



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS
and UPCOMING EVENTS
for the week of
December 20, 2020

We are a Christ-centered community that
lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with
all people!

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Phone: (812) 332-5252
Rev. Adrienne Meier, Pastor
pastoradrienne@gmail.com

December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent



We continue with our virtual worship service. The service will be available on YouTube at 11:00 a.m. Sunday.

You may use this link to access the service:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StThomasLutheranChurchBloomington>
or access the link from the St Thomas website (stlconline.org).

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection, we announce that former St. Thomas member John "Jack" Sturrock died in the Lord on Saturday, December 12, 2020. He was 85 years old. Service information will be announced at a later date.

The office staff asks that members who wish an offering to be recorded for 2020—when giving by check or cash— please be sure the offering is at the church office by the morning of Monday, January 4, and that the check is dated for 2020.

Online giving should be done by Dec 27 to be recorded for 2020.

Receipts that need reimbursement need to be received at the office by the morning of December 23.

The Church Office is closed December 24 through January 1.

January Newsletter deadline: Monday, December 21.

There will be one more **Advent Prayer at Noon**, Wednesday, Dec 23.



Join Pr. Adrienne for 15 minutes of prayer at noon on Zoom.

After taking prayer requests, we'll move through a simple, spoken liturgy of prayer for ourselves and our world. Pr.

Adrienne will leave the Zoom room open afterwards for

anyone who would like a little time to catch up. Follow this link each week to join in: <https://bit.ly/stlc2020adventprayer>

There will be one more **Advent Midweek Service at 7:00 pm** on Wednesday, Dec 23. The first two chapters of Luke's gospel can be compared to a Broadway musical, with characters breaking into song at seemingly random times. These songs, though, are filled with hope and a longing for a renewed world. Our Advent Midweek services have centered around these songs: Mary's Magnificat, Zechariah's Benedictus, Simeon's Nunc Dimittis, and the final one will be the angel chorus's Gloria. We hear the songs both chanted and set as a hymn featuring our talented staff musicians. We present these services that you might be held by the Advent message of hope. St. Thomas's YouTube channel can be found at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StThomasLutheranChurchBloomington>

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AND EVENTS:

Children's Service

Join us for a **brief outdoor service at 4:00pm on Christmas Eve** to sing Christmas Carols and bless a special Christmas tree.

Attendees will need to come prepared for this service: wear a mask, plan to stand at least six feet apart, and bring a special "ornament" for a tree - a new hat, scarf, or pair of gloves, Take a blessing card home with you to bless your at-home tree. If this in-person service seems to risky due to COVID, we will announce a Zoom link on December 23. Drop off hats, scarves, and mittens to the east door box through January 6.



Service of Lessons and Carols

Our choir and staff have begun preparations for a simple festive and moving Service of Lessons and Carols, which **will premiere on YouTube at 8:00 pm Christmas Eve**. This service traces the story of the Incarnation from the Fall to promise of the Word Made Flesh. New and old carols will be sung and prayers from the saints shared. Appearances by friends of the St. Thomas choir and other guest musicians will make this a service you don't want to miss.



The St. Thomas YouTube page is:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StThomasLutheranChurchBloomington>

Crèche Blessing and Carols



Live from the Meiers' home at **10:00 pm on Facebook**, after the presents are wrapped and (hopefully) "the children...all nestled, all snug in their beds," we'll share a few of our favorite quiet carols and bless our nativity set. St. Thomas's Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasBloomington>

Epiphany service: Wednesday, January 6 at 7:00 pm, on our YouTube channel.



Want to join our St. Thomas email prayer chain?

Do you have prayer requests? Contact Susan Colston skcolston@aol.com for further information.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns: Anne Smith, Bruce Herlin, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Erica Marer, Bev Hanna, Liz Caemmerer, Audrey Alpers, JoAnne Namy, Deborah O'Brien, and Casey-Marie.



Offerings may be mailed to the church or given by setting up online giving from our website button on the website homepage.

~ Thank you for your support of St. Thomas and our mission of sharing and celebrating God's grace with all people! ~

