

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 913-634-7131	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 443-286-5511
M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Scott Becker, Sexton

For emergencies call 443-844-9314
*****The Pastors are off on Fridays****



Christmas Day Service

December 25, 2022



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville
www.stjohnsparkville.org
(410) 665-1234
office@stjohnsparkville.org
Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

 [stjohnsparkville](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsparkville)  [St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsLutheranChurchParkville)  [stjohnsparkvil1](https://twitter.com/stjohnsparkvil1)

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now.

Emboldened by the good news of Christ’s birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of “the salvation of our God.” O come, let us adore him!

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

(Please stand as you are able.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

God of life,
**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

This week's schedule

Today	10 am Live Worship
Mon.	office closed
Tues.	
Wed.	
Thurs.	
Fri.	
Sat.	New Year’s Eve

Counting our Blessings

Sun. 12/18	Attendance: 145 Offering: 11,973 Homebound: 18	2022	
		November Offering Income	\$23,272
		November Other Income	\$ 5,956
		November Total Income	\$29,228
		November Expenses	\$26,853
		YTD Offering Income	\$228,363
		YTD Other Income	\$ 26,096
		YTD Total Income	\$254,459
		YTD Expenses	\$326,976



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Ruth Skarda, Janet Roth, Gladys Downs, Bill Spink, Raymond Miller, Matthew Miller, Bill & Bonnie Rogers, Jim Morrow, Mardi Nickel, Kim Townsley, Thomas McDonough, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Audrey Vargo, Jeanne Hartman, Darlene Wilder, Rebecca Hornbarger, Franny Burk, Livie Bach, Bob Murphy, Jen Schoenfliess, Pearl Johnson, Sharon Hunt, Lee Hall, Patricia Kuklinski, Judy Taylor, Sean Pullen, John Bowman, Norma Weber, Rejena Hartlove, Chuck Miller, Jeanne Edmunds, John Miller, Arlo Jones, Denise Ferguson, Mary Jo Rother, Bonnie Kellner, Kristin Weger, Linda Fliegel, Helen Bender and Doug Adams

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Patricia Sollanek

For St. John's Caring Friends: Trudy Anderson, Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *O Come All Ye Faithful* **ELW 283 (vv. 1-2)**
(Text and music: attr. John Frances Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880)

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All-powerful God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of despair, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)* **Psalm 97**

The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**
Fire goes before the LORD,
burning up enemies on every side.
**Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.**
The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.
**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.**
Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.
**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.**

For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

You who love the LORD, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.

**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Spoken)

Alleluia. A holy day has dawned upon us.

Come, you nations, and adore the Lord.

For today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

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

Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, January 1st—Lessons and Carols

There will be no communion

† No Sunday School or Faith & Fellowship

† 10 am—**Worship in-person** and **livestreamed on our YouTube Channel** at stjohns lutheran church parkville md.



We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: January 15th, February 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, April 9th, 16th and 23rd, June 4th, 18th, and 25th, July 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Food for Thought Program is in great need of: **Chef Boyardee single serving meals, peanut butter crackers, breakfast bars and cookies.** We pack two bags of food for the weekend for 18– 25 children each week, therefore our supply is depleted quickly. Please help if you can!



Save the Date for St. John's 4th Annual Bull and Shrimp Roast. Friday, February 17, 2023 from 6:30 pm—10:30 pm at Columbus Gardens. Flyers are located on the counter outside of the Sanctuary, on the website and in the weekly emails.

Venmo is Here! We are happy to announce that you can give your offering using Venmo. Enter [@stjohnsparkville](https://www.venmo.com/@stjohnsparkville) in the Venmo App or scan the QR code.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer,
You have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

*The Lord now bless and keep you; God's love in you increase
By God's own face, with shining grace, grant you eternal peace
To Father, Son, and Spirit, eternal One-in-Three
Be thanks and praise through all our days, into eternity. Amen.*

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Come All Ye Faithful

ELW 283 (vv. 3-4)

(Text and music: attr. John Frances Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

*(An offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of God's Church.)
(Please stand as you are able.)*

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Let us pray together.

**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 assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.