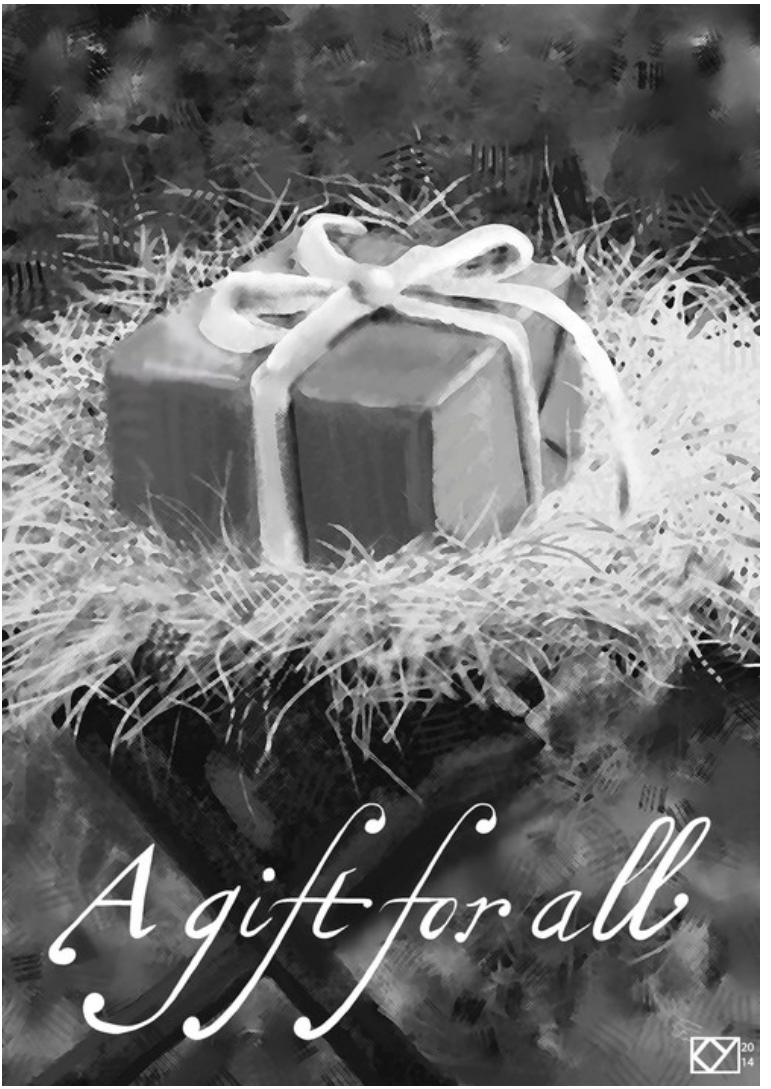
St. John's:
Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ



St. John's Evangelical Church
211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326

St. John's Evangelical Church
211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326

Office: 419-673-7278

Pastor Randall (cell): 724-290-3651
Office Hours: Monday – Friday (9 AM – 1 PM)

Website: www.stjohnskenton.org **Email:** stjohnskenton@gmail.com

"Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021
8:00 PM

"SOUNDS OF THE SEASON"

(Let us begin to still our hearts and minds for worship with Christmas Carols.)

Christmas Welcome

The Prelude *We Three Kings* Hopkins
Organ/Piano Duet: Randy Rogers/Cinda Shea

Greeting Narrator

Hymn #103** ***O Come, All Ye Faithful

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle
Youth participants: Angel Forester, Natalie Horton, Lynzee Michel
Olivia Sherman, and Zane Styer

[11]For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, [12]training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, [13]waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, [14]who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.—**Titus 2:11-14**

Tonight, we light the CHRIST candle that is surrounded by the candles of HOPE, LOVE, JOY, and PEACE. Christ's light shines purely into our lives. We only need to pursue Him and leave the darkness of this world. Even though the darkness still seeks to encroach upon Him, the Light of this world will never be quenched. Behold, the Light has come and remains in our midst.

Let us pray: O Father, fix the gaze of our eyes and our hearts upon the Light of Your Son, Jesus the Christ. In this flame, may all ungodliness and worldly passions be burned to ash. May Your Spirit lead us to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age. Redeem us and purify us to be Your possession. Teach us to be zealous for good works as we live in the freedom and grace of Christ. In His Name, Amen.

Response Narrator

Children's Program

Signs of Christmas P. Andrews

Deck the Halls
Go & Tell
Worship the King
Christmas is a Time to Love
Away in a Manger/Silent Night
Hosanna

Choir: Sydney Dyer, Levi Dyer, Alaina Sherman, Olivia Sherman, Ella Sherman, & Autumn Styer. Directed by: Hope Cauley

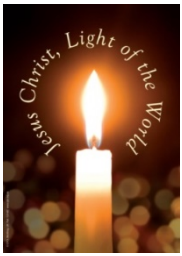
Hymn #121** ***O Little Town of Bethlehem

Response Narrator

Children's Choir *Christmas Hallelujah*

The Christmas Story Gus Forester

Scripture **Luke 2:1-20**



Hymn #112** ***Away in a Manger

Sermon **The Light Shines!**

Prayer

Hymn #117** ***Silent Night

Benediction Narrator

---

*—Those who are able, please stand.

If you purchased poinsettias, please take them home with you. Thank you so much for your continued support of our Youth Poinsettia Sale.

Scripture Reading:

Luke 2:1-20 (ESV):

[1] In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the
world should be registered. [2] This was the first registration
when Quirinius was governor of Syria. [3] And all went to be
registered, each to his own town. [4] And Joseph also went up from
Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David,
which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage
of David, [5] to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with
child. [6] And while they were there, the time came for her to give
birth. [7] And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in
swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no
place for them in the inn.

[8] And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night. [9] And an angel of the
Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them,
and they were filled with great fear. [10] And the angel said to them,
"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be
for all the people. [11] For unto you is born this day in the city of
David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. [12] And this will be a sign for
you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a
manger." [13] And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the
heavenly host praising God and saying,

[14] "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

[15] When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds
said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing
that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." [16] And
they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying
in a manger. [17] And when they saw it, they made known the saying
that had been told them concerning this child. [18] And all who heard it
wondered at what the shepherds told them. [19] But Mary treasured up
all these things, pondering them in her heart. [20] And the shepherds
returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen,
as it had been told them.

In loving memory of Lester & Marianna Sherman by Mark, Michele, Olivia, Ella & Alaina Sherman

In loving memory of James & Lola Yoakam by Mark, Michele, Olivia, Ella & Alaina Sherman

In loving memory of Daniel F. Bushong by Shirley E. Bushong

In loving memory of Harold, Eileen, Ken, and Don Faler by Jim & Marilyn Bidwell

In loving memory of "Andy" Tice by Virginia Tice

In loving memory of George and Irene Bidwell by their children

In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. John Leoffer & Gladys Unger by Marilyn Hempy Gordon.

In loving memory of husband, Bruce C. Baker by Jane Baker

In loving memory of parents, Mr. E. Robert and Edna Mae Philips and sister Margaret Jean Philips by Jane Baker

In loving memory of grandparents: Elgin and Ida Mae Wilcox, and E.B. and Grace Philips, and aunts and uncles by Jane Baker

In loving memory of friends and co-workers: Dick Styer, Dean Martino, Connie Harvey, Brett Molk, and Pat Higgins by Jane Baker

In loving memory of George & Loretta Leoffert, Pete & Florence Kirchner, Charles & Dolly Leoffert by Jerry & Sandy Dick and family and Don & Sherry Smith and family.

In loving memory of Pam Woll Neuhauser by Jeff & Diane Neuhauser

In loving memory of our grandparents, dad and friends by LeVern & Nancy Weaver

In honor of our parents, children, and grandchildren by Levern & Nancy Weaver

In loving memory of our loved ones who have gone before us by Shawn, Tasha, Sydney, and Levi Dyer

In honor of our family by Shawn, Tasha, Sydney and Levi Dyer

In honor of my grandchildren by Sharon Styer

In loving memory of parents, Paul & Anne Cline by David Cline

In loving memory of Max & Florence Lease by David Cline

In loving memory of loved ones by Dan, Heather, Eric, Jada, Kyle Erwin; Kelsey and Jensen Holly; and Elijah Manns

In loving memory of JoAnn Erwin by Dan, Heather, Eric, Jada, Kyle Erwin; Kelsey and Jensen Holly; and Elijah Manns

In loving memory of Robert & Vivienne Hommel by Dick & Carol Wilcox

In loving memory of Thomas (Bud) & Anita Wilcox by Dick & Carol Wilcox

In loving memory of Fred Card and Ross Weaver by Donovan & Kristi Weaver

In loving memory of Larry Rall, Neal R. Duffman III, Orville & Evelyn Long by Janice Rall and family

In loving memory of Harold & Faye Rickenbacher by Paul & Nancy Rickenbacher

In loving memory of Grandson Erik by Paul & Nancy Rickenbacher

In loving memory of Jack Katterjohn, Mr. & Mrs. Adloph Katterjohn, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Long, Charles Long, and Toby Long by Richard & Patricia Katterjohn

In memory of Thomas and Anita Wilcox by Nancy Wilcox and Dave Burkhart.

In memory of Frieda and Rolland Burkhart by Dave Burkhart and Nancy Wilcox.

In memory of loved ones by Dave Burkhart and Nancy Wilcox.

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar are given in memory of Max V. and Florence C. Lease and Frederick W. and Ruth Ann (Lease) Kaufmann.

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way to make this evening's service happen. Also, thank you, Jerry, for providing the voice of our narrator.

A Christmas Prayer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift
and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing
which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be thy children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

The TRUE meaning of Christmas!

Christmas Day Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, true God from true God, You became a little child for us so the world You made would be saved. Just as a child is born to us and a Son is given to us, may we be born again through You and always remain in the number of God's faithful children; through Your merits, O blessed Savior, with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Source: Mozarabic Collect for The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day, freely modified from Mozarabic Collects, ed. Rev. Chas. R. Halle, New York, 1881, p.17 #1

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
Organists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke, Linda Zeigler

Ushers: Weaver Family