

The Parish Light

The Parish of the Northern Lights Newsletter - December 2018



CHRIST, the only begotten Son of God, looked at the sinful world and realized its need for
HELP, in council with the Father it was agreed that he would give up his high and exalted place and bring to
sinful men

REDEMPTION. He would go to earth in person and through the miracle of birth would become the
INCARNATION of God in human flesh. He would be born of a virgin with God as his Father, and
enter into the sinful world as its

SAVIOR. His holiness, his exemplary life, his sinlessness, his plan of redemption, his death and his
resurrection would bring to earth the great

TRANSFORMATION needed by all mankind. So he came, and as decided in the councils of eternity
and through his coming he brought

MELODY of heaven and earth. A babe in swaddling clothes, divine, whose birth was announced by the
singing of angels on high was to bring

ASSURANCE to all mankind that God cared enough to send his only begotten Son that all who believe
in him might have

SALVATION and eternal life. Only through personal acceptance of him, God's great gift to man, can there
be real Christmas in the human heart.



WHY JESUS IS BETTER THAN SANTA CLAUS

Santa lives at the North Pole....JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleighJESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year, JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stocking with goodies....JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited....JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait to see Santa....JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap...JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or girl, what's your name....

JESUS knew our name before we were born. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address, too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly....JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO....JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says "You better not cry"....JESUS says "cast all your cares on me for I care for you".

Santa's little helpers make toys....JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa may make you chuckle butJESUS gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree....JESUS became our gift and died on a tree....the cross. We need to put Christ back in CHRISTmas. Jesus is still the reason for the season.



T'was the night before Christmas, God glanced over the earth.

He looked to and fro, all over it's girth.

They missed it again He said with a sigh, a heavy heart and a tear in his eye.

I gave them my son, so they could be free. My greatest gift, to them from me.

They traded me in, for a man in red, a little tree and a horse drawn sled.

How do I save them, and make them see ~ my love is complete, my grace is free.

How do I help them, when all they know...is a talking snowman and a box with a bow.

Maybe next year, they will stop and see..the biggest gift at Christmas is a little child from me.

One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money onto the plate

And there sat little Rosie all the way in the back ...She shyly raised her hand. The Pastor asked her to come up to the front. Slowly she made her way to the Pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving he asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened and she looked over the congregation, pointing to the three most handsome men in the building said, "I'll take him, and him, and him!"

His phone rang in church by accident during prayers. The Pastor scolded him. The worshippers admonished him after prayers for interrupting the silence. His wife kept on lecturing him on his carelessness all the way home. You could see the shame, embarrassment and humiliation on his face.

He never stepped foot in the church again.

That evening, he went to a bar. He was still nervous and trembling. He spilled his drink on the table by accident. The waiter apologized and gave him a napkin to clean himself. The janitor mopped the floor. The waitress offered him a complimentary drink. She gave him a huge hug and a kiss, saying, "Don't worry man. Who doesn't make mistakes?"

He has never stopped going to that bar since then.

Lesson: Sometimes our attitude as believers drives souls away from our church. Our attitudes breaks our relationships, destroys our families.

You can make a difference by how you treat other people especially when they make mistakes.

Stay blessed family and friends.





Saturday, Dec. 22nd ~ St Andrew's Zion Christmas concert
Potluck followed by concert

**If anyone is interested in participating,
please call Kathy Asfeldt at 780-675-5248**

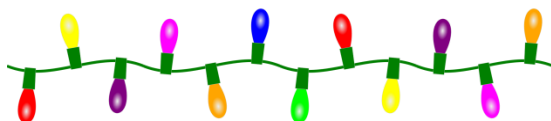


During the Advent Season we will be decorating a Christmas Tree in the Hall at St Andrew's
Zion Church with:

NEW
SOCKS, SCARVES, HATS AND MITTENS

Following Christmas the items will be donated to a charity to be distributed as needed.

Feel free to help us decorate the tree beginning the 1st Sunday in Advent - December 2 2018



CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Services:

St Paul's Anglican Church, Boyle 10:30 am ~ Rev Christobel Lines officiating

Christ Church Anglican Church, Wandering River... 1:30 pm ~ Rev. Christobel Lines officiating

St Andrew's Anglican Zion Lutheran Church, Colinton ... 7:00 pm ~ Rev. Christobel Lines officiating

St Thomas Anglican Church, Perryvale ~ no Christmas Eve service