



# The Eagle

A Publication of St. John's Lutheran Church in Albany, NY

December 2024

## From the Pastor

One of my favorite excerpts from the writings of the late Howard Thurman, a well-known Black theologian, educator, and civil rights leader, goes like this:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with  
their flocks,  
the work of Christmas begins:  
to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among the people,  
to make music in the heart.*

When you put it that way, it's like the "work of Christmas" is the work of the church year-round.

At Christmas, we celebrate the eternal Word of God, taking on human flesh and bone in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, who comes to dwell with us, who "moves into the neighborhood" (as Eugene Peterson's *Message* paraphrase of the Bible puts it). At Christmas, we remember how much God so loves the world that God chose to become one of us, to live with us, in spite of everything.

No matter what's going on in the world, in our neighborhoods, in our churches, or in our homes, *this work of the church continues*. Whether we are preparing a meal for our siblings right here in Albany who find refuge at the overflow homeless shelter, or we are putting together gift boxes for seafarers from around the world whom we might never meet, we are doing the work of the church – at Christmastime and beyond. This is the work of embodying Christ's love in our communities to which each of us, right where we are, is called.

Over the next few weeks, as the Christmas season kicks into gear, we'll have several opportunities to gather together as the people of God for worship, fellowship, and service – our second annual Advent Fest, midweek compline with Albany Lutherans Together, a Blue Christmas/Longest Night service with our ministry partners at Good Shepherd, our AMAZING all-ages Christmas pageant, and of course, that "silent night, holy night" of Christmas Eve worship.

There is truly a place for YOU this season at St. John's. I look forward to seeing you there!

*~ In hope, Pastor Josh +*



## Celebrate the Season!

**Compline for Advent:**  
December 4, 11 & 18 @ 8 pm

**Advent Fest**  
December 7 @ 11 am

**Blue Christmas**  
December 21 @ 4 pm

**Christmas Pageant**  
December 22 @ 9:30 am

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
December 24 @ 7 pm

**Lessons & Carols**  
December 29 @ 9:30 am



Our Mission: Worship God. Serve Faithfully. Reach Out.

Phone: 518.465.7545 | Website: [stjohnsalbany.org](http://stjohnsalbany.org)  
Street Address: 303 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5085, Albany, NY 12205





## Compline for Advent: December 4, 11 & 18

Be part of a brief contemplative service of night prayer (compline) with the congregations of Albany Lutherans Together this Advent. **Join us for Advent Compline on Wednesdays, December 4, 11 & 18 from 8:00-8:30 pm.** Join via Zoom: [FirstLutheranAlbany.org/Zoom](https://FirstLutheranAlbany.org/Zoom) or by phone at 929-436-2866: Meeting ID: 518-463-1326 / enter Passcode: 1. **Begin the season of Advent with your ALT family!**

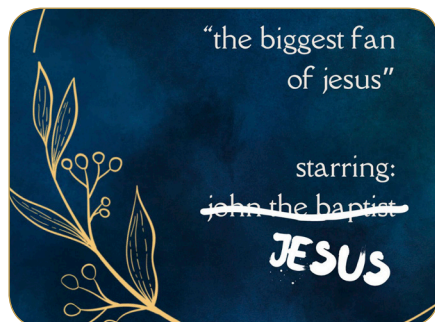


## Christmas Pageant: December 22

On December 22, the last Sunday of Advent, we'll perform this year's Christmas pageant – "The Biggest Fan of Jesus" – and you don't want to miss it! It will definitely put you in the spirit of the season.

Rehearsals began November 10 and continue on these dates:  
• December 7: during Advent Fest  
• December 8 & 15: after church  
**Thanks to all who have a part!**

Be sure to check out the photos from last year's Christmas Pageant on page 7, then join us again!



## Don't Miss Advent Fest: December 7 @ 11 am

Join us for our 2nd Annual Advent Fest on Saturday, December 7, from 11:00 am-2:00 pm! (Please note adjusted time.) We'll gather together to enjoy lunch, decorate our Christmas tree, make simple holiday crafts, and sing carols in the spirit of the season. Afterward we'll have a rehearsal for our all-ages Christmas Pageant. **Contact Pastor Josh if you can help! See page 3 for All Things Advent.**



## Christmas Eve Worship: December 24 @ 7 pm

Come celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the good news of great joy for all people. **Gather with us on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, for our "Christ Mass" liturgy in celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord.** Featuring special pre-service music by the St. John's Collegium and the beloved tradition of singing "Silent Night" in the soft glow of candlelight, this service is not to be missed. **Join us in person or online at 7:00 pm.**



## Blue Christmas at Good Shepherd: December 21

A Blue Christmas service will be hosted by Good Shepherd and co-led by Pastor Josh Evans and Pastor Lowell Chilton on Saturday, December 21, at 4:00 pm. This liturgy focuses on offering prayers for those for whom this season is not a time of joy. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, lack of or distance from family or friends, living with illness, or feeling pressured and overwhelmed can result in holidays becoming painful for many people in our congregations and communities. It's a witness to them that the Christ child is a sign of hope in the face of despair.



## A Service of Lessons & Carols: December 29

Joy to the world! **The celebration of Christmas continues with a Service of Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 29, at 9:30 am.** Come hear the stories of our faith from the Hebrew scriptures and Christian gospels, sing some favorite Christmas carols, and share the meal of Holy Communion together.





## More Than Words: Weekly Devotions for Advent



Dive deeper into our Advent theme and words this year with weekly devotions, on your own or with your family.

Each week includes a selection from Sunday's scripture readings; a short reflection exploring the week's theme; a weekly prompt for prayer, journaling, or meditation; a prayer; other words from sacred or secular sources reflecting on the theme; and six short verses of daily scripture to inspire you throughout the week. Explore it all, or choose your own adventure! The best devotional resource is the one you actually use, so integrate these devotions into your spiritual practice in the way that best supports your life. [Download the devotional here.](#) We'll also have a few printed copies available at church.

### Weeks of Advent

- Nov. 10: First Sunday – Care
- Nov. 17: Second Sunday – Faith
- Nov. 24: Third Sunday – Justice
- Dec. 1: Fourth Sunday – Hope
- Dec. 8: Fifth Sunday – Peace
- Dec. 15: Sixth Sunday – Joy
- Dec. 22: Seventh Sunday – Love



## Submit Christmas Memorials by December 16; Forms are Online, at Church, Attached to Issue

The church office is accepting Christmas memorials which are used to purchase poinsettias. All orders must be received by Monday, December 16. Donations may be made [online](#) (using the fund "Flower Contributions") or by cash/check in the church office, where there are forms available. An order form is also attached to the back of this newsletter. **Please fill out a new form for each memorial.** Questions may be directed to [Maggie Anderson](#) or by calling 518-465-7545.



## Ambulances for Advent Giving Challenge

Join your fellow congregations of the Upstate New York Synod in the bishop's Advent giving challenge as we raise money for new ambulances for our global companion church in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe. Each ambulance costs approximately \$40,000, and our synod is looking to raise enough support for a total of four ambulances. Ambitious? Maybe. Achievable? Absolutely – especially when we are church together!



In December, when you make a donation of any amount (suggested: \$20), pick up an ambulance "ornament," write your name on it, and help us trim our giving tree on the wall in the kitchen. Give online at [stjohnsalbany.org/give](http://stjohnsalbany.org/give) (select "Upstate New York Synod" from the funds) or by cash/check (payable to St. John's with "Synod Advent Appeal" on the memo line). **All donations must be received by December 31 to be included in St. John's collective gift to the synod.** Thank you for your support of our siblings in Christ in Zimbabwe!

## A Place to Be: Generosity Appeal 2024

Thank you to everyone who has already set your intentions for the year ahead together and for pledging your support to the ministry of St. John's and the mission of the gospel in this time and place. **If you have not already done so, we encourage you to fill out an intent card as soon as possible** – either online at [stjohnsalbany.org/generosity](http://stjohnsalbany.org/generosity) or by using a printed form from the office. Your generosity helps us to be able to plan our ministry and be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. Thank you for making this a place to BE!





## Join Us for Faith on Tap

LCHS & St. John’s invite you to join us for good conversation about faith and life, as well as delicious local brews (soft drinks also available), at the Warbler Brewery (155 Delaware Ave., Delmar). BYO dinner from a local restaurant (there are three in the same strip as Warbler). **The next two Faith on Taps will be held on Wednesday, December 4, from 5:00-6:30 pm (note special time) and Wednesday, January 8, (second Wednesday) from 6:30-8:00 pm.**

Tap into a new time in December and a new date in January!



## NRSVUE Orders due Jan. 5

The newly updated version of the widely-used translation of the Bible – the **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV, now NRSVUE)** – is now available in print. The NRSVUE reflects discoveries of ancient texts and new insights and offers clearer, more direct, and inclusive language, and increased cultural sensitivity. This version gives English Bible readers access to the most meticulously researched, rigorously reviewed, and faithfully accurate translation on the market. It is also the most ecumenical Bible, with acceptance by Christian churches of Protestant, Anglican, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, African American, and Evangelical traditions – and it is the version we use in our worship services at St. John’s.

**Opportunities are now available to sponsor a pew edition for use at St. John’s and/or to purchase a personal/gift copy.**

Pew editions are available for \$17 each; personal/gift editions are \$20.

Fill out an order form [online](#), pick up a printed form at church, or use the one on the back page of this newsletter. **All orders must be received by Sunday, January 5.**

## Miss the Cantata November 24? Catch it Now

On Sunday, November 24, Saint John’s Collegium premiered Music Director Dan Foster’s new Thanksgiving Cantata – Psalm 136 – “Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!” Inspired primarily by the music of Jean Baptiste Lully and that greatest of all composers and Lutheran, Johann Sebastian Bach, Dan composed a cantata in the Baroque style. It contained choruses, arias, and a duet. **If you weren’t able to attend – or you were fortunate enough to be there in person and want to treat yourself to it again – you can view our [worship video from Sunday, November 24](#).** (You’re welcome!)

## Messages in the Post-Election Season



The following is a brief excerpt from “Four Messages for Children, Teens, and Families in the Post-Election Season” by the Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade, ELCA pastor and seminary professor. For the full article, [CLICK HERE](#).

The 2024 election season has been one of the most contentious in American history. Children, teens, and their families may be

looking to their pastors and congregations for guidance on what to know and how to respond to the results of the election. Even more importantly, they need insights about how their faith can shape their actions at home, school, and in church, especially given the divisiveness they may be seeing in their communities....

So how can ministry leaders talk with children, teens, and families about the election results in a way that conveys a non-anxious presence as well as a strong faith in an uncertain time? **I suggest four messages that clergy and other congregational leaders can communicate to children, youth, and their loved ones in the post-election season:**

Message 1: Every person matters to God. So be a good neighbor.

Message 2: God wants us and others to be safe.

Message 3: Our words matter to God.

Message 4: Even though the election season brought out the worst in some people, it also brought out the best in others.

**Here are three additional things to keep in mind when talking to your children, youth, and families in this post-election season:**

1. Be cautious about insisting that people need to “come together” when safety is at risk.
2. The liturgy is God’s holding space for us.
3. The work of the church is ongoing, no matter the outcome of the election.

*“God is still at work in the world despite of – and even in the midst of – our political divides.... As we see from Jesus’s ministry, he continued his work of preaching, teaching, feeding, and healing, no matter who was in power” ~ Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade*



## Thank You's!

*Special thanks this month to ...*

- **Nick Klapp** for helping to move *all the things* to and from the chapel, including the return of our worship leader chairs from our historic sanctuary (see photo on page 7) and a new-to-us bookshelf for the coat "room" area.
- **Everyone who helped prepare the CACC shelter meal on November 26**, including **Karen Bielinski** and **ALL** who assisted!
- **Karisa Centanni** for stepping up to help with leading Sunday School and **Paige Pierle** for her continued leadership.



## Remembering Saints

During All Saints Sunday on November 3, we remembered all those who have died this year:

- Raymond Heitzman
- Steve Bielinski
- Gloria Fraley
- The Rev. Abelina Centeno de Gómez (El Salvador)
- Jeff Beyer
- Anna Theresa Evans
- Deaconess Julie Hinz
- Patricia Cavallaro
- John Cavallaro
- Annmarie Ferriero



## In Our Prayers

*For whom or what shall we pray?*

- For the **family and friends of Jim Netzer**, who died on Saturday, November 9, after a brief hospitalization. Jim had been serving as an assigned synod authorized minister at Gilead Lutheran Church in Center Brunswick, and is the cousin of St. John's members Lois White and Dianne Guarneri.
- For **Sheryl and Mike Centanni, and their family**, as they grieve the death of Sheryl's mother, Marilyn Lynn, who died on Friday, November 15. A funeral service will be held at St. John's in the coming weeks and will be shared.
- For **Sharon Mack (sister of Carolyn Lander, aunt of Maura)** who has been diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer.

## Grief Resources

Especially during the holidays, grief can be hard. Whether you are grieving the recent death of a loved one, marking the anniversary of a death, or could just use extra support, **let us accompany you:**

- *Journeying Through Grief* is a set of four short books, designed to be given to people at four times during the first year after the loss of a loved one (though it could be helpful at any time). Each book focuses on the feelings and issues a person is likely to be experiencing at that point in their grief – offering comfort, help, and hope through that difficult first year. If you or a loved one could benefit from these books (free of charge), **please let us know.**
- Pastor Josh Evans is available for one-on-one pastoral care and prayer. **Email Josh** or call/text him at 518-250-9098 at any time to set a time to talk. *You are not alone.*

## Poinsettia Delivery

We would really appreciate your help delivering a poinsettia or two to our homebound, hospitalized or bereaving members.



The plants will be available to take following Christmas Eve service or on Thursday, December 26.

Please call the church office at 518-465-7545 to offer your assistance.

## Homebound Members

This holiday season, please remember those in our St. John's community who are homebound. If you'd like to send them a card, call them, or visit them, and you need their contact info, email [Maggie](mailto:Maggie) or call 518-465-7545.

## Future ALT Collections



Thank you for your generosity this past year! Albany Lutherans Together (ALT) has supported the work of ELCA World Hunger, students at Giffen Memorial & Delaware Community Schools in Albany, guests of the CACC Emergency Homeless Overflow Shelter, and global seafarers through Albany Maritime Ministry's Christmas-at-Sea program. We are grateful for our ministry and generosity made stronger together! **We look forward to our shared Lenten appeal, beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 5).**

*"Those humble, quiet, behind-the-scenes people are the reason anything ever gets done." ~ Terri Guillemets*



## AMM Advent Open House on December 1

You're invited to the Albany Maritime Ministry (AMM) Advent Open House on Sunday, December 1, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Come to this annual event at the Seafarers' Center (109 Smith Blvd., Albany) to see what they do, connect with supporters and volunteers from other churches, and drop off Christmas-at-Sea gifts if you haven't done so. (See page 5 of our [November newsletter](#) for details about the [Christmas-at-Sea donations](#)).

### Albany Maritime Ministry



## AMM Beer and Carols on December 16

Join us on Monday, December 16, from 5:00-8:00 pm at The Warbler Brewery in Delmar for the Albany Maritime Ministry (AMM) Second Annual Beer and Carols event. We'll sing your favorite carols, enjoy tasty beers (or wine, cider, or soda), and have a great time supporting the hospitality mission of the AMM. Doors open at 5:00 pm, we'll sing from 5:30-7:30 pm (with a break in the middle) and the brewery will close at 8:00 pm. The Warbler sells pizza slices from Adriano's Pizza and welcomes bringing in food.



## Calling All of Our Thrivent Members!

Do you like free money? Do you like supporting the ministries of St. John's? Then Thrivent Action Grants are for you! As a Thrivent member, you are eligible to apply for two mini-grants of \$250 each per year. If you still have grants available, please consider applying so we can use the money for upcoming outreach initiatives, including our Albany Maritime Ministry's Christmas-at-Sea gift boxes (see page 5 of our [November newsletter](#) for more details about this ministry). Learn more about Thrivent Action Grants [HERE](#). If you have questions about applying or have Thrivent-specific questions, please don't hesitate to contact [Lindsay Stannard](#).

## Need 2025 Calendars



We are collecting 2025 calendars for Rehabilitation Support Services (RSS) clients to track appointments, meds. Please place them in Chapel.

## A Note About Winter Weather Closures

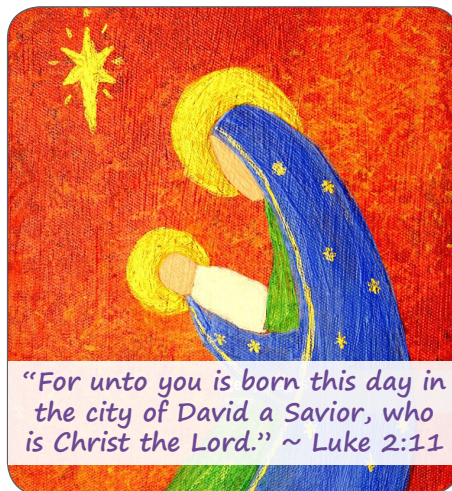
The safety of our community members is our priority. In the event of inclement weather that requires the cancellation of a liturgy or other church event, we will communicate that news promptly via email and local news media. Information will also be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, as well on our phone recording.



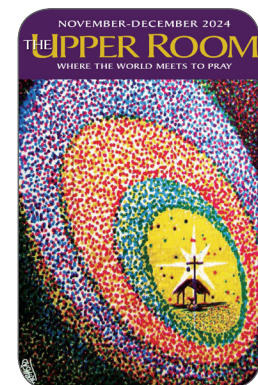
## Happy Birthday!

- December 9 Nadine Krantz
- December 15 Lena Pierle
- December 19 Bob Baldwin
- December 19 Freddy Boyzer
- December 19 Kelly Conley
- December 22 Alan Heitzman

*"The aging process has you firmly in its grasp if you never get the urge to throw a snowball." ~ Doug Larson*



## Your Daily Devotions



You can pick up the November-December edition of The Upper Room at church or [read it online](#).

Want us to mail you a copy? Please contact [Maggie](#).

**Note about celebrating our members' birthdays:** If you prefer *not* to have your birthday shared in *The Eagle*, please contact [Pr. Josh](#). If we *missed* your birthday, we apologize! Please let us know if you'd like it shared in the next issue.



AT LEFT: Check out our new (old) chairs! With thanks to Nick Klapp, Karen Bielinski, and Dan Foster, a piece of St. John's history – the leader chairs from our historic sanctuary at 160 Central Avenue – are out of storage and in our chapel.



AT RIGHT: Our altar is ready for Advent. Come celebrate the season with your faith family at St. John's!



## Flashback Photos: Journey Down Memory Lane This Holiday Season!



Nothing puts us in the spirit of the season more than Advent Fest, and 2023 was no exception. Be sure to join us for this year's Advent Fest on Saturday, December 7, from 11 am to 2 pm for some crafting, cookies and Christ-centered fun!



Our Christmas Pageants are another way to fill your heart with the wonder of Christmas. Last year's pageant truly delivered, as will this year's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 22. Don't miss "The Biggest Fan of Jesus!"



## Block Out Volunteer Dates by December 15

If you are a Worship Volunteer, this is reminder to submit block out dates for January by Sunday, December 15. You can use [Planning Center Services](#) or [email Pastor Josh](#).



## Year-End Giving Reminders

Donations for 2024 must be received by December 31 in order to be posted to your donor record/ giving statement for this year.

If you give online at [stjohnsalbany.org/give](http://stjohnsalbany.org/give), credit card, debit card, and ACH bank transfer donations all get a "received date" as soon as you click the "Give \$ Now" button. If that happens before the clock strikes midnight in your local time zone on December 31, then the donation will be counted for 2024. Online donations cannot be backdated. Online giving is always the easiest and most secure option. Need help setting it up? Talk to [Pastor Josh](#).

If you prefer to give by mail, the US Treasury Department's rule (Treasury Regulation 1.170A-1(b)) states that a donation is considered delivered when it is postmarked by the USPS. All checks received by mail will be posted based on the postmarked date, not the date on the check. As always, we are so incredibly grateful for your generosity that allows us to do the ministry we do. Thank you!

Church office closed December 25 through January 1. In the event of an urgent pastoral concern, call Pastor Josh at 518-250-9098.

## Worship at St. John's

To worship online, visit: [youtube.com/@StJohnsAlbany](https://youtube.com/@StJohnsAlbany)

Watching online? Let us know you're here through "[Online Worship Attendance](#)" page.

Follow along with the liturgy: [stjohnsalbany.org/bulletin](http://stjohnsalbany.org/bulletin)

Miss a Sunday? [Download our FREE app](#) for quick links to livestreamed worship services, sermon blog and podcast.

Newcomers: Get connected ... with our [Get Connected page](#).

[Support our ministry](#) online.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, AT 11:00 AM. Stay after worship and be part of this important "family" meeting!

## Stay Connected!

Facebook: [facebook.com/StJohnsAlbany](https://facebook.com/StJohnsAlbany)

Website: [stjohnsalbany.org](http://stjohnsalbany.org)



YouTube: [youtube.com/@StJohnsAlbany](https://youtube.com/@StJohnsAlbany)

Email: [office@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:office@stjohnsalbany.org)



## Eagle Deadline

Please note: Submissions for the January 2025 edition of *The Eagle* are due by Friday, December 13. [Submit your announcement\(s\) online](#) or contact the church office. Thanks for staying connected!

## Church Staff & Leaders

The Rev. Josh Evans  
Pastor  
[pastorjosh@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:pastorjosh@stjohnsalbany.org)

Dan Foster  
Director of Music  
[danfoster@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:danfoster@stjohnsalbany.org)

Maggie Anderson  
Community Care Coordinator (Parish Secretary)  
[parishsec@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:parishsec@stjohnsalbany.org)

Paige Pierle  
Sunday School Teacher  
[ppierle@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ppierle@nycap.rr.com) OR  
[sundayschool@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:sundayschool@stjohnsalbany.org)

Lindsay Stannard  
Council President  
[lindsaymstannard@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaymstannard@gmail.com)

*Please feel free to reach out to your church staff at any time! We want to connect with YOU.*

## Church Office Hours

**Monday**  
Pastor Josh Evans  
10 AM – 4 PM  
Maggie Anderson  
12 PM – 4 PM

**Tuesday – Thursday**  
Pastor Josh Evans  
10 AM – 4 PM

**Friday**  
Maggie Anderson  
10 AM – 4 PM

*Please call ahead before you go to ensure someone is in the office.*



## Contact Our Council

You can email St. John's Council at [council@stjohnsalbany.org](mailto:council@stjohnsalbany.org) and your message will be sent to all of our Council members. It's one-stop-shopping (er, sending) for communicating with our Council!





# SERVING IN WORSHIP

## We Need Your Help to Make Worship Happen!

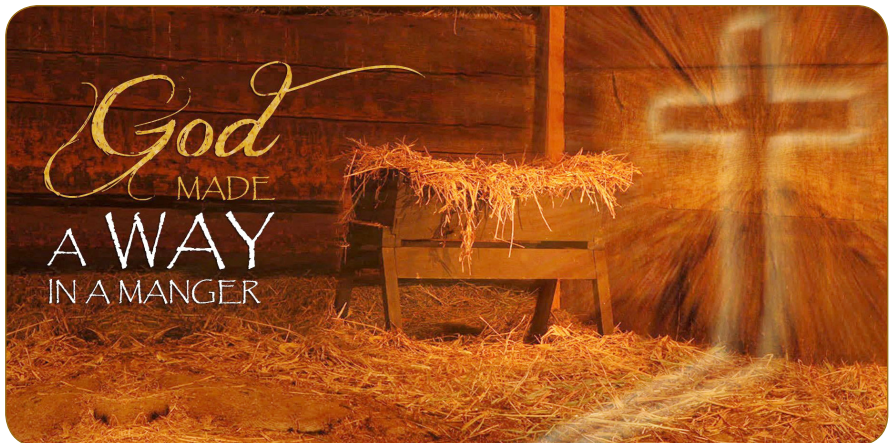
There's a role for everyone in Sunday worship, and we're always eager to welcome new volunteers. Whether front-and-center as an assisting minister or behind-the-scenes on altar guild, there's a role for you! Simply [contact Pastor Josh](#) if you'd like more details. **Can't make your scheduled date?** Please contact BOTH [Maggie](#) AND [Pastor Josh](#).

### DECEMBER 2024 • Worship Services at 9:30 am

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
<i>Presiding Minister</i>	Pr. Josh Evans	Pr. Josh Evans	Pr. Josh Evans	Pr. Josh Evans	Pr. Josh Evans
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Lindsay Stannard	Paula Schwab	Karen Bielinski	Lindsay Stannard	Karen Bielinski
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Dan Foster	Dan Foster	Dan Foster	Dan Foster	Dan Foster
<i>Reader</i>	Thaisa Beach	Lindsay Stannard	Avery Heaney	Melissa Savage	Thaisa Beach Melissa Savage Karen Bielinski
<i>Communion Assist.</i>	Karen Bielinski	Joy Pierle	Lindsay Stannard	Melissa Savage	Joy Pierle
<i>Sacristan (Altar Gld.)</i>	Paula Schwab	Linda Davis	Paula Schwab	Maggie Anderson	Maggie Anderson
<i>Bread Baker</i>	Karen Bielinski	Karen Bielinski	Karen Bielinski	Karen Bielinski	Karen Bielinski
<i>Livestream Tech</i>	Shea Stannard	Shea Stannard	Shea Stannard	Shea Stannard	Shea Stannard
<i>Offering Counters</i>	N/A	Karen Bielinski Shea Stannard	N/A	Linda Davis Lindsay Stannard	Jerry Schwab Karen Seiz

### CHRISTMAS EVE • at 7:00 pm

<i>Presiding Minister</i>	Pr. Josh Evans
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Lindsay Stannard
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Dan Foster
<i>Reader</i>	Karen Bielinski Lindsay Stannard
<i>Communion Assist.</i>	Karen Bielinski
<i>Sacristan (Altar Gld.)</i>	Paula Schwab
<i>Bread Baker</i>	Karen Bielinski
<i>Livestream Tech</i>	Shea Stannard



## Calendar ~ December 2024

### Sunday, December 1

1:00 pm: AMM Advent Open House  
at Seafarers' Center

### Wednesday, December 4

5:00 pm: Faith on Tap at Warbler  
8:00 pm: Compline for Advent: Zoom

### Saturday, December 7

11:00 am: Advent Fest

### Wednesday, December 11

8:00 pm: Compline for Advent: Zoom

### Monday, December 16

5:00 pm: AMM 2nd Annual Beer and  
Carols at Warbler Brewery

### Wednesday, December 18

8:00 pm: Compline for Advent: Zoom

### Saturday, December 21

4:00 pm: Blue Christmas Service  
at Good Shepherd

### Sunday, December 22

9:30 am: Christmas Pageant

### Tuesday, December 24

**Christmas Eve**  
7:00 pm: WORSHIP

### Wednesday, December 25

**Christmas Day (No worship service)**  
Office Closed through January 1

### Sunday, December 29

9:30 am: WORSHIP: A Service of  
Lessons & Carols

### Tuesday, December 31

**New Year's Eve**





# Christmas Memorials

Please fill out a new form for each memorial.  
All memorials must be received by Monday, December 16.

Donations may be made online (using the fund "Flower Contributions") or by cash/check in the church office.



Scan to donate

Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please write your name as you would like it printed, or write "anonymous" if you do not wish to appear by name.*

In memory of     In honor of     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please write your memorial as you would like it printed.*

Return completed form to the church office or mail to:  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 5085  
Albany, New York 12205



# NRSVUE Bible Order

Use this form to sponsor a pew Bible OR purchase a personal/gift copy.

Pay online (scan the QR code below) or by cash/check to the church office.

Orders must be received by Sunday, January 5.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ pew Bible(s). (\$17 each)

**Sponsorship information (optional):**

*(i.e. "Given by [your name] in [memory/honor] of [name(s) or special occasion]" )*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ personal/gift copies. (\$20 each)

Scan to pay online:



Return completed form  
to the church office  
or mail to:

St. John's Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 5085  
Albany, New York 12205