

Service of Lessons and Carols

December 28, 2025



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.

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.

Service of Lessons and Carols

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Mary, Did You Know?* *Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist*
(Words and music: Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene; CCLI Song # 839225© 1991, 1993 Rufus Music | Curb Word Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 11527942)

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN *Once in Royal David's City* *ELW 269*
(Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876)

DIALOGUE

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.

**We have beheld Christ's glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**In the Word was life,
and the life was the light of all people.**

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 *God promises a king*
Response: *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming* *ELW 272*

(Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 2.; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4; Music: Alte catholische geistliche Kirchen gesange, Koln, 1599; arr. Micharl Praetorius, 1571-1621)

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Scott Becker, Sexton	

For emergencies call 443-844-9314

*****The Pastors are off on Fridays****



Notice of live streaming:

Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.



stjohnsparkville



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville

Blessed are you, Prince of peace.
You rule the earth with truth and justice.
Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary.
You share our humanity.
**Have mercy on the sick, the dying,
and all who suffer this day.**
Blessed are you, Son of God.
You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.
**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament
that we may bear your light to all the world.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child.
Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

A few notes from your Financial Secretary:

It's that time of the year already. Just sending along some friendly reminders to you about your 2025 giving:

- Please make sure that any final 2025 contributions you wish to make to St. John's are placed in the offering plate or received by the church office no later than Sunday, December 28th. Our final count and deposit, which will include any contributions received through December 28th, will be done the morning of Monday, December 29th. All contributions received in 2025 will be included on your 2025 Contribution Report. Reports will be generated and mailed to you in mid-January.
- Our Simply Giving program continues to be available to you in making contributions to St. John's. If you are interested in signing up, you may do so at any time. Please feel free to send me an email at haackefamily@comcast.net or give me a call at 410-661-8970 and I will send a form to you for you to complete. If you have any questions about filling out the form or the program, please let me know. I'm happy to help.
- In addition to regular envelope and Simply Giving offerings, you may give by way of credit card or Venmo through our website at www.stjohnsparkville.org. (For Venmo, you may also just enter @stjohnsparkville if you have the Venmo App.)

On behalf of our Church, thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Stay safe and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

Debra Haacke



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Bender Family, Nancy Ford, Gerry Steg, Barbara Conrad, Lou Carletti, Landon Ullmann, John McLaughlin, Barbara Mueller, Tony Jasinski, Danyiel Cleckley, Pat Denk, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Bill Fliegel, Marion McDonough, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Owen Hastings, Peggy Van Houten, Lou Ermer, Roxann Kelly, Joong In Rhee, Phyllis Gray, Bill Denk, Judy Miller, Hubie Tarbo, Abby Chamberlain, Bunny Russell, Jerry Earles, Lynette Earles, Bill Beck, Henry Davis, Donna Parrish, Brenda DeSouze, Carol Paulshock, Elaine Perzan, Debbie McWilliam, George Lotterer, Jenny Cavallero, Barb Distefano, Marilyn Baldwin, Fred Smith, Anna Meyer, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Scott Hendricks, Chuck Taylor, Jane Esterby, Patsy Smith, Marianne Widderich

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

For those grieving family & friends of: Joan Kraft, Janet Roth, Charles Bender, Richard Brooks

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, Carl Lotterer, Barbara Mueller, Paul Nolder, Doris Rye, Mildred Schaffer, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

SENDING SONG

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

(Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915)

POSTLUDE

The First Noel

James Mansfield

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Those Serving Today	
Worship Leader Acolyte	Vickie Jasinski Paige M.

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Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, January 4th—Epiphany of Our Lord

† 10 am—Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel
11:30 am—Youth Group (Youth Room)
Visit stjohnsparkville.org




The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in loving memory of Ellsworth Weant from his daughters, Cheryl and Kathy.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2026. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Dates available are January 25th, February 8th, 15th and 22nd, March 15th, 22nd and 29th, April 12th and 19th, May 3rd and 31st, June 28th, July 5th, 12th and 19th, August 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th, September 6th, 20th and 27th.


Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



 Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.


Sunday School takes place on Sunday mornings from 9 am-9:45 am. Children ages 3 through 5th grade meet on the third floor. Middle and High School students meet in the Youth Room on the second floor.



 St. John's Youth Group meets on the first Sunday of the month from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith.

Thank You to everyone who has supported the Food for Thought Program this year. Due to your generosity, our shelves are full. We will let you know when we need donations.



 Join us for our Friday morning Bible Study at 11:00 am in the Smith Building. Our study is on Philippians. All are welcome! On January 9th we will begin our new study on the Parables of Jesus.

Job Opportunity-Child Care...We're looking for a new nursery attendant! Sundays 8:30 am-11:30 am. Pay is \$15/hr. Background check provided. Contact the church office for more information.



The 2026 Offering Envelopes are here. They are on the third floor, on the counter outside of the Sanctuary. Feel free to deliver envelopes to those who are not able to pick them up.

Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, January 14th (New Date) beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors! We will need donations and volunteers. Look for the sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board. There will be NO Wednesday Night Worship in January. We will resume in February.



Our next Wednesday Night Worship will take place on Wednesday, January 14th after the Community Meal at 6:45 pm. This is a brief communion service held in the Smith Building with blended music featuring piano and/or guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors!

St. John's 7th Annual Bull and Shrimp Roast is Friday, February 6th from 6:30 pm—10:30 pm at Columbus Gardens. Contact Tony Jasinski for tickets.



Annual Report...It's that time of year. If you are responsible for preparing a Ministry Report for the Annual Report, please email your report to the church office by Friday, January 23rd. Thanks in advance!

For your information...

- † There will be No Sunday School or Faith + Fellowship on January 4th.
- † There will be No Friday Bible Study January 2nd..
- † The church office will be closed on January 1st in observance of New Years Day.
- † The Pastors will be away December 26th—January 8th. For emergencies call the church office during office hours. After hours, call the emergency number at 443-844-9314.