

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SANBORNVILLE, NH

3RD SUNDAY AFTER ADVENT, DECEMBER 17TH, 2017

SERVICE TIMES: 8AM AND 10:30AM

CHURCH SCHOOL 10:15AM

REV. SUE POULIN, RECTOR

LECTIONARY READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 4:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

SCHEDULED PARTICIPANTS

L.E.M. 8am Kirsten Gowdy, 10:30am Carol Branca

Lector: 8am Peter Campbell, 10:30am Carole Connors
CHRIST

Acolyte: 8am Kirsten Gowdy, 10:30am David Moberg

Ushers: 8am Dick Jason, 10:30am Dave Guinta and Julia Stackpole

Counting: Tina Firicano and Mickey Mallory

Coffee Hour: Jane Daniell and Sandy Thomas

Altar Guild: Mary Cullinan

Thrift Shop: CLOSED FOR WINTER

Bread Ministry for December: Ann Elkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

December 17th: following the 10:30am service we will be greening the Church for Christmas. Help is needed in getting decorations from the parish hall to church, and in decorating the Church. So grab a quick cup of coffee and have some fun as we make St. John's beautiful for Christmas.

December 24 - Advent 4: 10am - ONE SERVICE IN THE PARISH HALL

Christmas Eve Services:

6pm Holy Eucharist and Family Service in Church

10:30pm - Carols

11pm Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day - NO SERVICE

December 31- ONE SERVICE 10:00am

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES

This is the last day for contributions to the Christmas flowers, in order to have all the names for the Christmas bulletins. Envelopes are available in the pews. Please PRINT your name as donor, and in whose name/s the flowers are given and why.

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Every rector has a discretionary fund, to be used at their discretion to help people in need in their parish. A person or family may ask the rector directly for help or an individual may mention a person or family in need of some help on a short term basis directly to the rector.

In the pews this week are envelopes marked DISCRETIONARY FUND, if you wish to contribute to Rev. Sue's fund, please place check or cash in the envelope, seal and give directly to her or place on the collection plate. If you know of a person or family in the congregation that could use some extra help at this time of year especially, please put their name/s in the envelope, seal and give directly to her or on the collection plate. ONLY Rev. Sue will open these envelopes.

Our last fund raiser for the year was last Wednesday evening. \$300+ was added to the budget.

STEWARDSHIP

Please return your pledge cards, thank you if you have, as soon as possible. Questions, speak with Jane Daniell or Rev Sue. For the Vestry to complete the 2018 budget we need your pledges.

From: The Synthesis reading for this week.

We need humor in our lives. It is like the hand of God on the shoulder of a troubles world. It is like the desert rejoicing and blossoming. In the midst of the laughter, it is as if the sorrow and sighing flees away. The message of the prophet Isaiah is so relevant for us because it acknowledges the pain and the loss and the devas

tation the people had been through; and at the same time, it points to something beyond the present condition. The creation will be renewed. The ruined cities will be rebuilt. The exiles will come home. The oppressed will hear the good news. Those who mourn will be comforted....

And so we hear the word of the Lord, on this third Sunday of Advent, and in many faith communities we will light the candle of joy. Ultimately, our joy is all about who Jesus is. After his time of testing in the desert, which paralleled Israel's exile, Jesus is worshipping in the synagogue in Nazareth, and he is reading the scripture for the people, and he opens the Book of Isaiah to this very passage: The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set at liberty those who are oppressed. To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Then Jesus closed the book and sits down. And everyone is looking at him. And then he says to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

And in that moment, we get it. It's like the ending to a wonderful story and we get it; we sense that "this is where

Keep your message brief, friendly, and to the point.
Use the image as a link, or add a call-to-action link here.
[Add a Link](#)

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