



# Our Saviour's Voice

[www.thechurchofoursaviour.org](http://www.thechurchofoursaviour.org)

## Yes (and No)

*"It is Advent again. We call this time Advent because it reminds us of what comes from God for the creation of his kingdom on earth. We who are here have been led in a special way to keep what is coming on our hearts and to shape ourselves according to it. ... That which is to come from God is the most important thing we have, in the past in the present as well as in the future."*

- Christoph Friedrich Blumhardt

**A**dvent is the time of year when we are anticipating and preparing for the coming of Christ. The Gospel message proclaims a time of heightened awareness, and of staying awake. That is not something new for us. In fact, isn't that how we are always called to live as followers and disciples of Jesus Christ? In that respect, Advent is a sacred time, set apart in one of the busiest seasons in worldly terms, for thoughtful reflection on our lives and what it means to practice our faith. As Blumhardt writes, our Lord Jesus is the most important thing we have. Our Lord is a blessing from God in our past, a gift from God to sustain us in the present, and our future hope, the promise of everlasting life in Him.

The power of God is a creative, life-giving presence that fills us with His love, so that we might share the love of God with all those we meet. Mary said "yes" and accepted God's life-giving presence within her. Mary gave birth to the Word made flesh, the light and life of the world, Who was, and is, and is to come – the alpha and omega. Mary's "yes" encourages each of us to say "yes" to Christ every day. Our first "yes" to Christ begins our new life in faith, trust and hope. We say "yes" to growing and transforming in Christ when we worship together, pray and study Scripture. We say "yes" to bringing new life in Christ when we put our faith into action through our ministries of love and compassion. We say "yes" to Christ's coming again into our hearts and minds, when we surrender each moment of our lives to Him, watching, waiting, and listening for His guidance. We say "yes" to God's kingdom when we respond to Christ's presence in our hearts by working for justice, and respecting the dignity of all people. We say "yes" to Christ's expansive hospitality when we welcome all in His name. Christ welcomes all as God's children, because we have all sinned and fallen short of God's goodness. We are all learning to love and forgive, just as Christ came into the world to love, forgive, and reconcile us to God the Father. Therefore, we say "yes" to God's love and forgiveness, so that we might love and forgive others as Christ taught us to do.

**P**erhaps the greater challenge for us is to learn to say "no", resisting as much as possible the temptations from the world of commerce and advertising. Saying "no" to the madness of a secular celebration of December 25<sup>th</sup> as nothing more than an excuse to get what we want, means that we have more time to say "yes" to Christ, and celebrating the gift of His constant coming. This month say "yes" to the Lord's humble, surprising, counter-cultural, and life-giving ways. Say "yes" to the perfect love, peace, and joy of the Lord Jesus!

Susan<sup>+</sup>

## Parish Nurse Corner

### Advent Thoughts & Christmas Blessings!

**D**uring this busy and stressful time of year here are some meaningful prayers and meditations I found to help focus on the "reason for the season". These come with hugs and wishes for many blessings to you all.

I have downloaded *A Different Kind of Journey* about Advent from Women of the ELCA resources--I will have copies on my Parish Nurse Bulletin Board, please help yourself!

- Carol Anton, RN  
Parish Nurse

### **An Advent Prayer and Meditation from Susan Helene Kramer (BellaOnline)**

**S**it in a quiet place and have a holiday candle lit near you if you like. Begin with slow even breathing, 2 counts in and 2 counts out. Read the following while continuing your regular breathing:

"A joyous day will soon be here  
And that's the cause of Christmas cheer  
The little Babe of Bethlehem  
Will grace us from his love within.

This child to come from heaven above  
A special gift of God's own love  
Will help us to remember while living  
That joy and fulfillment come by giving.

Let's pray and prepare as the holiday nears  
How we can share excitement and cheer  
In ways that honor the Newborn Babe  
Who births in our heart on Christmas Day  
Who births in our heart every day.

When you finish the prayer, close your eyes for a period of silence and contemplation on the meaning of Christ's birth for you. Finish your meditation with a deep breath in and out, stretch, and enjoy the peaceful feelings that come.

## A Christmas Creed for reflection

-- from Blessings of Christmas, <http://blessingsofChristmas.com>

**I** believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

**I** believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town:  
and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world,  
in towns both large and small.

**I** believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room,  
and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

**I** believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored  
and the proud could never understand:  
whose life was among common people,  
whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.

**I** believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible:

**I** believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms,  
whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth,  
who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them,  
who by love brought sinners back to parity,  
and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.

**I** confess my ever-lasting need of God:  
The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed,  
the need of new life for empty souls,  
the need of love for hearts grown cold.

**I** believe in God who gives us the best of himself,

**I** believe in Jesus the son of the living God,  
born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.

-- Walter Russell Bowie

## Suggested Bible Passages

(Frank Logue—[frank@kingofpeace.org](mailto:frank@kingofpeace.org))

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>First week of Advent</b></p> <p>Sun     Matthew 25:1-13            Mon     Isaiah 1:16-18            Tue     Isaiah 60:1-3            Wed     Psalm 43:3-5            Thu     Isaiah 58:6-9            Fri     1 John 2:8-11            Sat     1 John 3:1-2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Third week of Advent</b></p> <p>Sun     Isaiah 9:6-7            Mon     Isaiah 7:10-14            Tue     Isaiah 11:1-6            Wed     Isaiah 40:10-11            Thu     Isaiah 52:7            Fri     Jeremiah 33:14-16            Sat     Malachi 3:1-2</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Second week of Advent</b></p> <p>Sun     Isaiah 40:1-5            Mon     Revelation 1:7-8            Tue     Matthew 22:41-45            Wed     Hosea 11:3-4            Thu     Psalm 130            Fri     Micah 6:6-8            Sat     Jeremiah 14:8-9</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fourth week of Advent</b></p> <p>Sun     John 3:16-21            Mon     Luke 1:1-25            Tue     Luke 1:26-38            Wed     Luke 1:39-56            Thu     Luke 1:57-66            Fri     Luke 1:67-80            Sat     Matthew 1:18-25</p>

## From Blessings of Christmas

([www.blessingsofchristmas.com](http://www.blessingsofchristmas.com))

The Baby in the manger is only the beginning of our redemption. In the season of giving as you dash around town, trying to find that perfect gift for someone that has everything, bring his light to those who have nothing and those that are forgotten or overlooked. Spread the spirit of giving beyond your children, family, and friends:

"For to us a child is born  
 To us a son is given,  
 And the government will be on his shoulders,  
 And he will be called  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gift Fair A Huge Success!

What a great sale we had! Thanks to Carol Anton and Steve Wilmot our Annual Gift Fair co-chairs. Also, a huge thank you to all our volunteers and shoppers! We sold Fair Trade goods from around the world including SERRV and African Team Ministries, as well as alternative gifts like Heifer animals, Support Our Troops, and offered the opportunity to sponsor a child. All the Angel Tree gift tags were picked up – please remember to return your gifts by December 4<sup>th</sup>.

There are still a few beautiful gift items available, as well as an opportunity to stock up on your favorite Fair Trade chocolate. Money raised so far for each organization is shown below!

**SERRV** - beautiful Fair Trade gifts from around the world: **\$1,245**

**Heifer International** - animals that help to provide a sustainable living: **\$430**

**African Team Ministries** - supporting Episcopal schools and mission in Africa: **\$346**

**COS Outreach ministries** -- supporting a variety of needs in communities both near and far: **\$151**

**Support Our Troops** - a taste of home and loving encouragement to our wounded warriors: **\$60**

And now some pictures, with grateful thanks to Our Saviour volunteers for serving at the Gift Fair and to everyone who shopped with us in support of Fair Trade, SERRV artisans from around the world, African Team Ministries, Support Our Troops, Heifer International, and COS Outreach! Feel good about your gift giving this year – you have made a difference in the lives of many of the poorest people in the world!



### ***Angel Tree Party is Coming!***

Ron and Marty LaMar will be hosting this year's Angel Tree party where we will celebrate Jesus' Birthday, share the Gospel, Christmas gifts, and Christmas food boxes with the children and caregivers.

All are invited! The party will be on **Saturday, December 10, 2011** in Polycarp Hall. Your help is appreciated!

Thanks to everyone who took our gift tags for Angel Tree - don't forget they must be returned by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the family and friends of Dr. Paul Matte, who died October 27<sup>th</sup>. The following is an extract from the Muskogee Phoenix obituaries ([www.muskogee phoenix.com](http://www.muskogee phoenix.com)):



“Dr. Paul Matte died October 27, 2011 after a long illness. He was born January 28, 1921 in Springville, MA. His father was a colonel in the Army so he lived in many states. He spent his teenage years on Angel Island and graduated from Galileo High School in San Francisco, CA.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee. He served as a captain in the Army during the Occupation of Japan. After the war, he graduated from medical school at the University of Southern California. He had family medicine practices in Arizona and California. He also received his law degree from Stanford University. After he retired, he moved to Pinetop, AZ in 1993. In 2006, he moved to Muskogee, OK. He was a member of Grace Episcopal Church.”

## Ministry of the Month: Altar Guild

I have often been told that altar guild is a calling. Our members are devoted people; some serve years and even decades. No one made them do it. I asked them why the altar guild meant so much to them and they told me. Their responses are passed along to you. There are threads of love, thanks, and devotion through it all. We need volunteers who would like to see what it is like to serve in this quiet way. We invite you to walk with us to see what this ministry is about. Perhaps it could be YOUR calling.

- Lauren Nouy

### From Members of the Altar Guild...

#### *Flowery Words*

*Please join my  
Garden Party,  
Come rest upon a  
flower.*

*Let's talk of pretty  
greenery,  
And while away  
the hour.*

*At heart I am a  
Florist,  
I swoon for petaled  
plumes  
On cards,  
on wreaths,  
or dainty shoes.....*

*My world is full of  
blooms !*

~~~Author Unknown

"It's an honor and a privilege and I don't understand why more people don't volunteer for this work."

"Preparing the altar and setting God's table brings thankfulness for being able to serve Him and His Beloved Son in this way."

"Altar Guild means a lot to me. However the FIRST thing that always comes to my mind is that it is the quiet ministry."

"It is a privilege and an honor to be a member of the Altar Guild Ministry as we perform our duties as directed by Susan, our priest and our Altar Guild Directress. As members of this ministry, we are servants of God, servants of God's people, servants of the liturgy and of the worship space. It is an awesome way to quietly serve our Lord as we go about our duties of holy housekeeping."

"To me it is an act of love. Making sure the Lord's Table is as perfect as it can be."

"I was 16 years old. I started out helping my mother set up the altar at our church in Williamsport, PA, and, when she passed away, I took over her place when I was 30. I felt so good being able to do work for the church; I just kept going and doing for each place I worshipped at. Still going strong and loving it."

"It is very peaceful and humbling service. I feel a deep sense of offering to God the work of my hands in my small way."



## Christmas Around the World

The world's cultures have many ways to celebrate Jesus' birth. Explore these customs with your friends and family.

### St. Lucia

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, people in Sweden celebrate St. Lucia. In traditional celebrations, the oldest girl wore a white robe and a wreath of candles on her head. She processed through the home, carrying a candle to represent the light of Christ. She would then serve her family coffee and special buns made for that day. Choose a day when you can serve breakfast to your friends or family or take breakfast to a homebound or lonely neighbor. Remember to share the light of Christ as you give this gift of hospitality.

**Prayer:** *Jesus, may we bring your light into the lives of others, just as you bring light to the world. Amen.*

### Los Posada

In Mexico, a celebration called *Los Posada* reenacts the journey of Mary and Joseph to find a room in Bethlehem. *Los Posada* happens during the last 12 days of Advent. Each night Mary and Joseph go from house to house asking if there is room for them to stay. Some places say there is "no room" just like the innkeeper. But finally, on Christmas Eve, one place welcomes Mary and Joseph to stay.

Reenact the *Los Posada* journey with friends and family by preparing a small picnic. Place a basket inside one room of your house and shut the doors of all the rooms. Pretend together that you are travelers like Mary and Joseph, looking for a place that will welcome you. Search the house together. At each door ask, "Are we welcome?" Open the door and if the picnic is inside, share the goodies. While you eat, share stories of times when you have experienced hospitality.

**Prayer:** *Jesus, may we always be ready to welcome all people and share hospitality with them. Amen.*

### Babushka

Share some tea together as you take turns reading aloud this Russian fable; then talk about how Babushka might be able to tell whether she would be welcomed at your home.

Babushka was an old grandmother who lived in Russia many years ago. She lived alone on a corner where two roads met. Her days were filled with cleaning and cooking, and even though she hardly ever saw anyone else she was happy. Late one winter night she was sipping her tea when she heard a knock at her door. She saw some shepherds with their sheep standing outside her house. "What do you want?" she asked them. "Grandmother," they said, "we have heard that a baby has been born in Bethlehem who will be the Savior of the world. We want you to come with us and see this child." "Oh no!" said Babushka. "I cannot leave my clean, warm house to travel with you in the darkness. Maybe I'll go tomorrow."

"If you cannot come, could you let us come in and warm up and have some tea?" asked the shepherds. "I have just enough for me, and you are all dirty. Perhaps my neighbor down the road can help. Goodnight." And she shut the door. The next day, Babushka decided she would go. She packed a bag and took a gift for the child. She traveled for many days but never saw the shepherds again, and when she found the stable it was empty. Babushka returned to her home but she did not feel like she fit there anymore. She wanted to see the Christ child. So, she put a light in her window as a sign to any shepherds – or other travelers – that they could use her home to make themselves a cup of tea. She travels still, looking for those who know and welcome the love of the Christ child.

**Prayer:** *Jesus, help us to welcome those you send to us and to share the story of your love with others. Amen.*

### The Juggler of Notre Dame

A 12th century legend tells about a juggler who became a monk. He loved the Christ child and his mother, Mary and felt badly because he had no gift to bring to honor to the statue of Mary in his church, so the juggler went before the statue and did his best juggling. The other monks laughed and told him he was not honoring Mary, but the statue came to life and blessed the juggler because his gift was so special.

This legend eventually became the song we know as "The Little Drummer Boy." Sing or listen to this song; then talk about the gifts you have and how you can use them to honor Jesus. Think about the difference between gifts wrapped in paper and gifts of the heart.

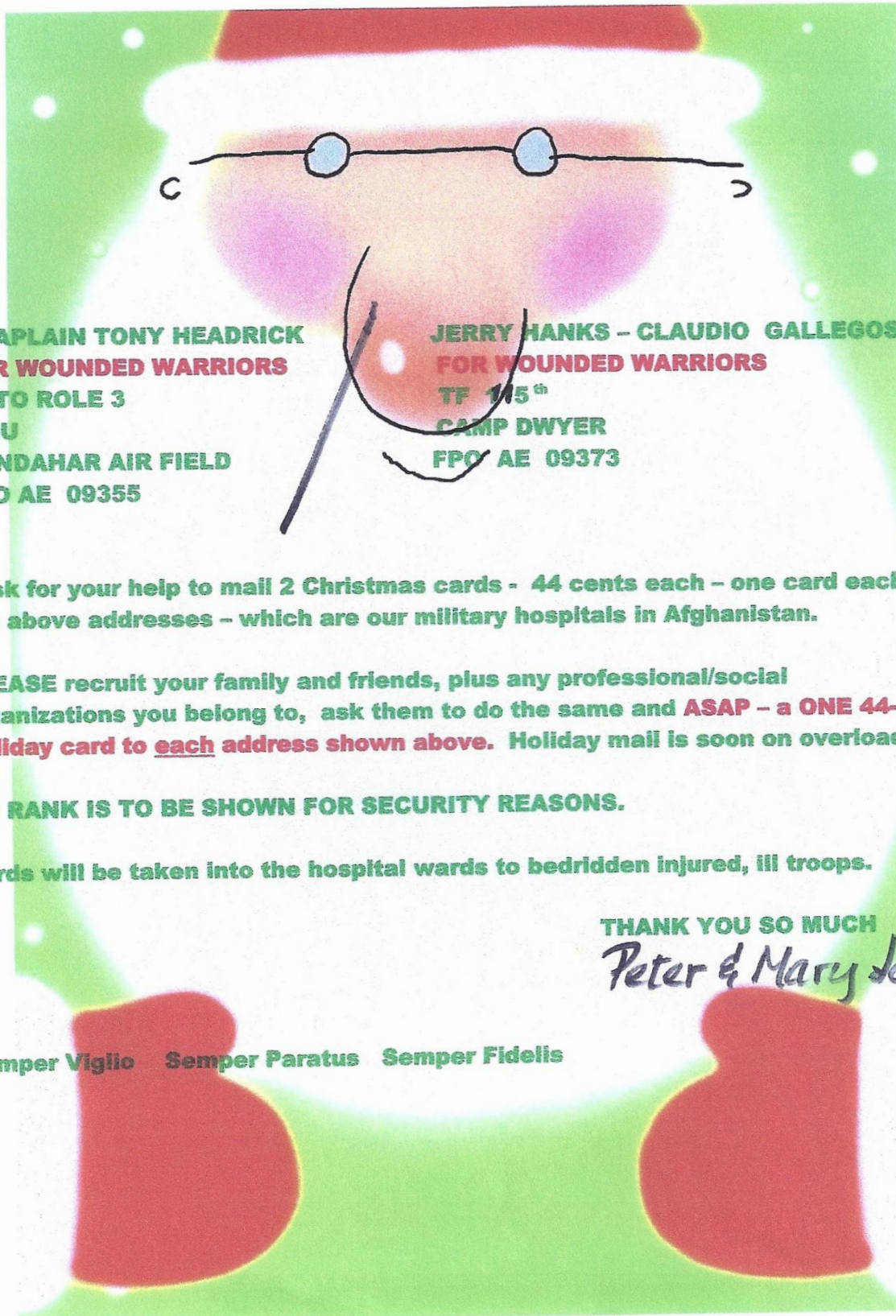
**Prayer:** *Jesus, you are a gift to our lives. Help us to honor you by each day sharing gifts of our hearts with others. Amen.*

– Christy Olson is an experienced Christian educator.  
Find her resources at [www.thefaithgardener.com](http://www.thefaithgardener.com).  
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One of the essential paradoxes of Advent:  
that while we wait for God,  
we are with God all along.

– Michelle Blake from *The Tentmaker*



**CHAPLAIN TONY HEADRICK  
FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS  
NATO ROLE 3  
MMU  
KANDAHAR AIR FIELD  
APO AE 09355**

**JERRY HANKS - CLAUDIO GALLEGOS  
FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS  
TF 115<sup>th</sup>  
CAMP DWYER  
FPO AE 09373**

**I ask for your help to mail 2 Christmas cards - 44 cents each - one card each to the above addresses - which are our military hospitals in Afghanistan.**

**PLEASE recruit your family and friends, plus any professional/social organizations you belong to, ask them to do the same and **ASAP - a ONE 44-cent Holiday card to each address shown above.** Holiday mail is soon on overload.**

**NO RANK IS TO BE SHOWN FOR SECURITY REASONS.**

**Cards will be taken into the hospital wards to bedridden injured, ill troops.**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH**

*Peter & Mary Jane*

**Semper Viglio Semper Paratus Semper Fidelis**

## Growing in Ministry & Mission - Support Our Troops Update

Thanks to your wonderful support during this year it has been possible to ship 232 large flat rate boxes to the two hospitals identified in earlier newsletters. This includes the 20 boxes shipped on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Your outpouring of compassion, caring and love make a tremendous difference to the morale of the wounded warriors who are so far from their families and also to the staff of the hospitals who provide immediate care, surgery etc. In a recent email, Tony Headrick, the hospital Chaplain in Kandahar stressed how much these shipments lift patients' morale.

The next shipment is planned for **December 13<sup>th</sup>** to arrive in good time for Christmas. Remember that this Outreach program is the only one supplying home made cookies etc. to the patients at the hospital in Kandahar.

Please keep up the wonderful support for our wounded military as they face the long road to recovery. The flat rate boxes are packed solid with such items as homemade and purchased cookies, cakes and candy. Otter Pops, chocolate, vitamin enhanced drink mixes, chocolate candy, etc. are all in great demand and are guaranteed to "evaporate" on opening!!! Our combined efforts are truly appreciated, and provide great comfort to the wounded and support staff at the hospitals.

The December 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas shipment target is 20 boxes, ten for each hospital. As you enjoy Christmas dinner at Church (or at home) please remember our wounded warriors who greatly appreciate all that has been done for them. They may be far from home BUT they are far from forgotten!

Just keep on baking and keep up the wonderful work for this great ministry. You really have made such a tremendous difference to the patients and staff. Thank you one and all.

Blessings,  
*Peter & Mary Jane Bish*

## Fall Clean Up Day

A big thank you for everyone who helped at the Fall Clean Up day. Since the weather was not the best outside, we were blessed to get a lot of cleaning up done inside!

Blessings and thanks to our own Shelley Watanabe for making her awesome breakfast tacos – delicious and just what we needed on that cold morning!



## Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Eve Services will be at 6pm and 8pm. Our 8pm service is a candlelight service. Both services include lessons, carols and Holy Communion.



## Christmas is coming!!!

This year we will have **Christmas Day worship at 11am on December 25<sup>th</sup>**, followed by fellowship and Christmas dinner in Polycarp. We will share lunch about 12:30pm with all the trimmings! There is a sign up for those who wish to attend: everyone is welcome, and please sign up if you wish to share a dish. A fun and festive Christmas is promised!!



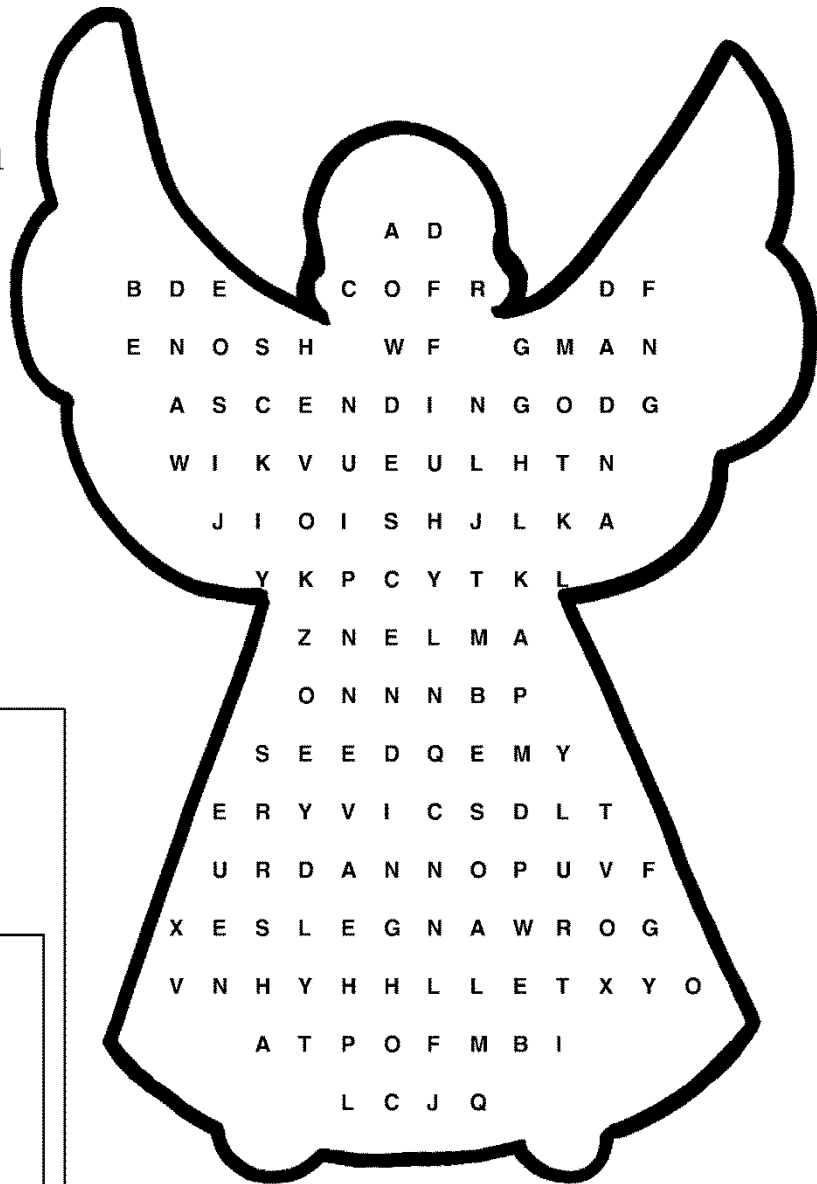
**O**ur choir has been rehearsing diligently for several weeks preparing a beautiful choral offering to the newborn Lord. Come and enjoy the music! There's also plenty of opportunity for all to sing our praises to the Lord with our sing-along Christmas carol medley – new this year!

# Kid's Corner!

## Word Find

Find the words from John 1:51 in the angel at right.

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| very   | angels     |
| truly  | of         |
| I      | God        |
| tell   | ascending  |
| you    | and        |
| you    | descending |
| will   | upon       |
| see    | the        |
| heaven | son        |
| opened | of         |
| and    | man        |
| the    |            |



## Angels

Draw the rest of the angel; then color it.



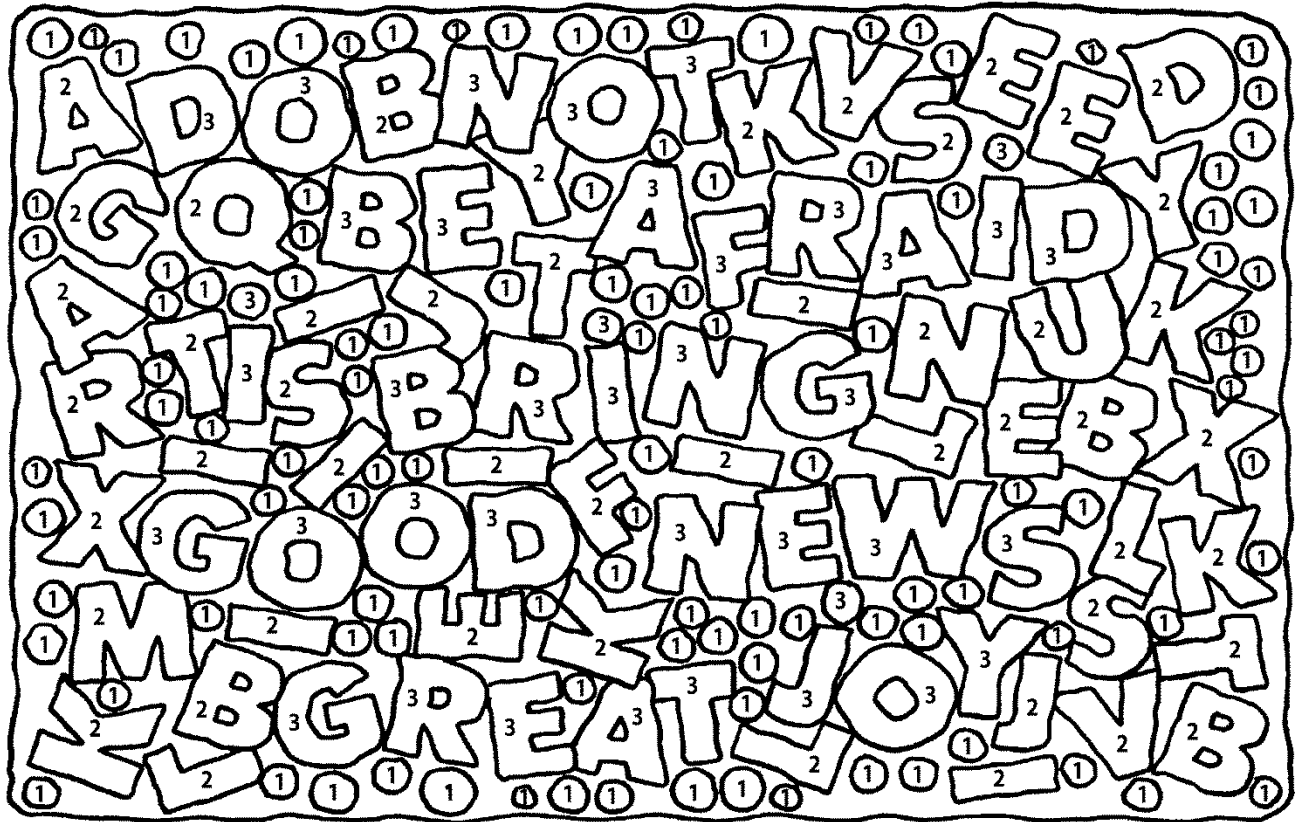
How many angels are at right? \_\_\_\_\_  
Color them.



# Color by Number

Using the color code, color this art to reveal the message from Luke. 1=Red; 2=Green; 3=Blue

Answer: Do not be afraid.  
I bring good news great  
joy

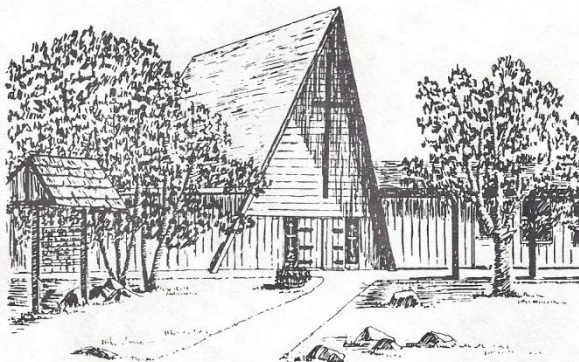


## Did You Know?

There is a beautiful picture of the Church of Our Saviour currently hanging in Polycarp Hall that was painted by Herndon Grice.

Herndon Grice and her husband were active members of Church Of Our Saviour at the time money was raised to build St. Polycarp Hall, and the original Parish hall became offices, and the Sacristy was enlarged. Herndon and her husband later moved to Prescott.

The painting was purchased, and donated to the Church of Our Saviour by Dick and Diana Born.



Episcopate Church of Our Saviour  
Shaw-Low-Lesslie-Prescott, Az

Herndon  
1924

## Encountering Mark

**W**elcome to the lectionary year of Mark! Mark is the only evangelist to call his work a “gospel.” In his first theme sentence, he names the one who embodies the good news: Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Everything he writes after that is for the purpose of letting us know what those words mean.

**J**esus is the only proper name in the whole batch. The other words are all titles of one kind or another, none of them unique to Jesus. While *Christ* is added to his name so often that some think it is his surname, it is actually a descriptor. Jesus is the anointed one, as were Saul, David, and Solomon before him. While translators have avoided the use of *Christ* for anyone in the Bible but Jesus, the root word *christos* means nothing more than “smeared on” or “anointed.”

. . . **M**ark has no apparent interest in the supernatural birth narratives with which Matthew and Luke launch their gospels. For Mark, it is enough that prophecy is fulfilled in the appearance of John the Baptizer. More than that, prophecy is *revived* with John's appearance. The voice of God has not been heard so clearly in Israel for 300 years. The people have had to strain to hear even the “daughter of the voice” (*bath qol*), so that the noise John makes is both startling and welcome.

**H**is themes are repentance and forgiveness, symbolized by a ritual bath that he offers to those who wish to be counted among the awake and aware. The bath itself is not innovative - Jewish law prescribes similar purification rites that involve cleansing with water - but both John's name for it (baptism) and his context (gathering the elect) are. Those who line up for his baptism with water signify their willingness to be transformed. When the one who is more powerful than he comes to baptize with the Holy Spirit, the transformation will be complete.

**M**uch is made of John's eccentricity – his clothing, his diet, his wilderness address. Insofar as *eccentric* means “off center,” his deviance is precisely the point. He does not dress as the priests in Jerusalem dress. He does not sound like they sound, nor does he commend their road to anyone. He is as far away from the temple as he can get and it is there – way out in the wilderness – that he is calling people to prepare the way of the Lord. Whatever else he and Jesus disagree about, they agree on this: that God's way is an alternative to the ways of the world, including the religious ways of the world. The more “centered” we are in the present order the less likely we are to welcome eccentrics such as John, who renew the voice of God in the land.

**I**n the context of Advent, John's witness is a reminder that there is nothing automatic about the coming of the Lord. Human expectation, preparation, and repentance are all part of the mix. The Lord may be perfectly able to come without these things, but the odds of our recognizing him go way down.

**I** recently heard about a woman who got so tired of preparing for Christmas each year that she added a large closet with a door to her den. Inside the closet she set up a fully decorated artificial Christmas tree. Now, when the season arrives, she just opens the closet door. And when the season is over, she closes it again. The nice thing about entertaining John at this time of the year is that he simply will not put up with that. Before the woman knows it, he will plant an ax in that door and send wood chips flying all over the place.

– Barbara Brown Taylor,  
reprinted with permission from *Pulpit Resource*.

## Don't Miss A Thing at COS!



### Children's & Family Worship Service

Join us on **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am** for this month's children and family worship service. This month we can't wait to explore the season of Advent!

### Recycling at COS

**Cash for cans!** Protect the planet! Our next collection date to recycle your aluminum cans is **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please leave your cans in Polycarp Hall. Thanks for your support.



### Christmas Poinsettias

Please write your dedications on the sign up sheet in Polycarp Hall. Poinsettia donations are not required this year (since we were so disappointed with the poinsettias we received from our supplier last year), but we will accept any gifts you wish to make with thanks!

### Baptism

We celebrated with great joy the baptism of Micah Josephine David, the newest member of the Body of Christ on November 27! Our next baptism will take place on Sunday, January 8, 2012 at the 10:00am service. Please keep Nancy Drew, our candidate for baptism in your prayers.

If you or any members of your family are interested in the sacrament of baptism, please contact Pastor Susan.

"Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God."

(Book of Common Prayer p. 858)

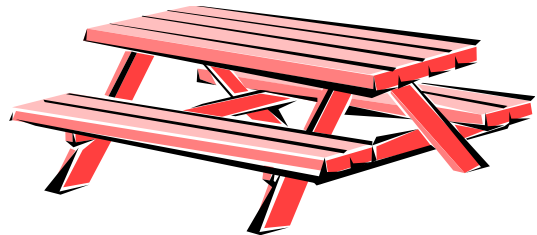
"In holy baptism the triune God delivers us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us new birth, adopts us as children, and makes us members of the body of Christ, the church." (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p225)

## COS "Looking to Spring" Wish List

I am sure that all of you who are here on the mountain have seen all the exterior work that has been completed recently; the addition of the Mary Stotera Memorial Garden, which is also the future site of awesome summer/fall barbeques and programs, music, and just plain fun; clearing up, painting and junk removal in and around the garden tool shed; additional rock gravel on the drives; and a revamped and repaired sprinkler system out front. We are definitely spruced up!!!! The next project is to re-model the interior of Polycarp Hall to better serve our Sunday classroom and fellowship needs. That work will begin soon.

We are already thinking about next spring. The following wish list are items we are looking for to outfit the parish, and keep us spiffy looking:

1. Four each 8' heavy duty formed plastic picnic tables with attached benches. If you donate, I will be happy to pick up at COSCO or Sam's. We already have two fine gas grills!



2. Small garden hand tools like small trowels or forks for weed digging, etc.
3. Rolls of black sheet weed preventer for the front yard. We will rake back the mulch and roll the stuff out, and then put the mulch back. Maybe several layers of that will keep those pesky weeds at bay.
4. Donations towards a truckload of mulch.

And, we always welcome anyone who would like to be a Garden Angel. Maybe we can get together and share pizza and fellowship as well! Stay tuned.

*Sharon Dalrymple and Lauren Nouy*

## Please Excuse Our Mess!

You will notice that Polycarp Hall doesn't look quite the same any more! We have begun the work approved by Vestry to make our Hall into a more usable **and** user-friendly space. The changes will really help us to have quality fellowship time, Bible Study and Children's Chapel simultaneously with the installation of soundproof room dividers. The new look will also facilitate a broader array of programs and functions. We're moving forward, growing and changing! **Thanks for your patience** during the construction work, which should be completed early in the New Year.



## Parish Leadership

### Vestry

Dick Hileman  
 Michael Iafrato  
 Judy Peterson  
 Sandra Rasmussen  
 Carol Risch  
 Brenda Roubal

Vestry clerk – Judy Peterson  
 Senior Warden – Sharon Dalrymple  
 Junior Warden – Dennis Irwin

|                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Altar Guild         | Lauren Novy &<br>Sandra Rasmussen |
| Budget & Finance    | Pastor Susan                      |
| Choir               | Julie Holtan & Carol Risch        |
| Columbarium Board   | Vicki Howell                      |
| Hospitality Hour    | Electra Brooks                    |
| Librarian           | Joey Nelson                       |
| Organist            | Juanita Simpson                   |
| Treasurer           | Sharon Dalrymple                  |
| Assistant Treasurer | Trish Shaffery                    |
| Webmaster           | Joe Stone                         |

### Ministry Team Leaders

|                                             |                             |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Children's & Youth<br>Ministries            | Michael &<br>Melody Iafrato |
| Christian Formation &<br>Community Outreach | Pastor Susan                |
| Office                                      | Lelah Kaufman               |
| Pastoral Care                               | Marty & Ron LaMar           |
| Welcoming                                   | Heather Steiner             |
| Worship Leader Coordinator                  | Lynda Klingler              |

## December Birthdays

|    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 14 | Jean Zagar       |
| 16 | Juanita Simpson  |
| 20 | Julie Holtan     |
| 21 | Christine Seaton |
| 22 | Betty Amos       |
| 25 | Pat Brower       |
| 29 | Lou Tate         |
| 30 | David Bowman     |
| 31 | J.R. Roubal      |

# Celebrate!

## December Anniversaries

|    |                            |
|----|----------------------------|
| 13 | Stan & Barbara Gregory     |
| 13 | Guy & Juanita Simpson      |
| 18 | Joe & Barbara Stone        |
| 19 | Everett & Judy Peterson    |
| 29 | A.J. Taylor & Julie Holtan |

## Annual Parish Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2012 after the 10am service. This is your opportunity to elect new members to Vestry, as well as delegates to Diocesan Convention. You will hear important news about our Capital Fundraising Campaign from chair, Dick Hileman, along with the Rector's "State of the Parish" report. All other ministry team reports will be available as well. The annual spaghetti lunch will be right after the meeting! Don't miss it!

Church of Our Saviour  
5147 Show Low Lake Road  
Lakeside, Arizona 85929

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See it in color! The newsletter is available in COLOR on our website: [www.thechurchofoursaviour.org](http://www.thechurchofoursaviour.org)

### *Bread of Life Mission*

All donations for the bread of life mission in Holbrook are gratefully received. Please place new clothing items, shower sandals, paper products, personal hygiene items, non-perishable food items, office products, and all other gifts into the box in Polycarp Hall. We'll make sure that it is delivered to the Mission!

### *COS Community Chest*

COS community chest offers assistance to individuals and families who lose everything or need to start over for whatever reason. Last month we donated a bed and chest of drawers to a family who needed them. Your help makes a difference! Thanks for your generosity.

### Book of Timothy

