

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**First Sunday of Christmas**  
**December 31, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*(The hymns can be found in green hymnal ~ (LBW)*

\*Entrance Hymn ~ *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* # 55

\*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.**

*Prayers and lessons can be found in Celebrate insert*

\*Prayer of the Day ~ *in unison*

Hymn ~ *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* # 54

Psalm 148

Hymn ~ *The First Noel* # 56

\*The Holy Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Message ~ Pastor Randy Traxler

Hymn ~ *Away in a Manger* # 67

\*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.**

\*The Peace is Shared

Tithes and Thankofferings ~ *your gifts may be placed in one of the offering plates found at the end of the front and back pews.*

\*Offertory ~ *Doxology*

\*Prayers

\*The Lord's Prayer

P 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

\*The Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen**

\*Closing Hymn ~ *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* # 60

\*Dismissal

P Go in Peace **R Rejoice in his birth**

Postlude

**Today**

**Greeter:** Jami Zook; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

**Sound:** Ed Bilich

**Next Sunday ~ January 7**

**Altar Care:** Brenda Boring; **Greeters:** Mike and Michele Harshbarger

**Lay Reader:** Mike Harshbarger; **Sound:** Ed Bilich

**Organist:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Church Office:** 935-2032; **Email us** [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org)

**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 Jay and Joy Byler in memory of Richard Byler.

Please remember in prayer ~ Marty (Bridgens) Cullen, Alexa Williams, Erica Hargenrader, Anne Peachey, Desa Keiser, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, Bob Treaster, Samantha Smith, members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa) and Don Wolfe (VVH).

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

**TODAY** Pastor Randy Traxler, Guest speaker

**MONDAY** New Year's Day ~ Office and Daycare closed

**THURSDAY 9:30am** Comfort Knotting

**NEXT SUNDAY** Holy Communion ~ Council Installation

**8:15am** Social hour before worship

Thank you to Joe and Ed for leading the services these past two months, and to Pastor Randy Traxler for his willingness to share God's Word. We appreciated the time you spent with us.

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

Reverend Mike Sigler begins as our interim tomorrow, January 1. He will have office hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday's from 10:00am till noon. Feel free to stop in!

One of the things he is excited to begin is a Bible Study, and would like to know what time would be most suitable, along with how many may be interested in participating. Located in the narthex is a sign-up for anyone who would like to attend. Please notate morning/afternoon or either.

The pastor would also like for the church to begin the monthly Social Hour before worship. Council will be hosting one next Sunday, beginning at 8:15am. Please stop in the library/blue room, meet the pastor and enjoy this time of fellowship before the service.

January 1 thru December 28, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 27      Offering ~ \$ 1,160.00

Income \$ 219,488.37    Expense \$ 227,107.78

Net Income \$ - 7,619.41

Daycare ~ Income \$ 335,974.91    Expense \$ 347,318.35

Net Income \$ - 11,343.44

## St. John's Lutheran Church Belleville, PA



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