



ST. JOHN-INCARNATION  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**MESSENGER**  
**NOVEMBER 2020**



13 Blake Avenue  
Lynbrook, NY 11563

# Calendar of Events

Sunday worship and Thursday night Vespers will continue to be offered remotely via ZOOM with bulletins being sent through email and regular mail. Please contact the church office if you know someone who would like a copy of the bulletin so we can be sure to send it.



## NOVEMBER

Thurs. 11/19	Evening Prayer Service ( <i>Zoom only</i> )	7:30pm
Sat. 11/21	Tree of Light concert	3:00pm
Sun. 11/22	Worship with Zoom First Communion – Gabriella Bohringer Virtual Sunday School ( <i>Zoom only</i> )	9:30am 11:30am
<b>Thurs. 11/26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
Sun. 11/29	Worship with Zoom <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>Seafarers' satchels due at church</b>	9:30am

## Looking ahead to DECEMBER:

Thurs. 12/3	Advent Holden Evening Prayer	7:30pm
Sun. 12/6	“Grateful Giving” Commitment Sunday <b>ALL GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE AT CHURCH</b>	
Thurs. 12/10 & 12/17	Advent Holden Evening Prayer	7:30pm
Thurs. 12/31	Last day for all ELCA Good Gifts donations	

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

We will continue to have plastic bins outside by the side door of the church for any food donations to the New LIFE Center in Uniondale. Thank you!

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ALEX...

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always. Pray continually. In all things give thanks. *This*, St. Paul declares, is what God wants for us in Christ Jesus. And yet, as we prepare for another Thanksgiving and reflect on this special holiday when we give thanks to God for all the blessings in our lives (when I was a kid it was the four Fs – faith, family, food and of course, football!), Paul’s encouraging words of wisdom to the Thessalonians may be tough for us to hear, much less embrace with everything we’ve been through together (and apart) this past year. Despite the countless jokes and memes about 2020 that will surely continue until well after January 31<sup>st</sup>, we know that this has been quite a difficult year, one unlike any we have ever experienced, and unfortunately it looks like COVID-19 will even affect our even holiday plans as well. And we’re supposed to *rejoice* in the midst of all this!? We might be able to pray without ceasing or at least give it our best try, but rejoicing and giving thanks!? In *these* circumstances!?

Absolutely!!! Paul never ceased in giving thanks for the Christians in the church at Thessalonica (“We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers” – 1 Thessalonians 1:2), and as we see throughout his epistles in the New Testament, he clearly preached what he practiced:

“Be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making music to the Lord in your hearts, **giving thanks** to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” – Ephesians 5:18b–20

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with **thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God.” – Philippians 4:6

“Be thankful... And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God the Father through him.” – Colossians 3:15b, 17

Paul wasn’t naive. He knew the circumstances at hand, and he was fully aware of the resistance and persecution that the early Christians faced. After all, he himself was a persecutor of believers before his conversion, and later on he would be imprisoned multiple times for his faith! Nevertheless, Paul remained confident of the hope we share in Christ, and as Christians have continued to endure hardships throughout the centuries, the apostle’s unwavering call to thanksgiving has remained.

So yes, we can rejoice and give thanks in a year like 2020 (our “grateful pumpkins” are proof of this!) and we can give *thankfully* too! Reassuring us of God’s abundant goodness, Paul reminds us in his second letter to the Corinthians that because the Lord has blessed us with enough, we may share freely, abundantly and gratefully: “You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” (2 Corinthians 9:11–12)

As we look toward Thanksgiving and the start of Advent, we will reflect on this theme of “Grateful Giving” for our annual stewardship appeal which will not only help us plan our shared ministry here at St. John–Incarnation for 2021 and beyond, but also prepare our hearts and minds for Christ’s coming at Christmas. Until then, let us continue to give thanks and proclaim the good news of God’s love in Christ! Let us praise God’s name in all that we say and do, that God may be glorified through us and our giving together. To quote the psalmist, “Praise the Lord! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.” (Psalm 106:1)

Peace +

*Pastor Alex*

# SERVERS FOR NOVEMBER 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
<b>1</b>	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Susan Masciello	Susan Masciello	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
<b>8</b>	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Joan Pirrone & Suzanna Thomas
<b>15</b>	9:30	Kaylee Palmer	Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	Judy Posimato & Dorothy Criscuolo
<b>22</b>	9:30	Sam Barry	Kim Carlstrom	Chris Shelton	Cora Sarver & Kristen DeStefano
<b>29</b>	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Janet Pescatore	Anna Lenz	Doug & Kristina Palmer

## DECEMBER 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
<b>6</b>	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
<b>13</b>	9:30	Victoria Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Judy Posimato & Alexandra Dunn
<b>20</b>	9:30	Christopher Palmer	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Joan Pirrone & Cora Sarver
<b>24</b>	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Claire Lenz	Chris Shelton	Doug & Kristina Palmer
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	Torch bearers	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kaylee Palmer		
	Gospel bearer	Sam Barry			
<b>27</b>	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Kim Carlstrom	Kim Carlstrom	Andrew & Alexandra Dunn

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator: Claire Lenz: Lectors & Assisting Ministers – 872-2063; Pauline Feltkamp: Ushers - 599-2273 Andrea: Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers and Gospel bearers - 599-0778. If you are making a change in the schedule, please notify the office so all information can be updated.

✝ There will be no service at 8:15am.

✝ Services will also be held via Zoom

*To the glory of God and in  
 Loving Memory of  
**Larry Reinecker**  
 Gifts have been made to the  
 St. John-Incarnation Memorial Fund  
 By  
**Paul & Christel Hild***

***Please pray for...***

Larry Lipitz	Arlene	Karissa Heap
Anthony Posimato	Sandy	Orlando Castrence
Donna Valenti	Bill	Tad Sheppard
Stephen Suppa	Joe	Harold Walker
Eleanor Haslett	Joanne	Bernadette Harten
Scott Masciello	Ryan	Mike T.
Sherry Powell	Grace	Mary Rebando
The Carver Family	Sue	Ben Lynch
John Michael	Faith	Bob T.
Vivian Monaco	Carmel Wright	Ginger Freise
Colton Youdelman	Joshua Emswiler	Benny
Amie Hanna	Christel Hild	Our Homebound
Bill Gibbs	Charles	Our Military
William Sarver	Ann B.	Healthcare Workers
Donna	Neil B.	First Responders
Janet Habermann	Julie Genovese	Those we pray
Bailey	Keith	for silently or aloud
Sandy	Maureen	

**If you would like to request prayers** for yourself or someone else, please write the name(s) on a prayer request poster or call or email the office at 599-0778 or [stjohnincarnation@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnincarnation@gmail.com). Please write how long you would like the name to remain on the list otherwise it will be removed after three weeks.

**If you would like to donate flowers in honor or memory of someone for one of our worship services, please mail your donation to the church office with the date and names. Suggested donation is \$30.**



# LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH



We are seeking families or individuals to help light a candle on our Advent Wreath and lead the special litany during our worship services throughout the 4 Sundays of Advent: **November 29<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup>, December 13<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

If interested, please contact the church office or look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Once you have signed up, we will give you the blessing to read over before your assigned day.



## Holden Evening Prayer Midweek Advent Service



Join us Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm

December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
December 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 17<sup>th</sup>



## Christmas Eve Poinsettias



If you would like to have a Poinsettia(s) on the altar during the Christmas season in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the Poinsettia Flower envelope and drop it in the offering bin.

You can also mail it to the church or drop it off in the church's mailbox during the week.

This is a free will offering.

**The Evangelism committee** packaged **SJILC mugs** filled with candy, pretzels and a spider ring as a Halloween treat for our seniors. Sixty mugs were sent to the residents of the Atria in Lynbrook and to our homebound members!



**Our next virtual SUNDAY SCHOOL session is  
NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> at 11:30am.**

**Activity kits for December** can be picked up at church Sunday, 11/22 after worship or Monday 11/23, Tuesday 11/24 and Wednesday, 11/25 between 11am and 4pm.

Or you can call the church office to make other arrangements.



**SJILC HAS A NEW CHAIR LIFT**

Thanks to **Merle Tessier** of Northport for her very generous donation of a **Bruno Stair Chair**. For our members who need assistance with navigating stairs they now have access from the narthex to the auditorium.



**Congratulations to Lauren Henshaw  
who celebrated the affirmation of her baptism  
on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>!**





Our very own  
Janet Pescatore  
completes her annual  
PINK RUN at SJILC!





**IN MEMORY OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

*Bonni Backe*

*Kay Brier*

*Connie Conte*

*Brenda Essex*

*Margaret Headley*

*Lauren Elaine Kriz Hume*

*Wilhelomina Kelly*

*Alan Klassen*

*Anita Offner*

*Connie Pappandrew*

*Wayne Peterson*

*Larry Reinecker*

*Bruce Robertson*

*Pasquale Sbendorio*

*Vincent P. Sommella*

*Ivanhoe Stewart*

*Frida Thumm*

*Joe Wall*



# ELCA GOOD GIFTS

This year, we are planning to collect a group donation as a church so that we may purchase a FAMILY FARM as a Christmas gift for a family living in poverty. The goal is \$715, which will provide a cow, a couple of goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training. With eggs, milk and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can make all the difference. We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity as together we share God's incarnate love during this Advent season!

You can contribute toward the FAMILY FARM online at

<https://goodgifts.elca.org/group-gift/st-john-incarnation-lutheran-church>

or

Fill out the envelope marked **ELCA GOOD GIFTS**  
and drop it off in the offering box



## **Christmas-at-Sea**

*A Holiday Initiative of*



# **Seafarers International House**

*Stay home and knit*

About 400,000 seafarers have been stuck on sea on extended contracts with no shore leave due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions. They are the “invisible essential workers” and are overworked, frustrated and lonely. This is why we invite you, your business, school group or congregation to bring joy to seafarers who will not be home with their loved ones for Christmas. Through gangway hand-ups, our port chaplains safely deliver the satchels filled with gifts to the ships for the holiday. Every crew member on a ship regardless of their faith or nationality will open their satchels, each containing:

- One Sweatshirt – hooded or unhooded (size M-L-XL)
- Three Pairs of Socks – thermal or gym
- One T- Shirt (size M-L-XL)
- One Knitted Winter Cap (coordinating scarf optional; no pastels please),
- One Can of Nuts, Large Bar of Chocolate, or Healthy Snack Bar
- A Holiday or Christmas card from YOU!

You pick the colors, styles and brands, but please no substitutions from the list. For the safety of seafarers, please do not add fringes or pom-poms. The Christmas-at-Sea satchels should be comparable for each member of the crew.

And, please assemble each satchel with sweatshirts and T-shirts of the same size and label the satchel with a M, L, or XL on the back side.

**Satchels must be at church by  
Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.**

Satchels are in the narthex. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please leave the money in offering plate or drop it off at the church office. Andrea will send the money to the Seafarers International house.

# Holiday Candy Sale

ALL PACKAGES ARE 1/2 LB

**MILK CHOCOLATE  
MINI PRESENTS**

**MILK CHOCOLATE  
MINI SNOWMEN**

**PREMIUM BRIDGE MIX**

**\$7**

**MILK CHOCOLATE  
COVERED RAISINS**

**\$6**

**FOIL WRAPPED TURKEYS**

**\$4**

**FOIL WRAPPED SANTAS**

**\$7**

**WILL BE SOLD AFTER CHURCH.  
LOCAL DELIVERY AVAILABLE.**

# Spread the Warmth Annual Coat Drive

Beginning **November 1<sup>st</sup>** and continuing through winter, **SJLIC** will be collecting coats and jackets for the **United Veterans Beacon House's Annual Coat Drive.**

Please drop off new or gently used coats in the marked boxes by the coat racks in the narthex. Your donation will help bring the warmth of God's love to someone this winter.

Thank you!

## Join us for worship on ZOOM!

Sundays at 9:30am &  
Thursdays at 7:30pm (Zoom only)

### Online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5165990778>

Meeting ID: 516 599 0778

### By phone:

1-646-558-8656 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 516 599 0778 #

*No attendee code. Just press #*



## Give to SJILC using PayPal!

Here's how it works:

Log in to your PayPal account, choose the "send" option to send money, and type in our new email address: [stjohnincarnation@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnincarnation@gmail.com).

Once you have entered the amount you would like to give, please select the "Sending to a friend" option to send your donation for free. **(Otherwise, PayPal will charge you a small transaction fee.)**

Confirm payment and you're done!

It's a fast and easy way to support the ministry of St. John-Incarnation!