

## December 3<sup>rd</sup> Worship Information

Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:15 am  
available later online

on St. John's Facebook Page, Website or  
YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/stjohnsucclansdalepa](https://www.youtube.com/stjohnsucclansdalepa)

### First Sunday of Advent Love Gift Sunday

Advent Worship Theme: God Incarnate Taking Place  
Focus Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

#### Worship Assistants

**Hospitality:** Bill Leslie, Team leader; Bob Bertollette, Brian Hutchinson, Margie Jewell, Gale Linderman, Scott Vanderburg

**Elder of the Morning:** Sally Atkiss

**CD Technician:** Robin MacMullen

**Chancel Flower Ministry:** Lisa Thim

**Driver:** Scott Vanderburg

**Umbrella Ministry:** Judy Johnston

#### Chancel Flowers

In memory of Eloise Atkin's Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> birthday from Roger Atkin and family

In memory of loved ones from the Longcoy and Wenner families

In memory of loved ones and her husband, Fred, from Thelma Brunner

In memory of Earl Bruce Kirk's passing from his daughter, Barbara Kirk

Remembering with love, Ashley MacKinstry Guest, Kristoffer Guest, Paul Hagerty and other family loved ones from the MacKinstry-Rogers family



#### Hanging of the Greens

We will be decorating the church for the advent season on Saturday, December 2 at 12:30 (after the Christmas Tea). Please plan to join us in making the church festive for the holidays.

#### St. John's Warming Tree

St. John's will be collecting hats, scarves, mittens and gloves from November 12 through December 3. Place your donations on the tree in the Narthex. All donations will be given to Urban Promise's Christmas Promise Store!

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2023	\$7,788.46
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2023	\$865.00
<b>A Look at the Week of November 5, 2023</b>	
Attendance: 10:15 am, November 5	118
Attendance: 5:30 pm, November 8	30
Offering For Current Income	\$5,665.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$664.50
<b>A Look at the Week of November 12, 2023</b>	
Attendance: 10:15 am, November 12	136
Attendance: 5:30 pm, November 15	20
Offering For Current Income	\$5,587.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$702.00
<b>A Look at the Week of November 19, 2023</b>	
Attendance: 10:15 am, November 19	119
Attendance: 5:30 pm, November 22	NO W/NL
Offering For Current Income	\$4,398.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$847.00

#### \*\*\*Important Notice\*\*\*

**All donations designated for 2023 must be received in the church office by Monday, December 25.**

Donations received after that date will be credited to your 2024 donation account. Your contributions may be delivered in-person on Christmas Eve, mailed to the church, or placed in the drop box located at the entrance by the church ramp. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of how you can help St. John's through these challenging financial times.

#### 2023 Poinsettia Donation Form



Due Date 12/18/23

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_

## December 10<sup>th</sup> Worship Information

Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:15 am  
available later online

on St. John's Facebook Page, Website or  
YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/stjohnsucclansdalepa](https://www.youtube.com/stjohnsucclansdalepa)

### Second Sunday of Advent

Advent Worship Theme: God Incarnate Taking Place  
Focus Scripture: Luke 1:39-55

#### Worship Assistants

**Hospitality:** Mark Methlie, Team leader; Jen Gilbert, Sarah Hogan, Bonnie & Walt Weber

**Elder of the Morning:** Debby Hendricks

**CD Technician:** Griff Francis

**Chancel Flower Ministry:** Barbara & Robin MacMullen

**Driver:** Gale Linderman

**Umbrella Ministry:** Marcia Stacy

#### Chancel Flowers

In memory of Ethel T. Kelsey from the Harrison Family

#### Volunteer Opportunity: Wrapping Presence

**Thursday, December 14, 1pm-4pm**

**Harborview Rehab & Care Center, Lansdale**

Wrapping Presence is looking for 20 Wrapping Buddies to assist the residents in selecting gifts (provided by Wrapping Presence) and wrapping them so that they have gifts to give when their close ones visit during the holidays. Experienced volunteers will be on site.

Website for sign-ups <https://bit.ly/WP-NHS> (ignore the ads on the sign-up site, scroll down to the 14 December event to provide your information and the click the button at the bottom to confirm your choice). Contact Bill Cagney for more info or assistance in signing up: 215.385.2882 (text), 215.641.4930 (home), [Billcagney@verizon.net](mailto:Billcagney@verizon.net)

*Thank you*

I deeply appreciate the lovely get-well card I received from St. John's. Your words of encouragement mean so much to me. I am so grateful for my St. John's family.

With love, Jean MacKinstry-Rogers

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Love Gift Sunday, December 3

By now you have noticed that what has traditionally been known as "White Gift Sunday" is now "Love Gift Sunday". This change was presented to and affirmed by church leadership and came about for a variety of reasons. First, the agencies that we offer our gifts to have asked for the gifts to come unwrapped, which eliminates the need for the traditional white wrapping paper. In addition, to someone who is not a member of our community, the term "white gift" could be seen as culturally insensitive or confusing; and since we don't want the name to distract from the meaning, the most compassionate and welcoming thing to do is change the name. Now, those who hear about this Sunday or visit us in worship that day will know what this special day is all about: offering gifts in a spirit of LOVE to those in need.

This Sunday is no doubt a very meaningful one in the life of our community, and we acknowledge that this name change is new and different. We do want to assure you, however, that it is just that: a *name* change. The spirit, the purpose, and the heart with which we approach Sunday Dec. 3rd will be what it has always been: one of God's LOVE. We appreciate your support, understanding, and openness to change as we at St. John's continue to seek to be a voice and a presence of awareness, compassion, and, most importantly, LOVE. Please refer to the wish lists below and we look forward to celebrating Love Gift Sunday together on Dec. 3rd.

### URBAN PROMISE – Christmas Promise Store Toy Drive

**Special Gifts** Bikes Scooters Gift Cards: Walmart, Target, Amazon, Gamestop, Sephora, Footlocker

#### Ages: 5-10

**Most Popular:** Legos, Squishmallows, Slime, Science Kits, Play-Doh

**Figurines:** Disney, Marvel, Pokemon, & Dolls Of Color  
**Sports:** Balls, Gloves, Equipment  
**Arts & Crafts:** Art & Science Sets  
**Other:** Nerf Toys, RC Cars  
**Clothing:** Pajamas, Hats & Gloves

#### Ages: 11-16

**Most Popular:** Headphones, Wireless Speakers, LED Light Strip

**Personal Care:** Lotions & Scrubs  
**Accessories:** Jewelry, Wallets, Bags  
**Arts & Crafts:** Sketch Book & Art Set  
**Other:** Workout Equipment, Portable Chargers, Ring Light  
**Clothing:** Hoodies, Jackets & Sport's Apparel

#### Not Local?

Scan for Amazon Wishlist



Urban Promise also welcomes gifts of wrapping paper, bows, tape, etc. for families to use once they have selected their gifts. Bring these items along with the gifts on December 3.

OLD FIRST UCC – Winter Clothing Cupboard (for homeless clients): Hats, gloves, warm socks, underwear, flannel shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants

*If you are unable to attend worship on December 3, please bring your gift donations to the St. John's office before that date. Thank you!*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

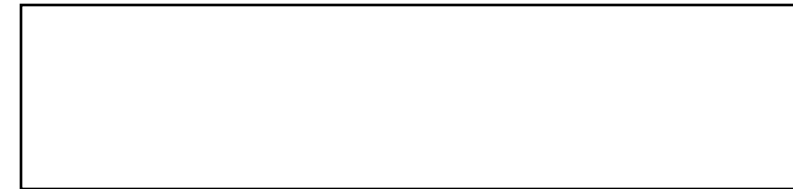
- Dec 3 **First Sunday of Advent – Love Gift Sunday Sunday Morning Worship at 10:15 am**  
 Connect<sup>3</sup>, Praying Hands at 9am  
 Love Gift Sunday, Communion  
 Budget Meeting, Fellowship
- Dec 5 NAMI, AA
- Dec 6 **Wednesday Night Live**  
 5-7pm Community Meal  
 5:30pm Worship  
 6pm Children's Music, Adult Education  
 6:45pm Handbell Choir  
 7:30pm Chancel Choir & Friends
- Dec 7 Soup Prep
- Dec 8 Soup Prep, Chess
- Dec 10 **Second Sunday of Advent**  
 Sunday Morning Worship at 10:15 am  
 Connect<sup>3</sup> at 9am  
 Budget Vote  
 Snyder Baptism  
 Advent Celebration during Fellowship  
 Enlightener due date  
 Artist Series concert @ 4pm



### *In the Stillness: The 2023 Christmas Festival Sunday, December 10, 4:00 pm*

Join the St. John's Chancel Choir and Friends, The North Penn Chamber Singers, and the North Penn Brass Ensemble for an annual St. John's Artist Series holiday tradition! A festive reception follows the concert.

Periodical Postage Paid In Lansdale PA  
 , GOD IS STILL SPEAKING



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On **December 10<sup>th</sup>** the Board of Educators will be hosting fellowship time and an **Advent Celebration**, including caroling and a craft for kids/family. Come out and join in some holiday fun during fellowship time!