

**St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ**



Luke 1:38

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326**

St. John's Evangelical Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday (9 AM – 1 PM)

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“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Welcome

Prelude

Bring a Torch Jeannette, Isabella

Traditional French Carol

*Hymn #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

*Call to Worship

L: Leader **C: Congregation**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath –
Dave Beazley & Russ Cahill

L: Once God's plan was a mystery, hidden from our sight. Now God has disclosed what was kept secret for so very long; He has brought it out in the light. In the brighter light on this fourth Sunday in Advent, may we see more clearly the glory of God in Christ and sing of the steadfast love of the Lord forever.

With my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever; Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens (**Psalm 89:1b-2**).

All four Advent candles are lit.

Light four candles, see them glow
Brightly, so that all may know
How four candles show the way
Making our darkness bright as God's day.

I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever; Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

C: *Let us pray:* Dear God, Your faithfulness has been great, leading us to this day of anticipation and celebration. May the glorious light of Your steadfast love shine brightly in us and through us, that all may give You praise and glory. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Let Us Pray Unto the Lord:

The Pastoral Prayer

Missing Child: Timothy Johnson – Columbus, OH

Mission of the Month: Love Inc. of Hardin County

The Lord's Prayer (*Debts/Debtors*)

Hymn #110

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Children's Message

You Shall Call His Name Jesus

Luke 1:31

(children please remain in your seats)

Special Music

Children's Choir & families

Giving of Tithes and Offerings:

Offering Prayer

Offerings can be placed in the baskets in back of sanctuary

Scripture

II Samuel 7:1-17

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

An Everlasting Kingdom

***Hymn #107**

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Postlude

Joyous Time

R. Smith

***Benediction**

*— Those who are able, please stand



**Welcome to St. John's
Church!**

Scripture Readings (ESV):

II Samuel 7:1-17:

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build Me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for My dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?”’” ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over My people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over My people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to Me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵but My steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Your throne shall be

established forever.”¹⁷ In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Luke 1:26-38:

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.



Sermon Notes
20 December 2020
Scripture: **II Samuel 7:1-17; Luke 1:26-38**
Sermon: **An Everlasting Kingdom**

1. Like David, what “good” plans have you had to lay aside in 2020? How might they be deferred? Who might benefit, and who may God be raising up to accomplish those things?
2. What abiding promises of God do you see still being fulfilled? Which ones are you looking forward to seeing fulfilled in the days ahead?
3. What ‘impossible’ things do you see God making possible in these days? Commit **Luke 1:37** to memory. How does that comfort you and give you hope?
4. Through this long and arduous year, what is God calling you to become for His glory? What gifts are you being called by God to share with the world?

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Missing Child: our prayers today go out to Timothy Johnson missing since December 9, 2020 from Columbus, OH.

Mission of the Month: Love Inc. of Hardin County

Un-decorate the Church: January 10 following the worship service.

Community Men's Bible Study Saturday mornings at 7:30 am at Our Place Family Restaurant (formerly Basil's).

Community Women's Bible Study: Currently not meeting due to Covid Concerns – will provide updates as they are made.

Chancel Choir: Choir will practice once a month on the Wednesday before the first Sunday of the month at 7:30.

Van Driver Needed- Wednesday Nights: Van driver needed for the Wednesday Night Program a couple times a month from 5-7 pm when we restart the program. The church bus has been sold and now has a 12 passenger van that does not require a CDL to drive. Please see Jane Donnelly or the church office.

Wheelchairs: If you have borrowed a wheelchair from the church and no longer need it, please return or if you have one that you no longer use and would like to donate it, that would be appreciated. We used to have several to lend out to those in need. Any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Advent: Angels for the Elderly Food Drive: We will be collecting food for Angels for the Elderly again this year. The mission committee created a suggested donations. Suggested items: Proteins (canned meat & peanut butter); Fruits and Vegetable (canned); Pre-made meals (spaghetti, tuna and noodle); and Personal care & paper products, laundry detergent. These items can be dropped off at the church during office hours, M-F from 9-1.

Bulletin Announcements: due by Friday at 9:00 AM.

Week at a Glance:

Today 12/20:

10:00 AM Service - Online

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester

Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley

Children's Choir Director: Hope Cauley

Bell Choir Director: Jane Baker

Organist/Pianists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke, Linda Zeigler

Week at a Glance:

Attendance (12/13): Online

Envelopes:

Loose Offering:

Loose Ones:

December mission- Love Inc.:

Ushers:

12/20: Russ Cahill & Dave Beazley

12/24: Weaver Family

12/27: Michelle Becker & Jane Donnelly

