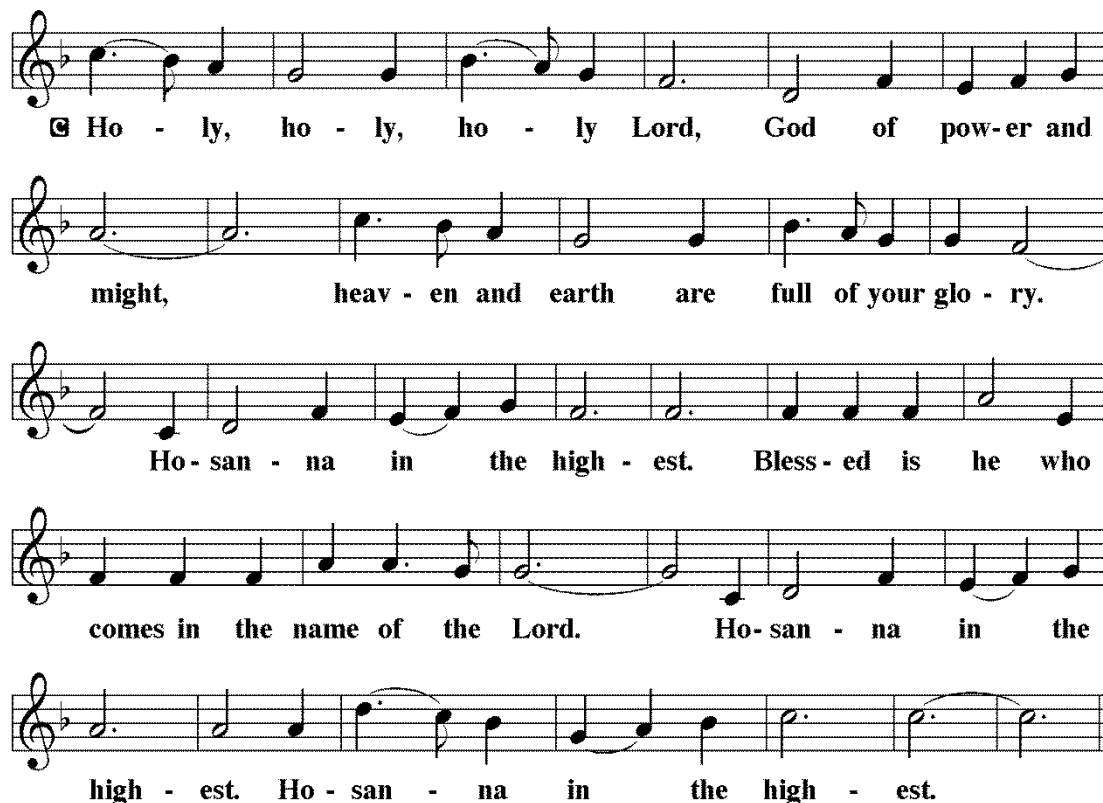
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### \* Preface for Epiphany

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you O Lord, Holy Father, Through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn...



### \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion we may know  
the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C Amen**

### **\*LORD's PRAYER**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C 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**

### **COMMUNION**

#### **Invitation to Communion:**

P Partake of the banquet, for all is now ready, taste and see that the Lord is good.

P The Bread of Life: the body of Christ, given for you;

**C Amen.** [Please open and take the wafer]

P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.

**C Amen.** [Please open and take the juice]

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you  
in his grace.

**C Amen.**

## \*CANTICLE

Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen

## BLESSING

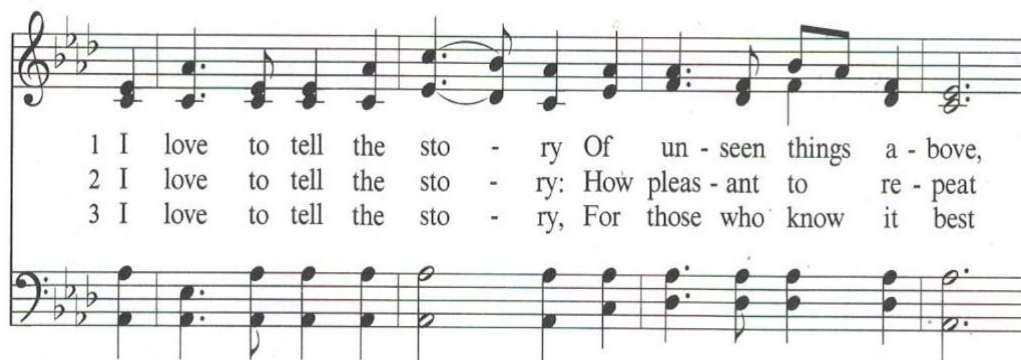
P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen




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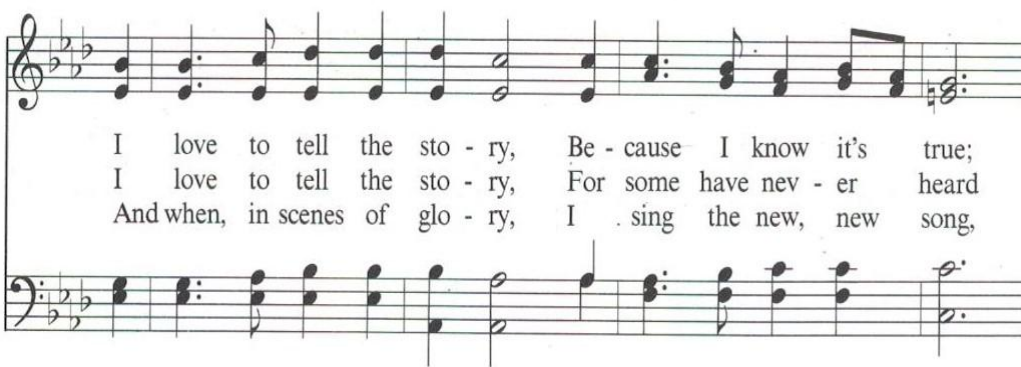
## I Love to Tell the Story



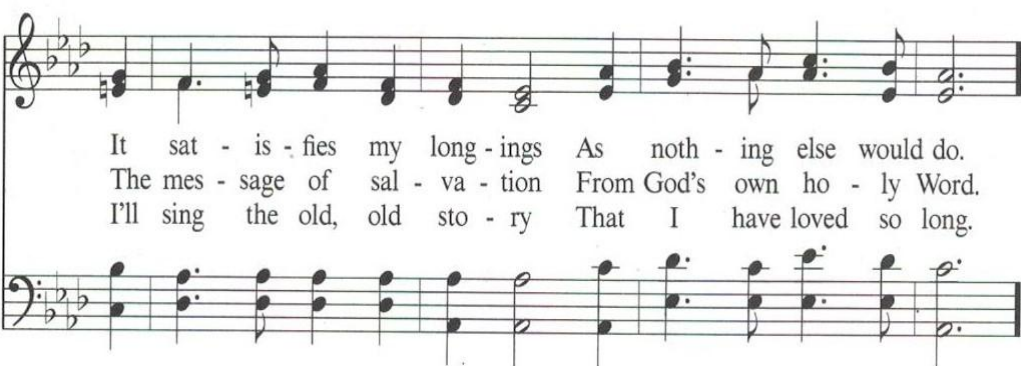
1 I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: How pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best



Of Je - sus and his glo - ry, Of Je - sus and his love.  
 What seems, each time I tell it, More won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, For some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



It sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else would do.  
 The mes - sage of sal - va - tion From God's own ho - ly Word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

*Continued on next page*

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry

And tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and his love.

**\*DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

**\*POSTLUDE**

**Pastor:** Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

**Organist:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Congregational Song Leader:** Reba Harmon

**Church Office:** 935-2032 Email us at [stjohnco@embarqmail.com](mailto:stjohnco@embarqmail.com)

**St. John's Christian Day Care:** 935-2959

***Our Mission Statement***

*We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share  
the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another  
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

***Our Vision Statement***

*To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community through our  
prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.*

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Sandra Metz in honor of our Health Care Workers.

## **Today**

**Greeters:** Jami Zook and Mike Boring; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

## **Next Sunday, February 14**

**Greeters:** John and Denise Chester; **Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich

Please remember in prayer ~ Dorie Remensnyder, Marge Shilling and Sylvia Harshbarger for continued healing and recuperation from recent falls. All those members with compromising health issues wisely isolating at home, that they may quickly have access to the Covid vaccine. Vivian Plank, Fred Hagemeyer, Kim Aumiller, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Betty Harmon (Elmcroft), Ev Young (Zion Home, Lititz) and Carol Yoder (VVH).

## **From the Pastor**

Ash Wednesday is February 17 the beginning of Lent! We will be having a service that evening at 7:00pm with individual cups of ashes and oil.

Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday has been designated by the Upper Susquehanna Synod, Camp Mt. Luther Day. Anne Harshbarger is attending an event at CML Feb 7, as our 'camperson' representative and will be sharing with us on Feb 14, Transfiguration Sunday 2021, also Valentine's day!

It is important we support experiences in young people's lives that are transfigurative, that bring them closer to God. Attending CML is definitely one.

It's also important to realize the challenges and fears young people face. Anyone born in the last 25 years has lived with the specter of 9/11, school shootings, church shootings, riots and violence in various forms and the Covid pandemic. The church wants to reach out and involve them in creating a community of faith, friends, assurance and safety.

Synod Assembly representatives: Anne Harshbarger has eagerly agreed to be one of our representatives for Synod Assembly which will be held by Zoom in June. We need one more representative! If you have internet you will be able to participate from your home. Please let Carol, Kelly or Pastor Ela know if you are interested.

## **Announcements**

The February newsletter can be found in the mailboxes of members who do not receive it by email.

Please keep Pastor Ken Longfield in prayer, as he recently had open heart surgery to repair his mitral valve at Danville. Well-wishes can be sent to PO Box 127, Reedsville 17084.

Lent begins on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Available in the narthex are two devotionals. The first, *A Season of Grace* is large print, and is written by Seniors for Seniors. The second, *Steadfast Love* is based on the works of Henri Nouwen. Each one is well-written and will be a nice addition to your daily meditation during this Lenten season.

Please contact the church office or your good shepherd if you would like to have one mailed to you.

The congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 28 following the worship service. Information will be available in member mailboxes next Sunday, February 14. If you would like to have it mailed, please contact the church office or your good shepherd.

The daycare is doing a calendar raffle fundraiser in April. Gift cards and items are being donated by local businesses and individuals. If you would be willing to help by giving something which can be included in the raffle, please contact Carol Fultz (935-0140). The calendars will be available to purchase next month..

January 1 thru February 4, 2021

Last week's attendance (includes parking lot) ~ 17      Offering ~ \$ 1,329.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 12,722.82    Expense \$ 309,636.33\*

Net Income \$ -296,913.51\*

**Gladys Mahady bequest of \$290,421.47 was withdrawn and invested**

Daycare ~ Income \$ 16,049.51    Expense \$ 22,451.27

Net Income \$ -6,401.76