

Newsletter

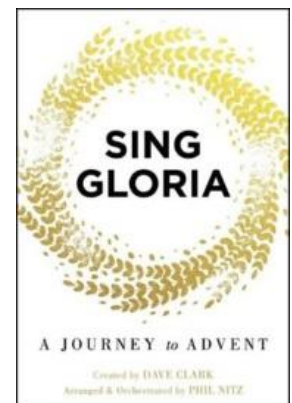
December 17, 2021

You're invited to join us!



The Jubilate Choir will present a cantata, "Sing Gloria: A Journey to Advent," during the worship service this Sunday, December 19. Featuring a carol singalong, unique arrangements of traditional songs such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," and original compositions including the gospel-like "Midnight Hallelujah," this collection of songs by Dave Clark and Phil Nitz celebrates us through the expectation, the joy and the love of the Advent season.

Refreshments will be served following the Cantata.





Dear Elam members and friends,

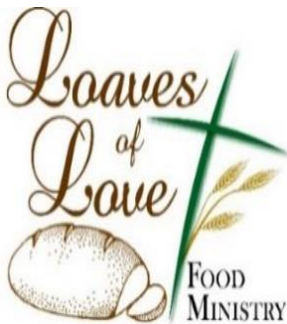
We are so thankful for your Christmas Gift. Your generosity is truly representative of your kind hearts. We love working here and are constantly touched by your gratitude.

Pastor John and staff

Thank you also to everyone who contributed City Team Gift Cards. A total of just over \$3,000.00 was collected and delivered to City Team Ministries on Monday. As a result of your gifts, 60 children, whose ages range between 11 and newborn, will have gifts under the tree on Christmas morning. A list of their names is available on the bulletin board in the hallway near the music room.



We are continuing to collect hats, mittens and socks for the **men and women** of Safe Harbor (**MUST BE NEW**). A tree has been set up in the side narthex for your donations. **Deadline for donations is January 2nd.**



There is an ongoing collection of items for college students in need and Philadelphia homeless. Here is a wish list if you would like to contribute:

Single cup Mac and Cheese	Fruit cups	Fruit snacks
Juice – small bottles	Breakfast bars	Juice boxes
Chef Boyardee microwavable cups		
No Deadline.		

IMPORTANT

If you wish your December offering credited to your 2021 giving, you must have your final 2021 payment into the church office by **Sunday, December 26.**

Those Needing Our Prayers

Family of David DiMarino
Jacob Holobovich

Molly Edwards
Greg Seltzer

Kerri Kaminski
Mildred Winfree

Don't forget that after 2 weeks these names will be removed from the list. Those with asterisks are people who need continuous prayer and they will be listed on the Prayer List that is sent out weekly.

Homebound: *Sally Palmer*, Sunrise of Westtown, Room 203
1045 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA 19328

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Linda & Bill Simmons
420 Reid Way. West Chester, PA 19382

REFLECTION

*Why are you cast down, O my soul,
And why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God: for I shall again praise him,
My help and my God. Psalm 43:5*

“Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was a celebrated poet and writer who at the pinnacle of his career, was affected by the tragic death of his wife in 1861. Subsequently, the Civil War in American began that same year, and the heartache of war was an additional burden for him. Two years into the war, Longfellow received word that his own son had been seriously wounded during his service in the Army of the Potomac.

That year, as Longfellow sat at his desk on Christmas Day, he heard the church bells ringing in the distance. His heart, though burdened, longed for God’s help and peace. When he put pen to paper that day he wrote the following words, lines that eventually became a beloved Christmas Carol.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
“There is no peace on earth,” I said;
“For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

**Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
“God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
the Wrong shall fail,
the Right prevail,
With peace on earth, goodwill to men!**

Todd Outcalt, Pastor of Calvary UMC, Brownsburg, IN

CONTINUING OUR SERMON SERIES "COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"

December 19: "The Blessing of Home" – Christmas Cantata

December 24: "Welcome Home"

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)

11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service (Chapel)

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be a regular church service on Sunday, December 26th.
Please plan to join us then.**

HEARTS & HANDS PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S DAY OUT (CDO) OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION DATES

Preschool/CDO Open House is **Thursday, January 6, 2022 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** (snow date of **Tuesday, January 11th**). Preschool is for children ages 3-5 years and Children's Day Out is for 2-year-olds. **Informational sessions will be held at 6:45 and 7:30 p.m.**



The 2022-2023 Hearts and Hands Registration dates for current preschool and CDO families and Elam members and regular attendees is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 12th at 9:00 a.m.**

Open registration for both programs will be held on **Wednesday, January 19th beginning at 9:00 a.m.** (snow date, Friday, January 21st at 9:00 a.m.)

Lunchbunch, an Extended Day Program, is also available for preschoolers and includes lunchtime, crafts, music, games, and indoor/outdoor gross motor play, afternoons from 12:00-1:30 p.m. or 12:00-3:00 p.m.

If interested in any of these programs, please contact our Preschool Director, Kelly Forwood, at 610-459-2911 or email her at director@elamheartsandhands.com.

SCRIPTURE READING FOR THIS WEEK

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O, morning stars together,
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth!

Verse 3

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given;
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him,
still the dear Christ enters in.

Verse 4

O, holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel

Choir Sings:

Sing, sing, sing! This is a time for rejoicing!
Come, lift your voices and sing, sing, sing!
Join in the song of the season!
Christ is the reason we sing!

People sing

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your way o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.
Come and worship come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Hark! The herald angels sing

"Glory to the newborn king!"
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
join the triumph of the skies,
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come
let earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If you wish to send a card to any of these persons, please call or email the church office at 610-459-2911 or mary@elamumc.org for addresses.

BIRTHDAYS

12/04	Jennica Reichert	12/21	Andrew Paoletti
12/05	Ann Britton	12/22	Noreen Shoemaker
	Megan Marley	12/23	Paula Heckman
12/06	Vera Miller		Justin Miller
12/07	Karen Watson	12/24	Jesse Cheyney
12/09	Mary Weese		Heather Truitt
12/15	John Fleming (new)		Alex Tyagi
	Henry Teaf	12/27	Harper Brooks
12/16	Michael Forwood		Cooper Hogan
12/17	Shirlann Clarke	12/28	Carl Hogan
	Ginny Lockwood		Jaycob Lamparelli
	Zachary Rigby		Daniel Wiechecki, Jr.
12/18	Leland Mosby	12/29	Jane Sabol
	Gavin Reichert	12/30	Haydn Frederick
	Judy Springer		Andrée Tyagi
12/19	Eugene Carter, Jr.	12/31	Taylor Klenotiz
	Kaitlyn Nigro		Rose Wisseh
12/20	Allison Browne		
	Daniel Graney		

ANNIVERSARIES

12/24/1969	Cheryl & Bill Clarke
12/05/1968	Kristen & Thomas DeVito
12/02/2018	Casey & Ryan Kirby
12/7/2013	Jen & Brian Munro
12/26/2015	Angela & Jim Smith
12/21/1968	Sue & Bob Tribit
12/30/1971	Carol & Tony Zimmerman

If your name is not listed here and you have a December birthday or anniversary, please contact Mary at 610-459-2911 or mary@elamumc.org, and you will be added to our records. Please also let us know if we have an incorrect anniversary or birthdate.

REMINDERS

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME CHRISTMAS MUSIC?

Our own Ginny Lockwood plays in several bands. One of those bands will be playing Christmas music as follows:

**Mansfield Brass at Linvilla Orchards
every Sunday till Christmas from 12:00 noon till 2:00 p.m.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

We are still looking for volunteers to help with fellowship time. We have a couple of teams lined up, but it's not too late for others to join us. If willing to help, please contact Andrée Tyagi at 610-459-2911 or andree@elamumc.org. Many hands make light work.

“A shoot shall come out of the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” Isaiah 11:1

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Children's Worship Bulletin™



Ages 3+

December 19, 2021 • Luke 1:39-55

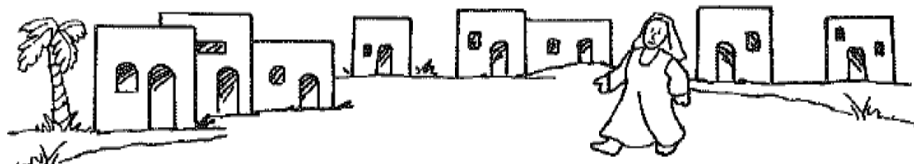
Mary Visits Elizabeth

When Mary found out she was going to have a baby, she went to Judea to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

In each column, circle the letter that is the same as the one above.

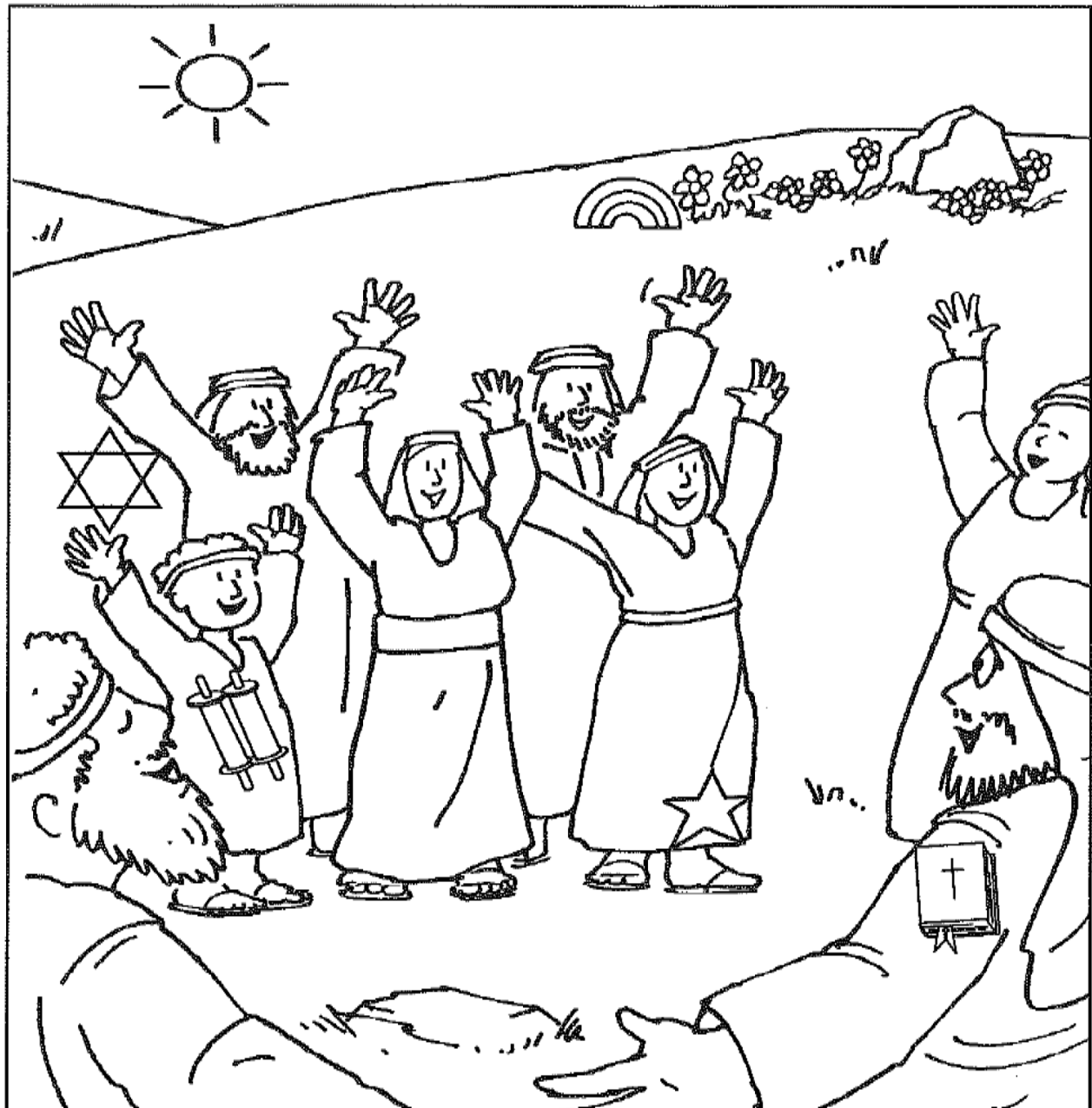
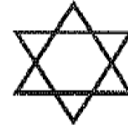
J u d e d

J	v	d	e	b
L	u	c	o	d



Through Mary, who would give birth to Jesus, God helped His people just as He had promised.

Circle the hidden objects in the picture below.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

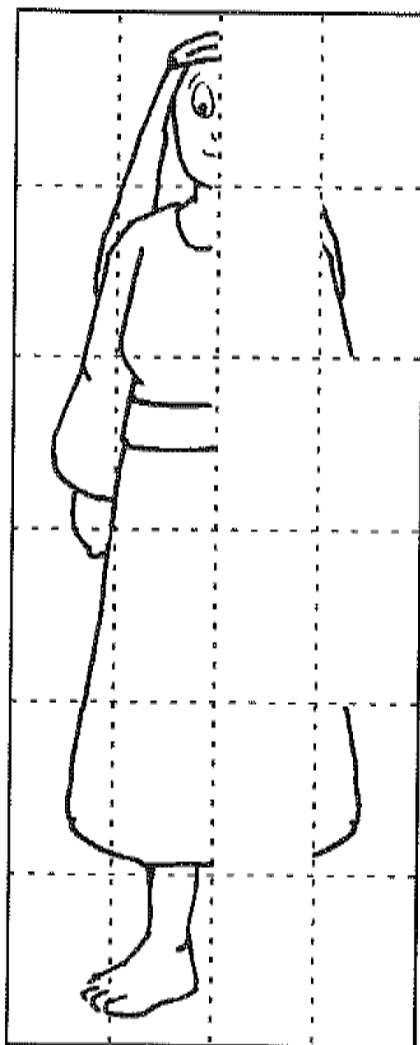
December 19, 2021 • Luke 1:39-55

Mary Visits Elizabeth

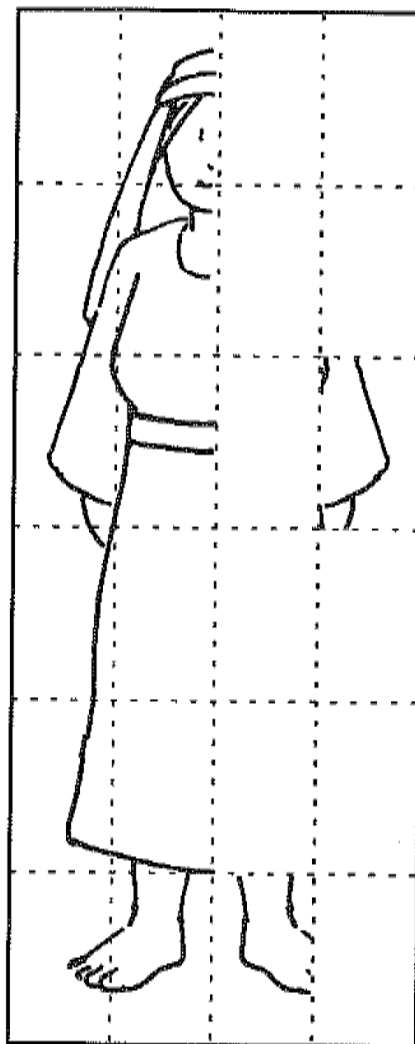
When Mary found out she was going to have a baby, she went to Judea to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

Complete the grids to see the cousins.

E
L
I
Z
A
B
E
T
H



M
A
R
Y





Mary continued
praising God.

To complete the sentence below, write the letter that is
in the first word, but not in the second.

She said, "He has helped His servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful to Abraham and
his descendants forever, just as He promised our ...



COAST – COST _____

NEON – ONE _____

WATCH – WHAT _____

MAPLE – LAMP _____

BASTE – BEAT _____

WATER – WEAR _____

BOOM – MOB _____

BREAD – BEAD _____

STARS – RATS _____."