



THE GOSPEL NEWS

DECEMBER



**Sunday Worship
10 a.m.**

FROM THE PASTOR...



Embracing Christ's Coming in This Advent Season

The time of Advent is one where we can think of Jesus' coming in several different ways. We can focus first on his coming to Bethlehem some 2,000 years ago. We will think of this emphasis on December 10 along with a Christmas program featuring the background of one of the popular Christmas songs, "Silent Night."

We can also think of our Lord's coming in the sense of his coming again. Jesus has promised that he will return. We must all be waiting in eager anticipation of his return.

Finally, we can also think of Jesus' coming into our individual lives. God would desire to make a manger in our hearts for us to receive the Christ-child along with all the gifts that come from his presence. May his birth be something special in your heart at this time of the year!

I am pleased to see the response to helping with our Toy Drive this year to provide gifts for the children of parents coming to Elsie's Pantry. The gifts will be distributed on Saturday, December 16. All of our preparation in Advent will culminate with our Christmas Eve worship on December 24 at 4 p.m. There will be **no service** in the morning on Sunday, December 24.

Pastor Marty

"Continuing Our Journey"

"Trust. Pray. And thank God for his blessings along the way"

A Holy Baptism



We welcomed Ryan Tu O'Leary into our church family on November 19th. Ryan's parents are Kevin and Yue O'Leary. His sponsors Kellie DeVries and Patrick O'Leary promised to see he is brought up knowing God.

An Excerpt from Christ in Our Home

Praise!

Some of you might have already read this paragraph in the Christ in our Home book. This seems like a way to calm down in our busy life style at this time of year (or any time of year) and praising God at the same time.

"Amen. Hallelujah" is a beautiful breath prayer. Breathe deeply and slowly saying or thinking "Amen" on the inhale and "Hallelujah" on the exhale. How glorious our lives would be if this were our never-ending praise.

Weekly Donations



Please remember to keep your offerings current. If you are not going to be in church, please mail your offerings in or make it up when you return. We are running a tight budget and your regular offering is needed and appreciated.

Terry LeGrand

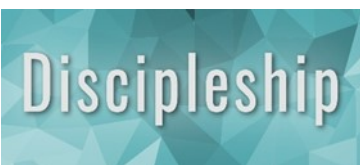
Financial Secretary

Roof Repair



This is a picture of the work that was done on the northeast corner of our roof by Tom Metlow. He worked a number of days on this project.

Discipleship Group is doing a Study on Book of Ruth



The Discipleship Group will be meeting on January 11 at 7 p.m. on **Zoom**. We will be having our second session on the study of the Book of Ruth from the Book of Faith Initiative of the ELCA.

Secret Angel Toy Drive



As you can see we still have a few children's names on the board for the Secret Angel Toy Drive. Hopefully these will be selected so that every child does get a gift.

Businesses We Use And Can Recommend

Executive Green Carpet Cleaning 708-599-5151

Chicagoland Heating & Air Conditioning 708-425-0600

Bridgeview Roofing (Tom Metlow) 708-710-7663

K & O Decorating (inside and outside painting) (Ken Osborne) 708-598-3209

True Green Spraying Service (Lawn Weed Control) 888-571-3427

Ted's Plumbing & Sewer (Curt Kunz) 708-846-0525

Roy Sanchez Paving (Commercial Paving) 708-535-0877

Legacy Paving (Rigo Sanchez) (Residential) 708-596-2500

Cristina Lungu (Home Products) www.amway.com/myshop/cristinalungu

Alonso (Clean up & Lawn Care) 708-769-2931

Catering by Diane 708-361-3353 www.cateringbydiane.net

FLV Landscaping 708-986-8104

Smitty's Tree Service 708-954-1794

Flora Designs by Donna 708-586-2107

Dennis Hannigan Electric 708-227-3714

J & S Painting & Remodeling (Jim Carlson, Jr.) 708-638-2344

DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW, GOD IS ALREADY THERE!

Lord,

I feel afraid and insecure as I face my future. I come before You to lay my fear and anxiety at your feet.

Help me to look at life with trust and hope and to experience Your presence in all of my problems and hardships.





December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Decorate Church	4	5	6	7 Elsie's Pantry 2-4 p.m.	8	9 Pageant & Chimers rehearsals 11
10 Christmas Pageant & Christmas Service	11	12	13	14 Elsie's Pantry 2-4 p.m. Worship Planning 11 a.m.	15 Childrens Present Wrapping 1 p.m.	16 Children's Present Give Away 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
17	18	19	20	21 Elsie's Pantry 2-4 p.m. Choir 11 a.m.	22	23
24 Service 4 p.m. 	25 	26	27	28 Elsie's Pantry 2-4 p.m.	29	30
31 Service 10 a.m. 						

Worship Schedule December 2023/January 2024

DATE	ASSISTANT	LECTOR	LECTOR	REMOTE	USHERS	COUNTER	CAMERA
12/3 First Sunday of Advent	Vicki Doherty	Paul Wackenhuth	Terry LeGrand	Cathi Predl	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla
12/10 Second Sunday of Advent	Bob Good	Linda Good	John Vanecko	Ursula Bittermann	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla
12/17 Third Sunday of Advent	Susan Adamek	Linda Good	Susan Adamek	Vicki Doherty	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla
12/24 Christmas Eve	Jan Beckman	Vicki Doherty	Jan Beckman	Cathi Predl	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla
12/31 Second Sunday of Christmas	Vicki Doherty	Jill Cottrell	Cathi Predl	Ursula Bittermann	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla
1/7 Baptism of our Lord	Linda Good	Jeff Psolla	Terry LeGrand	Vicki Doherty	Matt Birk	Terry LeGrand	Jeff Psolla