

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN THE
SANCTUARY

9:30-10:10 Adult Formation

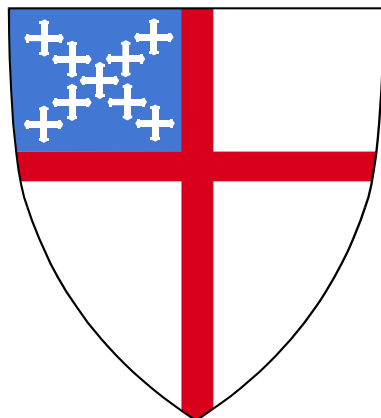
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite
II, Year A & Children's Church

Live-streamed on Facebook
and YouTube

The Witness

December 2023 issue

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church



The Sunday Gospel Readings for December 2023

December 3 - 1 Advent - Mark 13:24-37

December 10 - 2 Advent - Mark 1:1-8

December 17 - 3 Advent - John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24 - 4 Advent - Luke 1:26-38

December 24 - Christmas Eve - Luke 2:1-20

December 24 - Christmas Eve - Luke 2:1-20,
John 1:1-18, or John 1:1-4

December 31 - 1 Christmas - John 1:1-18

The Holy Day Gospel Readings for December 2023

December 21 - St. Thomas - John 20:24-29

December 26 - St. Stephen - Matthew 23:34-39

December 27 - St. John - John 21:19b-24

December 28 - The Holy Innocents -
Matthew 2:13-18

Father Dave's Corner



Dear St. Margaret's Community,

Happy New Year! The year 2024 is still a month away but *every* year of the church's liturgical calendar begins with Advent season, the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day. In the secular world, and in a lot of churches, these four weeks are just an extended Christmas celebration. The Episcopal Church follows a tradition going back at least 1500 years, preparing Christians for the arrival of God in human flesh - Jesus the Christ. To remind ourselves why the birth of a Savior is such wonderful news, Advent season calls us to remember why humanity needs saving. It's also a reminder that change, even when it's for the better, is always hard.

Our Sunday worship in December adjusts to reflect the spirit of the season. Advent is a time of prayerful self-reflection, so the liturgical color is purple, as in Lent. Instead of singing the joyful *Gloria* we reverently say together an ancient invocation known as *Trisagion* ("thrice holy"). The prayers of the people, the words of the confession, the Eucharistic Prayer and prayer after communion are all chosen to emphasize humanity's need for the Incarnate God who comes to rescue us.

One more thing to know about Sunday worship during Advent: we will be offering an opportunity to request from your clergy individual prayers for healing. Each Sunday, while one of us distributes the Body of Christ, the other will be available after you receive communion hear requests and offer prayers. Healing prayers can be for ailments physical, emotional, or spiritual, for yourself or anyone you know and love.

Amid the crazy busyness that consumes us during the holidays, let's use Advent season to keep ourselves grounded in the faith, hope, and love that comes into the world with the birth of Jesus. And keep our hearts open to fully embrace the one Christmas gift that truly never stops giving.

Fr. Dave Rodrick





From The Deacon's Den

The daybed in my study at home is literally covered over with gifts that I've spent the past month shopping for (mostly online) and wrapping for family and friends. My mantle, front door, and dining table are lovingly decorated with items I've been using for years - their presence like long overdue friends finally arriving to visit. I've never been this energetic or organized about the upcoming holidays! But now what? Now that I've removed the usual distractions of December, how do I live in the weeks ahead? How can I enter a slower pace of waiting and watching? Here are some thoughts about my Advent preparation.



Beginning with the First Sunday of Advent, we focus on the word **hope**. Isaiah says, "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." Clay is malleable. Clay is submissive to the will of the potter. Clay is most often made into something useful. And so, I hope that I become more like clay so that God may use me to bring hope to my world.

For the Second Sunday of Advent, we will focus on the word **peace**. John the Baptist was a messenger who promised that God would one day reveal his glory just as Isaiah and the other prophets tell us. This Advent, I will seek the peace of God in my life so that I might speak up more about who God is and how God takes care of us.

The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday and the theme is **joy**. It's marked by the use of a pink candle in the Advent wreath. Isaiah says, "so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations." In *The Magnificat*, Mary tells us that God is worthy to be praised because God has done great things. In my Advent preparation, I hope to learn more of the ways of joy and praise as well as to become more aware of those who need God's help. As I become more aware, I pray that God will give me grace to act in God's name "to fill the hungry with good things."

Finally, we have the interesting confluence of the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve both happening on December 24th. The theme is **love**, and what better way could we come to understand God's love than to recognize that the birth of Jesus was for the saving of humankind. At the end of Advent, my prayer and hope will be that I have received the peace and love of God so that my heart will be ready to receive Jesus, my redeemer.

May your own journey through Advent be one of discovery as you, too, prepare to greet of the Lord.



The Rev. Deacon Janet Atkins



Slow down. Quiet. It's Advent.

22 DAYS TO FOLLOW CHRIST MORE NEARLY, LOVE HIM MORE DEARLY

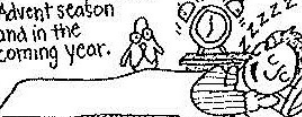
DEC 3
SUN
The First Sunday of Advent

Today's collect asks that we cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. What does that armor look like for you in this Advent season?




DEC 4
MON
Advent season and in the coming year.

In the gospel read yesterday in church (Mark 13: 24-37), Jesus told his disciples to keep awake. Reread the passage and think about how you will remain awake this.



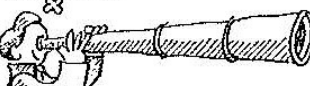
DEC 5
TUE
Individuals and Families (found in the Book of Common Prayer, pages 136-140). You'll find prayers for morning, noon and night.

Set a time for prayer each day in this Advent season. Keep it simple and stick to it. If it's helpful to you, use the Daily Devotions for



DEC 6
WED
A GOD-SIGHTING!!!

Be on the lookout for God at work in and around you today.



DEC 7
THU
For God alone my soul in silence waits.
Psalm 62:1

Take a few minutes each day to still your mind and wait in silence.


DEC 8
FRI

Today, read the gospel passage for this coming Sunday (Mark 1:1-8). Give thanks for the ways that the story of Jesus is good news.




DEC 9
SAT
Christmas Eve. As you read, ask yourself why the symbol of St. Mark is a lion.

This year, we'll read the Gospel of Mark on most Sundays. Sixteen chapters. Get a head start, starting today, read a chapter a day. You'll finish on



DEC 10
SUN
The Second Sunday of Advent

Today's collect asks that we heed the prophets' warnings, forsake our sins, and greet with joy the coming of Jesus. What do you need to forsake in order to greet Jesus?



DEC 11
MON


Visit or call someone who is isolated and lonely. It's a gift that goes both ways.



DEC 12
TUE

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child, Make thee a bed soft, undefiled, Within my heart, that it may be A quiet chamber kept for Thee, -Martin Luther

In your daily quiet time, offer this prayer.



DEC 13
WED


WE'LL TRY TO DO BETTER.

We have been hard on this beautiful planet. It's time to repent and join the efforts to clean up our act.



DEC 14
THU

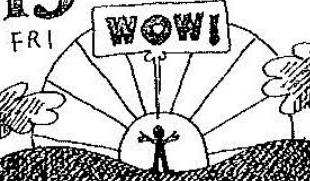
Today, read the gospel passage for this coming Sunday (John 1:6-8, 19-28). Think about John the Baptist and his message. How will you prepare the way for Jesus? How will you testify to the light?



DEC 15
FRI

Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement. -Abraham Joshua Heschel


WOW!



DEC 16
SAT


Seek peace and pursue it. -Psalm 34:14

What if people everywhere did this?



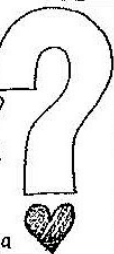
DEC 17
SUN
The Third Sunday of Advent

Today's collect asks that God's grace will help and deliver us from ways in which we feel hindered. What are the obstacles that keep grace from being at work in your life?



DEC 18
MON

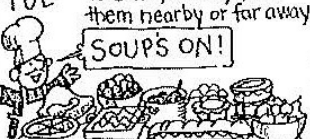
At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the Season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern. -Mother Teresa



DEC 19
TUE

There's so much hunger in the world today. Find out how you can help feed those who do not have enough to eat. You may find them nearby or far away.

SOUPS ON!



DEC 20
WED

Homemade gifts and cards can be the best. They need not be perfect.

I KNEW IT MYSELF! I LOVE IT!




DEC 21
THU
The Feast of Saint Thomas, of doubting fame.

'Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving.' -Frederick Buechner

DEC 22
FRI


Today, read the gospel passage for this coming Sunday (Luke 1:26-38). Think about Mary's response to the angel. How will you say 'Here I am.' to God's call this Christmas?



DEC 23
SAT
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

From a prayer written by Walter Brueggemann: 'Look upon your church and its pastors in this season of hope which runs quickly to fatigue. THANKS! I NEEDED THAT!'


Pray today for your clergy especially since Christmas Eve is also Christmas Eve!



DEC 24
SUN
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today's collect asks that our lives be a mansion for Christ to enter. In what ways can you get ready for Jesus to move in?

TODAY IS ALSO CHRISTMAS EVE!!!



DEC 25
MON
Christmas Day



Special Upcoming Events from Deacon Janet

1. The first event is really an outreach project. On Sunday, you will notice a “naked” Christmas tree in the church. This tree is our **Tree of Warmth** which will soon be decorated with mittens, scarves, and hats for the children at Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary. We'll deliver these items when they return to school after winter break. So, while you are out and about doing your shopping, please remember to pick up an item for the **Tree of Warmth** and bring it to hang on the branches of the “naked” tree.
2. The second event is an opportunity for spiritual enrichment. On Saturday, December 16, there will be a quiet day for the Women of the church. (Don't worry, guys, I'll get to you before too long!!!). We'll meet at the church from 10:30-2:00 to hear about some ways to pray, meditate, and simply spend more time in God's presence. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up for this event in the connector or by emailing me (deaconjanetatkins@gmail.com).
3. Our Wednesday night program continues at 6:00 p.m. with Fr. Dave teaching on discernment - a spiritual practice that helps us hear the voice of God and act accordingly. Please join us in the church for these sessions.
4. On Christmas Eve, we will gather at 6:00 p.m. for Holy Communion, and our children will present the Gospel as part of their Christmas pageant. Please, mark your calendar and come worship with us. Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to develop a program for these wonderful children. (Their Dress Rehearsal will be during the Youth Christian Formation on the 4th Sunday of Advent.)
5. Finally, I'd like to share the way that I am preparing for Christmas. During the weeks of Advent, I am using *Lectio Divina* to try to better understand the themes of the season. *Lectio Divina* consists of several steps. First, choose a text of the Scriptures that you wish to pray. Read the text slowly and prayerfully, constantly listening for that word that God has prepared for you. The next step is “Meditatio.” When a word or phrase strikes you, stop and rest with it. Thirdly, pray. In Latin that's called “Oratio.” Prayer is your response to God's word. Finally, enter into “Contemplatio.” Rest in God's presence and receive His transforming embrace. Remember that contemplation is not your action or doing, rather it is allowing God to act in you. For more detail, please visit this [website](#).



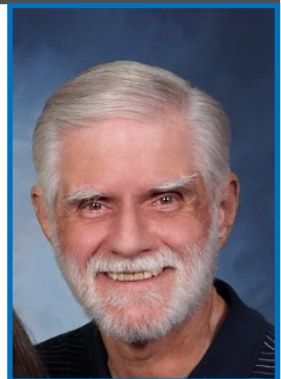
I wish you a holy Advent as you await the coming of Messiah. May God bless you richly. Your Deacon Janet

From your Senior Warden

Season's Greetings to St. Margaret's Church Family! It seems that this year went by so quickly, as here we are in December. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, let us be thankful for all we have been blessed with, and this congregation truly lives up to the adage “it is better to give than to receive.” It is a wonderful gift to be a part of a community that sees a need and then reacts without anyone asking.

Karen and I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. And I thank all of you for your support of me for this past year!

God Bless!!! Dewey Michelin



The Youth Page



Calling all Children (and their parents): The annual Christmas pageant is scheduled for the Christmas Eve Service at 6 pm. Mark your calendars now. We will meet to make costumes in December and rehearse during the 4th Sunday of Advent Service Christian Formation time on December 24!

Christmas Caroling at Valley Falls Nursing Center after church on December 17! All are invited to come and serenade all the folks at Valley Falls with Christmas favorites!!!

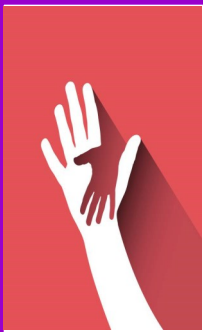


Youth Christian Formation is every Sunday,
at 10:30!

- 12/3 - Teacher - Kathy Locke
Assistants - Susan Lancaster
Acolyte - Owen Keller
- 12/10 - Teacher - Amanda Hines
Assistants - Mike Keller, Janice Ownbey
Acolyte - Kora Bigelow
- 12/17 - Teacher - Mary Ann Methvin
Assistant - Mike Methvin
Acolyte - Reece Belknap
- 12/24 - Teacher - Diane Meketa (Dress Rehearsal)
Assistant - Janice Ownbey, Amanda Hines
Acolyte 10:30 am - Owen Keller
Acolyte 6:00 pm - Kora Bigelow
- 12/31 - Teacher - Kathy Locke
Assistant - Susan Lancaster, Brenna Bedenbaugh
Acolyte - Kora Bigelow



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."



From the Outreach Team (Ann Diem) - Thank you for your contributions to UFRC and the Blessing Box! Please consider volunteering for any Outreach project. Thank you to all who volunteer.

UFRC Upcoming News and Events - December Collection - small bags of sugar, small bags of flour, cooking oil, paper towels, jars of jelly. Thank you to all who contributed 100 boxes of Macaroni & Cheese for Upstate's Thanksgiving Dinner giveaway to the families in need! For Christmas – on page 8 is the listing of the Christmas collection of items for the UFRC Christmas Shop. Thank you for signing up to help at the Christmas Shop...there are some open times still available on the 18th. The list is on the bulletin board in the Connector. Thank you to Paul and Melissa Woolen and Carole Rowell for inventorying and shelving over 1400 items which were collected by a local Child Care Center. They worked hard and did a terrific job! (Pictures are on page 9.)

Lions International - Please bring in used reading, prescriptions and sunglasses, and put them on donation cart.

Cooley Springs-Fingerville ES - Outreach has purchased 15 youth basketballs, 18 size 5 soccer balls, and a storage container to house these items. In December we will have the "Tree of Warmth." See page 4 for more information (Deacon Janet).

Valley Falls Nursing Home - On November 20, Roland and Diane Royal, Diane Meketa, and Ann Diem visited Valley Falls NH and presented 12 "Busy "Boards" hand made by Roland, and Diane Meketa donated hand-crocheted afghans for the residents. See page 9 for pictures. And thank you to Peggy Finley, who delivered November's desserts to the residents!

Mobile Meals - If you are interested in helping with the St. Margaret's Mobile Meals route as a regular delivery volunteer or as a substitute, please contact Patricia Lee, Coordinator, at 864-472-2253. See page 8 for pictures! And thank to all who drive for Mobile Meals every day, Monday through Friday - this takes 2-1/2 hours and is the largest route in the program. For December, we will purchase \$25 gift cards from Ingles for each of the MM recipients. Also, we are working on gathering some MM volunteers to help one of the recipients who has fallen on some very hard times. Continue prayers.

Blessing Box - If you have any non-perishable foods, please donate to the Blessing Box. Upstate also donates to the Box! Thank you for your donations!

Spartanburg Humane Society - Don't forget our 4-legged friends at Spartanburg Humane Society this month! They still need animal toys, dry food, kitty litter, blankets, newspapers., paper towels, empty paper towel & toilet paper rolls.

Thanks! Ann Diem, Outreach

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:23-24.



Our G.I.F.T. Campaign for 2024 is underway!

As of December 1, we have received 45 pledges - \$147,900! Don't forget to turn in your Giving cards - either by mail or in the plate on Sunday!

Contact Bill Barnhill for more news.

For where your treasure is, let your heart be also. Luke 12:34



AND



SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH!!

(ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST/FISH FRY)



From the Sisters of the
Pearl Chapter of the
Daughters of the King® at
St. Margaret's.



For our St. Margaret's Church Family. Remember we pray for our St. Margaret's Church Family.

+ + +

Kim Barnhill - kimbarnhill5@gmail.com; 513-674-8029

Karen Michelin - emich10204@aol.com; 864-680-6603

Cynde Payne - cyndepayne12@gmail.com; 864-316-6480

Beth Richardson - ebrichardson29@icloud.com; 864-580-8773

Carole Rowell - carolekrowell46@gmail.com; 704-516-2312

Brenda Vinson - vinsonb94@yahoo.com; 757-679-1400



Websites and emails you may need -

The National Episcopal Church (TEC) - <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

St. Margaret's - <https://stmargaretsepiscopal.org>

The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina - <https://www.edusc.org/>

The Daughters of the King® - <https://www.doknational.org/>

Fr. Dave - frdave@stmargaretsepiscopal.org

Deacon Janet - deaconjanetatkins@gmail.com

Grace Keller - grace.keller@stmargaretsepiscopal.org



Cursillo means short course in Christianity. And Weekend 146 is February 1-4, 2024. If you are interested, contact Grace Keller - grace.keller@stmargaretsepiscopal.org.

[Download the latest staff application](#)

[Download the latest candidate application](#)

[Visit the EDUSC Cursillo Home Page](#)

Mobile Meals



Left - Here's Marietta Kolinchak with 20 Mobile Meals November food bags which were delivered on November 20. Funds from Outreach are used to purchase the majority of the food. these additional food bags are made up and delivered each month to the Mobil Meals recipients on our route!

UFRC Christmas Shop

Upstate Family Resource Center is collecting toys & gift certificates for ages 3 to 18. Please bring your items to the church and place on the donation cart by December 10th. No need to wrap! The Christmas Shop will be open the week of the 10th.



DONATION DRIVE

Help make this Christmas merry and bright for the young boys and girls in Spartanburg District 2.

Ideas:

- Legos
- Make Up/Lotion
- Hot Wheels
- Art and Crafts
- R/C Cars
- \$25 G.C. to TJ Maxx
- Games for all ages
- Blocks
- Crazy Socks
- Tobogins
- Gloves
- Hair Accessories
- Gift Cards to:
- TJ Maxx
- Ulta
- Walmart
- Movies
- Old Navy

If you would like to make a monetary donation to this program, you can

Mailed a check to:
Upstate Family Resource Center
3740 Boiling Springs Rd.
PMB 141
Boiling Springs, SC 29316
 or go to
<https://secure.giv.com/for/ufrc/>
 or scan the QR code below



Please drop off gifts off at
 340 Blalock Road
 Boiling Springs between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Shopping begins on 12/11
 Thank you for your support!
 Harvest Family Ministries at
 864-685-6134.

NO NEED TO WRAP!
 Upstate Family Resource Center
 340 Blalock Road
 Boiling Springs, SC 29316

St. Margaret's Jesus Work



**Left - Busy day at Upstate Family Resource Center!
1400 items were donated - both food and personal
care. Thanks to Carole Rowell and Paul and
Melissa Woolen for their devotion and hard work!**

**Right & Below -
A wonderful
morning at
Valley Falls
Nursing Home - a
visit from
Roland and
Diane Royal and
Diane Meketa -
Busy Boards
hand-made by
Roland and
afghans hand-
crocheted by
Diane Meketa.**



Pics from the Bazaar



One Last Picture from the Bazaar - The Glamour Girls!!



November Delivery to Spartanburg Humane Society



ECW News from Peggy Finley -

The ECW held another successful holiday bazaar on Saturday, November 4th! We had books, crafts, baked goods, frozen soups and casseroles, children's projects, Timeless Treasures and more! We made almost \$4,400, and will soon be sending 15% of our profits to the Backpack Food Program at Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary School!

This incredible group of women worked hard to pull this together, and while we worked hard, we had great fellowship! I want to also thank all the men and women who helped tear down the sanctuary and set up for the bazaar, and then came back after the bazaar and put it back together for the Sunday service the next morning. Look at the pictures on pages 10 and 11 of all this fun! Come and be a part of it! Save the date for 2024! November 16th!

We will gather for breakfast on Saturday, December 2, at the Peach Blossom. Mostly fun and fellowship this time. We'll set out in January to make a plan on how to use our funds to help the church and the greater community. I am blessed to be a part of this group and this wonderful family! Wishes to all for a wonderful and blessed Christmas.

Peggy Finley, ECW Coordinator



Liturgy Ministry - Beth Richardson Altar Flowers - \$25 Eternity Candle - \$5

Advent is here...a time of promise and waiting. We prepare our hearts and minds for the arrival of our Savior's birth. Waiting is so very hard with the secular world placing Christmas items on shelves before Thanksgiving!!



Our Family of St. Margaret's will count down the four Sundays of Advent, beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, and lighting the candle of Hope on our Advent Wreath. The following Sundays we will light the Advent wreath with the Peace candle (2 Advent), the Joy candle (3 Advent - Gaudete Sunday), and the Love candle (4 Advent). We will also adorn the Sanctuary with **Purple** as the liturgical color of Advent, and then adorn with **white** as the liturgical color of Christmas on Christmas Eve and the 12 days following it.

Also in December, we will celebrate 5 Holy Feasts - December 6 is the Feast Day of St. Nicholas of Myra (the color is **Purple**). Then, on the 21st we will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Thomas, the Apostle (color is **Red**). December 26th, 27th, and 28th are the Feasts of St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr (**Red**), High Holy Day Feast of St. John, the Prophet and Evangelist (**white**), and Feast of the Holy Innocents (**Red**).

However, with all of the colors and rituals and sparkles, let us not forget to turn our eyes upon Jesus and "look full in His wonderful face" as He is the true gift to each one of us. He is always waiting to be with us!

Enjoy celebrating! Prayers of Thanksgiving for my Altar Guild Team and for our St. Margaret's Family. Blessed Advent and Christmas to you!

Beth Richardson, Vestry member for your Liturgy Ministry - 864-580-8773 or ebriehardson29@icloud.com



A Glance into December at St. Margaret's (check the calendar for more events)

December is Universal Human Rights Month, National Tie Month, and Cat Lover's Month

hello
DECEMBER

December 1-2 - EDUSC DEC and Standing Committee Meeting - Camp Gravatt

December 2 - Boiling Springs Christmas Parade, ECW Breakfast 9 am The Peach Blossom Diner; Celebration Dinner 6 pm

December 4 - The First Sunday of Advent (Purple) - The Hope Candle - C.F. 9:30, Youth C.F. & Holy Eucharist 10:30 am

December 5 - National Cookie Day

December 6 - The Feast day of St. Nicholas of Myra (Purple); The Spiritual Gift of Discernment Class & Compline 6 pm

December 7-15 - Happy Hanukkah

December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day

December 9 - Men's Breakfast the Peach Blossom Diner 8 am

December 10 - The Second Sunday of Advent (Purple) - The Peace Candle - C.F. 9:30, Youth C.F. & Holy Eucharist 10:30am

December 13 - The Spiritual Gift of Discernment Class & Compline 6 pm; Vestry meets with Martin Darby 6 pm

December 16 - Women's Quiet Day 10:30am-2pm (Lunch provided)

December 17 - The Third Sunday of Advent (Pink) - The Joy Candle - C.F. 9:30, Youth C.F. & Holy Eucharist 10:30 am;

Youth goes Caroling at Valley Falls Residential Center after Church

December 18 - Maple Syrup Day

December 20 - The Spiritual Gift of Discernment Class & Compline 6 pm

December 21 - The Feast Day of St. Thomas, the Apostle (Red); The First Day of Winter (Winter Solstice)

December 22-23 - Ember Days

December 22-January 2 - Grace on Vacation

December 24 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent (Purple) - The Love Candle - C.F. 9:30, Youth C.F. & Holy Eucharist 10:30am;

December 24 - Christmas Eve (White) - Holy Eucharist and Youth Pageant 6 pm

December 25 - Christmas Day - The Nativity of our Lord (White)

December 25-26 & January 1 - Office Closed

December 26 - Boxing Day; Kwanzaa Begins (12/6-1/2)

December 26 - Feast Day of St. Stephen the Apostle (Red)

December 27 - The Feast Day of St. John the Apostle & Evangelist (White)

December 28 - The Feast Day of the Holy Innocents (Red)

December 31 - The First Sunday after Christmas Day (White) - C.F. 9:30, Youth C.F. & Holy Eucharist 10:30 am

Every Monday Fr. Dave is off and every Friday Grace is off. The Choir meets every Monday at 6 pm.

Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am & every Saturday at 8:30 am.



Readings for December (Lectionary Year B)

December - 1 Advent - Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18, Isaiah 64:1-9, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

December 10 - 2 Advent - Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

December 17 - 3 Advent - Psalm 126 or Canticle 3 or 15, Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 21 - Feast Day of St. Thomas - Psalm 126, Habakkuk 2:1-4, Hebrews 10:35-11:1, John 20:24-29

December 24 - 4 Advent - Canticle 2 or 15 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26, 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

December 24-25 - Christmas Eve & Day -

Midnight Mass (Eve) - Psalm 96, Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-24, Luke 2:1-20 (Proper I)

Mass of Dawn (Day) - Psalm 97, Isaiah 62:6-12, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:1-20 (Proper II)

Principal Mass (Day) - Psalm 98, Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-14 (Proper III)

December 26 - Feast Day of St. Stephen - Psalm 31, Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15, Acts 6:8-7:2a, 51c-60, Matthew 23:34-39

December 27 - Feast Day of St. John - Psalm 92, Exodus 33:18-23, 1 John 1:1-9, John 21:19b-24

December 28 - Feast Day of the Holy Innocents - Psalm 124, Jeremiah 31:15-17, Revelation 21:1-7, Matthew 2:13-18

December 31 - 1 Christmas - Psalm 147, Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7, John 1:1-18



For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:6-7.

The Vestry Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board by the kitchen each month!

Contact Phone Numbers

Rev. Dave Rodrick 864-266-7438

Senior Warden Dewey Michelin 864-316-6353

Junior Warden Rickey Gilbert 864-415-1999

Grace Keller 803-606-4767

Church Office 864-578-3238

The deadline for the next newsletter: December 20th.

The deadline for the weekly bulletin: Wednesdays.

The church calendar will be included in the newsletter each month.



Parish Prayer List

For those in our prayers - Julie Felton, Armon & Diane Royal, the Painter Family, the Grant Moss Family, Vernell Collins, Jimmie Hord, Richard, Paul Woolen, Willie Huggins, Brian Rhinehart, Tom Nicoll, Pat Demumbreum, Maxine Wood, Robin LoConte, Richard Alexander, Rob M., Amy Blackwell, Kay Moore, Kelly Royal Myers, the Witt Family, Pat Collins, Bill, Brian & Patti Moss, Roger Dale Holmes, Candy, Geoff, Jimmy Hord, Ralph Hord, Kim, Teresa Dixon, Nikki,

Andrew, Claudia, Bob, Kristen, Matt, Dennis Sentell, Tyler, Jennifer, Vicki, Michael Maughan, Dmitri, Ed Medford, Jack Golightly, Henry Whittingham, Madelyn, Betty Caldwell, Ted Burnett, Paula Mikels-Burnett, Daniel Mikels, Sally Price, Lawson, Cheryl, Brett Roberts.

For those serving in the armed forces - Devin, Sloan Sentell, Danial, Matt, George, Bobby, Jesse, Megan, Dustin, Hannah, Cliff, Shane, Jean, Mario, Arthur, Colin.



Your Vestry

Dewey Michelin, Sr. Warden

Rickey Gilbert, Jr. Warden

Michelle Smith, Treasurer

Ann Diem, Clerk & Outreach

Beth Richardson, Liturgy

Bill Barnhill, Stewardship

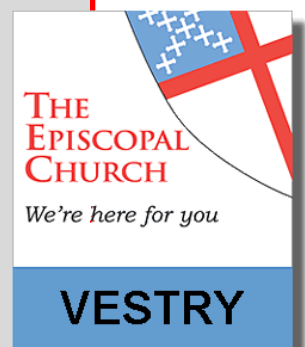
Kathy Locke, Evangelism

Peggy Finley, ECW

Diane Meketa, Youth

Carole Rowell, Pastoral Care

Dave Collins, Honorary Sexton



INFORMATION PAGE



BIRTHDAYS

Erin Burnett	12/01
Bill Barnhill	12/01
Christine Goodrow	12/03
Betty McAbee	12/03
Graham Belknap	12/04
Bob Morrell III	12/06
Ted Burnett	12/14
Paul Hines	12/17
Charlie Hopkins	12/19
Raymond Rhinehart	12/20
Owen Keller	12/24
David Weisner	12/27
Leah Ruis	12/27
Janet Atkins	12/28
Beth Richardson	12/29

Happy birthday to you!

Happy birthday to you!

Happy birthday God's children!

Happy birthday to you!



HAPPY
Anniversary



David Grayshock & Jeffrey Morgan 12/11

Jim & Betty McAbee 12/21

Melton & Helen Roof 12/21



Worship Team Schedule for December 2023

December 3 - 1 Advent, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

TT - Cindy Collins, T - Dave Collins, Richard Alexander, C/C - Carole Rowell
Acolyte - Owen Keller, Lector - Jane Rhinehart, Mike Meketa
Altar - Kim Barnhill, G - Phillip & Connie Ledesma, U - Stan & Cynde Payne
LEV - Beth Richardson, PC - Kathy Langley
LEV - Carole Rowell, PC - Will Hawkins

December 10 - 2 Advent, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

TT - Cindy Collins, T - Charla Hopkins, Patricia Lee, C/C - Will Hawkins
Acolyte - Kora Bigelow, Lector - Scott Collins, Carole Rowell
Altar - Karen Michelin, G - Cindy Bell, Brenna Bedenbaugh,
U - Dewey & Karen Michelin, LEV - Bill Barnhill, PC - Kim Barnhill

December 17 - 3 Advent, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

TT - David Grayshock, T - Jim McAbee, Dave Collins, C/C - Becky Weisner
Acolyte - Reece Belknap, Lector - Dick & Kathy Locke
Altar - Will Hawkins, G - Ann Diem, Melissa Woolen
U - Jim & Linda Tabor, LEV - Dewey Michelin, PC - Karen Michelin

December 24 - 4 Advent, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II (10:30 am)

TT - David Grayshock, T - Jim McAbee, Patricia Lee, C/C - John Lively
Acolyte - Owen Keller, Lector - Glynda Todd, Mike Meketa
Altar - Beth Richardson, G - Dewey Michelin, Dickie Watters
U - Rickey & Christel Gilbert, LEV - No Visit

December 24 - Christmas Eve, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II (6 pm)

Acolyte Kora Bigelow, Altar - Beth Richardson, Remainder - TBD

December 31 - 1 Christmas, Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

TT - Larry Owens, T - TBD, C/C - Beth Richardson
Acolyte - Reece Belknap, Lector - Carole Rowell, John Lively
Altar - Sharon Landon, G - Cindy Bell, Brenna Bedenbaugh,
U - Stan & Cynde Payne, LEV - Beth Richardson, PC - Diane Meketa

Links to keep St. Margaret's connected:

Website: <https://stmargaretsepiscopal.org>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoYcQtchHjs>



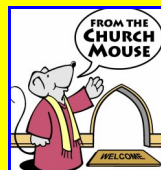
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/smechs/>



Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina: <https://www.edusc.org/>

The Lectionary Page:
<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

The Book Of Common Prayer:
<https://www.bcponline.org/>

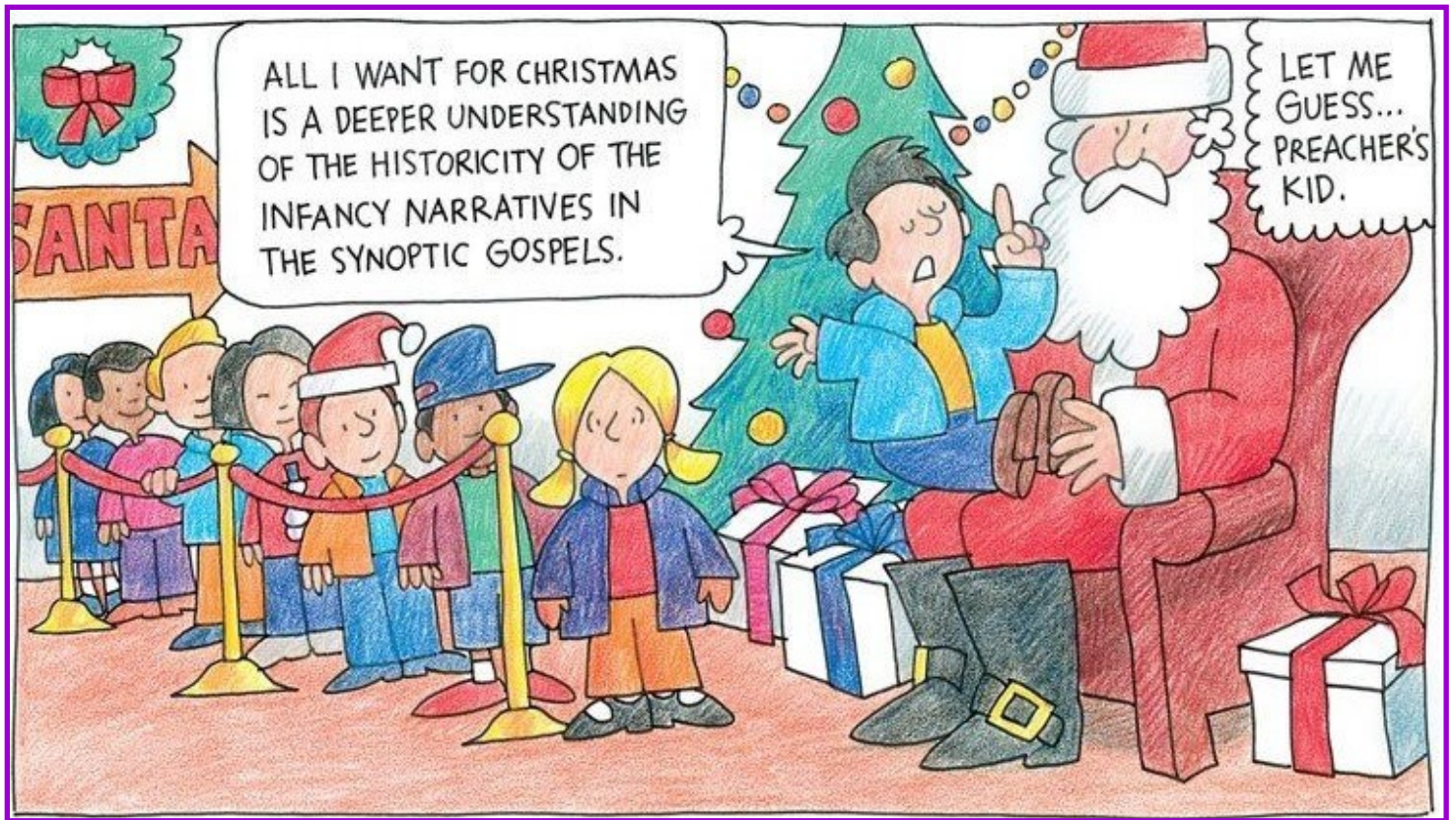


Church email: churchoffice@stmargaretsepiscopal.org

Church Mailing Address: P.O. Box 160024
Boiling Springs SC 29316

Location: 4180 Highway 9, Boiling Springs

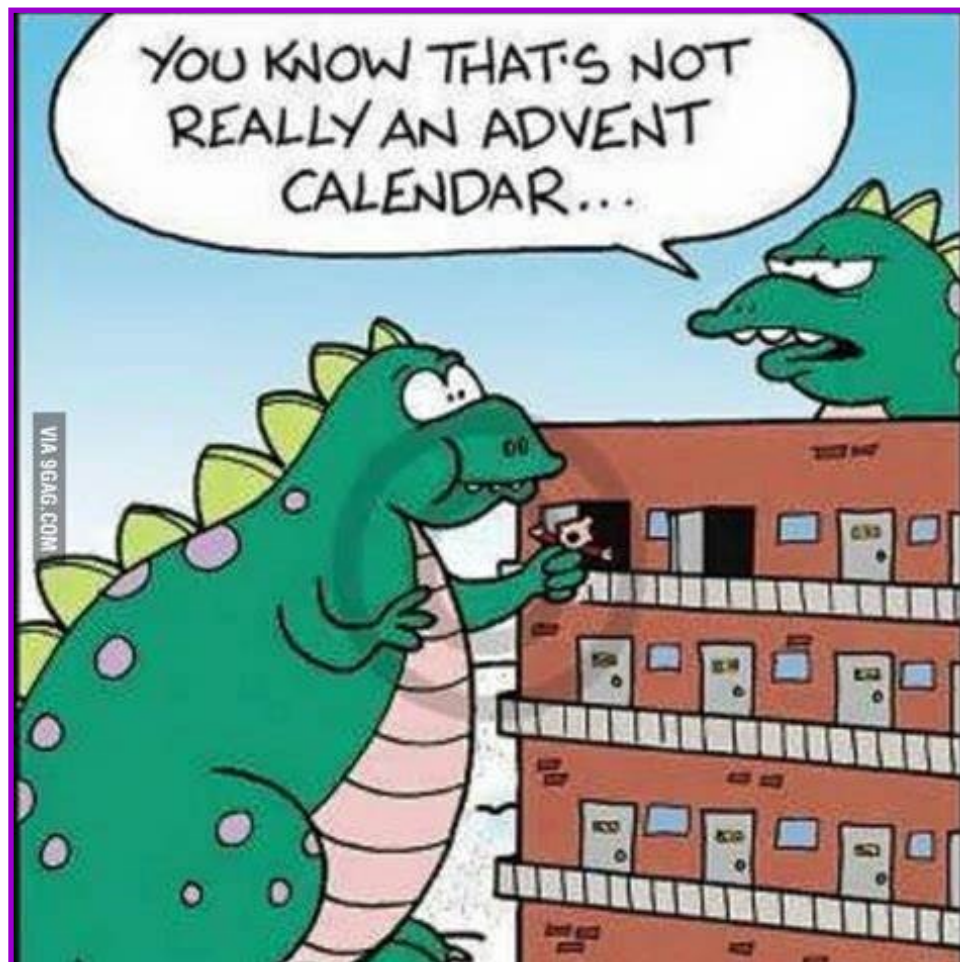
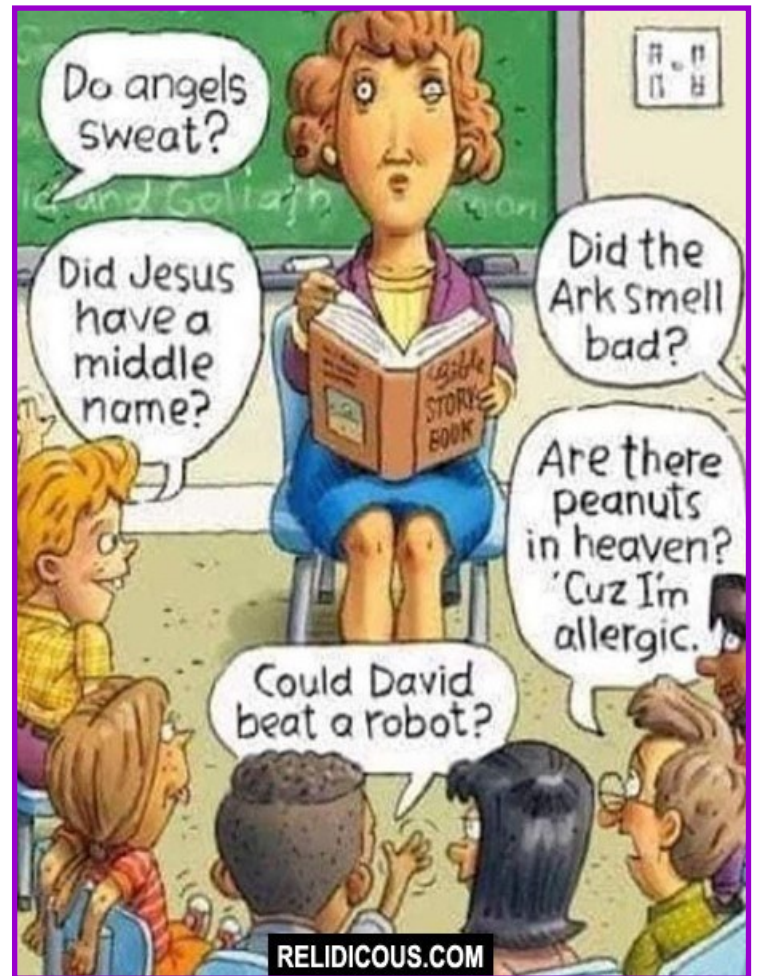
Some Episcopalian Humor



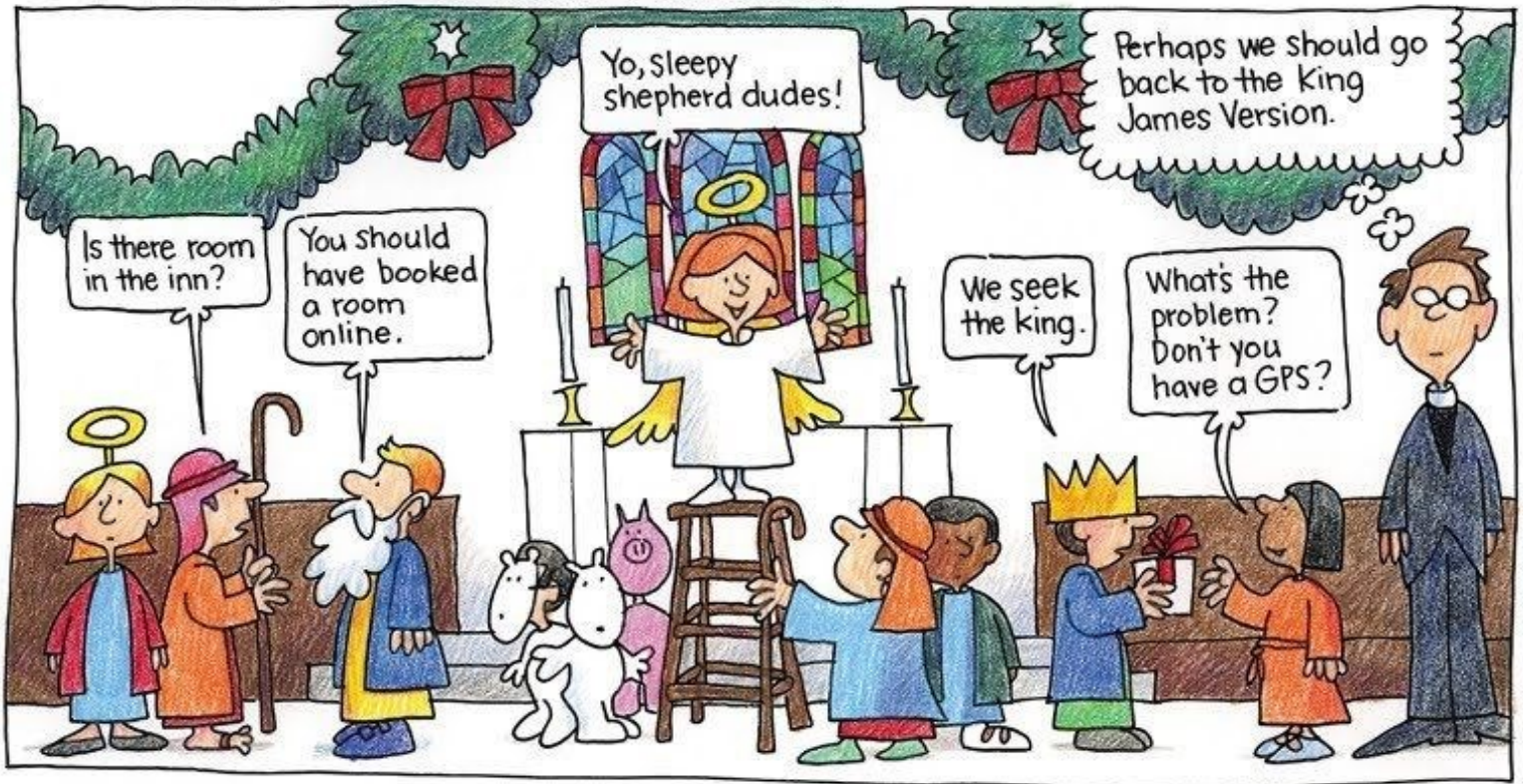
ONE SUNDAY IN ADVENT



ONE MONDAY IN ADVENT



THE RECTOR DROPS IN ON THE PAGEANT REHEARSAL



THE ADVENT POLICE



The Birth of Jesus - From the Gospel of Luke

(Luke 2:1-20)

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

⁴¹ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.