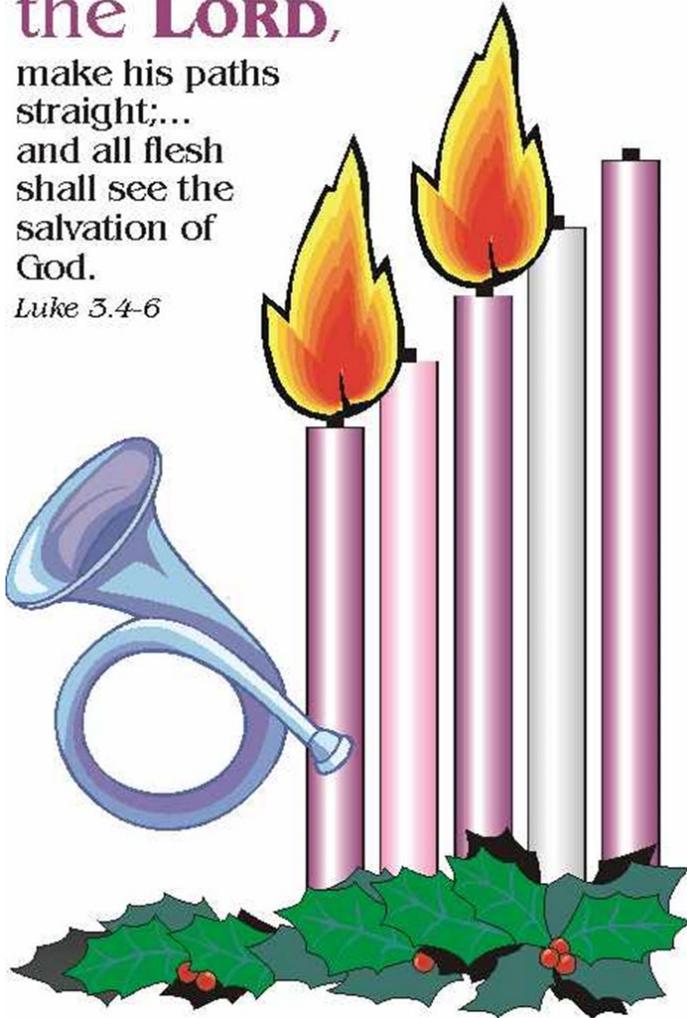


St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ

**Prepare the way of
the LORD,**

make his paths
straight;...
and all flesh
shall see the
salvation of
God.

Luke 3.4-6



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

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

Website: www.stjohnskenton.org

Email: stjohnskenton@gmail.com

“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

Welcome

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Chant, Model I, 15th century

*Hymn #100

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*Call to Worship/Lighting of the Advent Wreath

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.—**Philippians 1:3-11**

We light the second candle of LOVE with the candle of HOPE. We love the members of the Church as Paul loved those he walked with in faith. Help us to fan the embers of love into a great fire in the hearts of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Let us pray: O Father, as we light these candles, we pray for the love of Christ to abound in our family of faith and in every church around this globe. We thank You for our sisters and brothers. Help them, everyone, to be filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Christ. May Your Spirit cause us to sing of Your glory and praise. In His Name, Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Let Us Pray Unto the Lord:

The Pastoral Prayer

Missing Child: Jaree Baker – Cincinnati, OH

Mission of the Month: Love Inc.

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

Chancel Choir *Noels of Christmas Let Us Sing* Wood

Children's Message **Fanfare for a King** Luke 3:4-6

Giving of Tithes and Offerings:

Offering Prayer

Offerings can be placed in the baskets in back of sanctuary

***Doxology**

Scripture **Malachi 3:1-4**

Luke 3:1-6

Sermon **Famous Last Words (and First Words)**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*The Apostle's Creed back of hymnal

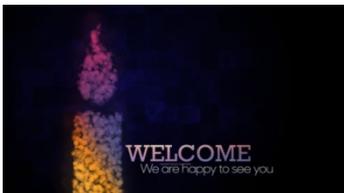
The Blessing and Sharing of the Elements

***Hymn #102** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

***Benediction**

Postlude *Angels from the Realms of Glory* Page/Smart

*— Those who are able, please stand



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

Scripture Readings (ESV):

Malachi 3:1-4:

¹“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Luke 3:1-6:

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make His paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Sermon Notes
05 December 2021

Scripture: **Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6**

Sermon: **Famous Last Words (and First Words)**

1. What do you find comforting about the Lord's messenger who prepares a way (**Malachi 3:1**)? What do you find discomfoting about the messenger's coming (**Malachi 3:2-4**)?
2. What is surprising about God's messenger, John the Baptist? Where did God find him (**Luke 3:1-2**)? Where did John go to begin his ministry and what was this ministry (**Luke 3:3**)?
3. How did John's message 'prepare the way of the Lord' (**Luke 3:4**)? How was his message similar to what Jesus preached (see **Luke 13:3-5**)?
4. How are you God's messenger of love today? How are you helping to proclaim the Good News so "all flesh (people) shall see the salvation of God" (**Luke 3:5-6**)?

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Missing Child: our prayers today go out to Jaree Baker missing since November 22, 2021 from Cincinnati, OH.

Mission of the Month: Love Inc. of Hardin County

Family Gingerbread House Making Party (Please note date & time change): Sunday, December 19 at 5 pm. There will also be crafts, sweet treats and hot chocolate. Please register by December 13, if attending.

Christmas Eve Service: December 24 at 8 pm. This year, the service will be a little different than in recent years. This evening will be narrated by God and include the children's choir and youth members leading various parts of the service. Come back with us to a simpler time as we remember the Christmas story and experience it with the faith of a child. Open your hearts as we embark on a journey. Casual dress is appropriate.

Committee Budgets & Year End Reports: It is that time of year again. Please submit year end reports for the Annual Meeting Booklet by December 31 or financials by the beginning of January.

Mental Health First Aid Training: Saturday, January 22 in the fellowship hall. There is no cost for this training and lunch is provided. It is being organized by ONU students. To register, email Donna at ddickman@passaah.org. Last day to register is January 7.

Annual Congregational Meeting: January 30 immediately following the morning worship service.

Celebrate Recovery Meal Sign-Up: If you are able to provide food, please sign-up in the back of the sanctuary. Please have the food at the church at 5:30 pm in the kitchenette across from the chapel. Any questions, please see Anna LaWarre or Jerry Pfister.

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





**MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID**

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

On average,

123

people die by suicide each day.

- American Foundation for
Suicide Prevention

From 1999 to 2016,

630,000

people died from drug overdose.

- Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention

Nearly

1 IN 5

**U.S. adults lives with a
Mental illness.**

- National Institute of Mental Health via the
National Survey on Drug Use and Health
and the Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration

**The course will teach you how
to apply the ALGEE action plan:**

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm.
- Listen nonjudgmentally.
- Give reassurance and information.
- Encourage appropriate professional help.
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies.

Why Mental Health First Aid?

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. This training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.

MHFA Training

Saturday,

January 22, 2022

9:00am – 5:00pm

St. John's Evangelical Church

211 E. Carrol St.

Kenton, Ohio

To register - email Donna at

ddickman@passaah.org

Last day to register: January 7th

Who Should Take it

- Employers
- Police officers
- Hospital staff
- First responders
- Faith leaders
- Community members
- Caring individuals

What it Covers

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use
- How to interact with a person in crisis
- How to connect the person with help
- **NEW:** Expanded content on trauma, addiction and self-care



**The Mental
Health and
Recovery Services
Board of AAH**



This program is a top-notch service to area communities like ours and we are so grateful for the opportunity to have this program." - **Nikki Carber**, Speak Out Against Suicide

Week at a Glance

Today, 12/5:	9:00 AM Sunday School (K-Grade 5) 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study – FH 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM WAM – Chapel 1:00 PM HCC Youth – Kenton Theater
Monday, 12/6:	5:30 PM Missions/Evangelism
Tuesday, 12/7:	6:30 PM Ag Banquet – FH 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery
Wednesday, 12/8:	5-7 PM Wednesday Night Program - FH 7:00 PM Bible Study – Chapel
Thursday, 12/9:	7:00 PM Church Council
Friday, 12/10:	12:00 PM Prayer - Sanctuary
Saturday, 12/11:	7:30 AM Men's Bible Study- FH

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 (11/28): 56

Envelopes: 11/14: \$2180; 11/21: \$8535

Loose Ones: \$

Mission: 11/14: \$80; 11/21: \$50

Ushers:

12/5: Shawn & Natasha Dyer

12/12: Donovan & Kristi Weaver

Pledges to date for 2022: \$80,300



Christmas Eve Service

December 24 - 8 PM

**Journey back with us to a simpler time as
we remember the Christmas Story.
Casual dress is appropriate.**