



**St. Philip Lutheran Church**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Issue 15: Advent | Christmas | Epiphany 2018/19



*St. Philip Spirit*



## ADVENT DEVOTIONS

**December 2, 2018**



**Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

God, we are sometimes impatient for you to act according to your vision for the earth. Give us wisdom to see your will unfolding, and boldness to be a part of your solution. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Read:** Read the verses from Sunday's reading:

*Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6], 17-19*

**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Habakkuk cannot bear the injustice he sees in the world, with seemingly no relief in sight. Where is God when one needs a swift and almighty solution? We might well ask the same.

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household or community.

In what ways is your community in exile? Where do you feel your community is isolated from God? Where do you feel it is close to God?

When has your faith in God been tested? In what ways have your beliefs changed as you learn and grow?

**For the littles:** What makes you sad? God is with us when we're sad.

**December 9, 2018**



**Pray:** God, you can bring blessing even from disaster. Train us to see where you are at work in the world, and where our presence can further your will in the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Read:** *Esther 4:1-17*

**Reflect:** Queen Esther is in a powerful position within the royal palace, and her uncle Mordecai is counting on her influence. But revealing her own secret could put her at risk of losing everything.

**Connect:** How is beauty celebrated in your culture or community? How is beauty advantageous? How is it detrimental?

How can you connect with God this week? Where will you look for evidence of God's presence in your life?

**For the littles:** What is the difference between keeping a secret and keeping a surprise? Is it good to keep a secret? Why or why not?

**December 16, 2018**



**Pray:** Lord, your promises stand fast throughout our trying times. Hold the hope of your deliverance ever before our eyes, that we might continue to put our trust in you, for the sake of your son Jesus. Amen.

**Read:** *Isaiah 42:1-9*

**Reflect:** Isaiah's people are exiled and understandably discouraged. But the prophet can see beyond their present trials, to a future where they will be led with wisdom and justice.

**Connect:** Who in your community lives in darkness? How can you shine light on those living in darkness?

How does God's light shine through you? How do people know you follow God?

**For the littles:** Are you afraid of the dark? Why or why not?

**December 23, 2018**



**Pray:** God, your servant Joseph remained obedient despite challenges and uncertainty. Give us his steady trust in the unfolding of your plan for us, that we might be found your faithful servants, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Emmanuel. Amen.

**Read:** *Matthew 1:18-25*

**Reflect:** Joseph's life is going just according to plan. He's made a fine engagement to a girl from a good family. But now she's got some surprising news for her husband-to-be. How is an honorable man supposed to respond?

**Connect:** How does God work through the marginalized in your community? Is their message or service received differently because they are different?

How does Immanuel show up in your life?

**For the littles:** What's been the greatest surprise of this Christmas season so far? God loves surprises!





## REGULAR WORSHIP

Sundays, 9 am

Family Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesdays, 6:45 pm

Midweek Worship (Dec 5—19, Jan 9—Feb 27)

**God loves you as you are** - your race, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, socio-economic and employment status, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, and religious background - **and so do we! You are welcome here!**



## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

### CHRISTMAS EVE

#### 4 pm: Family Christmas Worship and Holy Communion

*Bring the whole family, friends, and neighbors to our joyous Christmas Eve Worship with candlelight, brass band, and carols.*

#### 11 pm: Christmas Worship and Holy Communion

*Join us in our candlelit worship service, sing carols, hear the joyous word of the birth of our Savior, and welcome in Christmas Day.*

### EPIPHANY (January 6)

#### 9 am: Festive Worship

*Celebrate with the magi the greatest gift we have been given this season.*



## MUSIC NEWS

During this busy but exciting time of the year, please consider participating in some musical activities, even if you don't participate on a regular basis. Come and join the choir or perform as a soloist or part of a smaller ensemble.

This year the choir will be singing on Christmas Eve at the 4pm service. This service will also include brass musicians. There is the opportunity for additional musical talent to enhance either the service at 4pm or the service at 11pm. If you have any interest in singing or playing a solo or being part of an ensemble for Christmas Eve, please let Kjel know.

I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season and a blessed Christmas.

Kjel Hanson, Minister of Music





# Faith Formation

## ADVENT GLOWOS : Advent GLOW On Saturday



**Hot Chocolate Bar & Carols | Christmas Crafts and Service Project | followed by St. Philip Christmas Dinner**  
**Saturday, December 1, 3:30 pm. Adults and kids of all ages are invited. See you there!**

## GLOW: God's Love On Wednesdays



5:15—6:30 pm

### GLOW FORMATION

Gather with people of all ages for a meal, storytelling, crafts, games, music, and service projects to grow as disciples.

6:45—7:15 pm

### GLOW WORSHIP

#### Reflective Taize Services—Dec 5, 12

During these services, we will gather in a darkened sanctuary filled with the light of candles to pray through simple, repetitive lines of music. These carry us away from the busyness and darkness of the world to the peace our Savior brings.

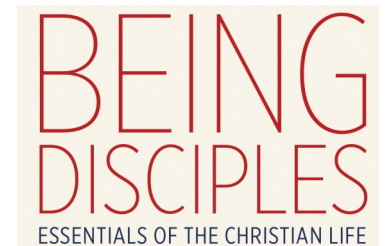
#### Blue Christmas— Dec 19

Dealing with the death of a loved one, relational stress, financial difficulties, or living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future can make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregation and community. In this service we hope to create sacred space for people to acknowledge where they are and place their lives in God's hands.

7:30—8:30 pm

### GLOW EXPLORATION

Study a variety of biblical passages and other topics related to living out your faith in daily life.



"Discipleship," says Rowan Williams in this best-selling book, "is a state of being. Discipleship is about how we live — not just the decisions we make, not just the things we believe, but a state of being." We'll dive into topics such as Faith, Hope, and Love, Forgiveness, Holiness, Faith in Society, and Life in the Spirit.

## GLOW FORMATION UNIT TWO:

### LEARNING TO FOLLOW

**Jan 9: Baptism of Jesus**

**Jan 16: Temptation**

**Jan 23: Beatitudes**

**Jan 30: Treasures in Heaven**

### Tentative Schedule for 2019:

Mar 13: Laborers in the Vineyard

Mar 20: Wedding Banquet

Mar 27: *Spring Break—off*

April 3: Last Judgement

April 10: Triumphal Entry

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

**Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays 9 am | Men's Bible Study: Thursdays 9 am**

We study the upcoming readings for our Sunday worship service so that we can hear them with greater depth.

# Faith Formation

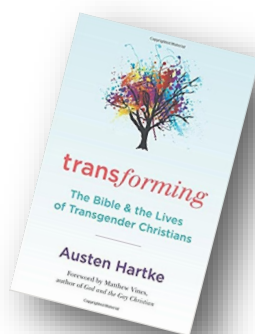
## ADULT FORUM—Sundays after Worship: 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

### Dec 2: How to Be a Friend to Someone with a Serious Illness - JourneyCare

Oftentimes when close friends or family members are seriously ill, we do not know what to do or say to bring comfort. Explore creative ways to provide support, love and joy to those we care about.

### Dec 9 & 16: Transgender and Christian

We have said that all are welcome at St. Philip, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. What is the difference between sex and gender? Are there more than two genders? How do pronouns play an important role in someone's identity? What does the Bible say or not say about all of this? How can we be even more welcoming to transgender Christians?



### Dec 23 & 30: No Adult Forum

### Jan 6: Constitution Review Forum

### Jan 13: Fellowship & Outreach Meetings

### Jan 20: Congregational Meeting

### Jan 27: StP 101 [see below!]

### Feb 3: Worshipping with Your Body

The act of worship is not just an exercise of the mind, but rather involves all parts of our bodies and senses, including postures, gestures, and movement, as well as seeing, tasting, touching, smelling, and hearing!

Come and learn about how to engage your whole body more fully in worship!

### Feb 10-Mar 10: Wholeness Wheel

Martin Luther said, "This life... is not godliness but the process of becoming godly, not health but getting well, not being but becoming but becoming... We are not now what we be, but we are on the way." The Wholeness

Wheel is a tool we can use to understand whole-person health. During the months of Jan and Feb, we will be focusing our study on various aspects of our wellbeing through this framework.



## FINDING OUT MORE

### St. Philip



Sunday, January 27, 2018

10:30-noon

If you are interested in deepening your engagement with St. Philip or becoming a member of our congregation, please let Pastor Kyle know.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please save the date for our annual congregation meeting on January 20, 2018 following worship. There will be a forum on Sunday, Jan 6th to review the proposed constitutional changes so that we are in line with the model constitution of the ELCA. Hope to see you there! - Steve Parks, Council President.

Council will be considering new candidates for its membership at its December meeting. If you have any interest in serving the church in this capacity, please let Pastor Kyle or Steve Parks know.

**Council liaisons and team leaders:** Team annual reports are due **no later than 12/16/18**. Please submit to Gemma in a WORD document format. Gemma will organize these reports for distribution to the congregation. Thanks for your attention to this and your leadership of these teams.





# Worship

## WORSHIP SERVERS THIS SEASON

Date	Comm. Asst.	Sacristan	A.M.	Reader	Ushers	Greeter
Dec. 2	Don Elaine	Elaine	LuAnn	Ellen B.	Sharon & Bill	Sharon
Dec. 9	Vicar Julie Nancy	Nancy	Michael W.	Bonnie	Lyle & Gayle E.	LuAnn
Dec. 16	LuAnn Pam	Pam	Terri	Marzee	Doug & Lynne	Gayle A.
Dec. 23	Sharon Nancy	Nancy	Melanie	Megan	Jack & Rita	Sharon
Dec 24, 4pm – Christmas Eve ROBES	Michael S. Pam	Pam	Vicar Julie	Clyde	LuAnn & Gayle A.	LuAnn
Dec. 24, 11 p.m. – Christmas Eve ROBES	Clyde Vicar Julie	Pam (set up)	Gayle A.	Vicar Julie	Ron & Mimi	Gayle A.
Dec. 30	Don Maxine	Maxine	Michael W.	Nancy	Doug & Lynne	Pam
Jan. 6 - Epiphany ROBES	Vicar Julie LuAnn	LuAnn	Terri	Katie	Jack & Rita	Sharon
Jan. 13 – Baptism of our Lord ROBES	Mike B. Maxine	Maxine	Melanie	Bonnie	Gayle A. & LuAnn	Pam
Jan. 20	Cris Gayle A.	Gayle A.	LuAnn	Gemma	Lyle and Gayle E.	Steve
Jan. 27	Don Nancy	Nancy	Clyde	Megan	Pam & Bob	Gayle A.
Feb. 3	Michael S. Pam	Pam	Michael W.	Nancy	Jack & Rita	Sharon
Feb. 10	LuAnn Elaine	Elaine	Vicar Julie	Katie	Lyle & Gayle E.	LuAnn
Feb. 17	Cris Maxine	Maxine	Melanie	Gemma	Sharon & Bill	Steve
Feb. 24	Vicar Julie Pam	Pam	Gayle A.	Marzee	Lyle & Gayle E.	LuAnn
March 3 – Transfiguration ROBES	Clyde LuAnn	LuAnn	Terri	Michael W.	Pam & Bob	Sharon

Communion Assistants to wear robes on festival Sundays.



# Fellowship & Outreach

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



### THE NIGHT MINISTRY

Thank you to all those who donated items for the Christmas Stockings for the Night Ministry. We will be stuffing the stockings during GLOWOS on Dec.1. We hope you can join us!

### PADS HOMELESS SHELTER

There are several opportunities to serve PADS throughout the year. We are usually assigned the third Monday of the month in January, March, and April. We provide food for an evening meal and a team from St. Philip serves it at the PADS location in Mount Prospect. Look out for sign up sheets or contact the Outreach Team for more details.



### HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

Thank you to all those who have donated to this wonderful program. Please ensure items are at church or given to Elaine Bilowich by **December 1**. All items must be UNWRAPPED and LABELED with the individual's name and ID# and bar code.

### GLOW SERVE

Look out for opportunities to pack food at Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville as part of GLOW Serve. This is an all age (from 5 years old) event, so bring the whole family!



## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



### LADIES BUNCO

Friday, January 11. Carol Downs hosting. All ladies are welcome. \$10 to play and the game is very easy to pick up. A great way to get to know the ladies in our congregation! Sign up sheets will be posted in the hallway.

### LUNCH BUNCH

Join members of the congregation for lunch. The next Lunch Bunch will be on Thursday, January 17, at 12 pm. Sign up sheet is in the hallway.



### ANNUAL AUCTION

Save the Date for the next Annual Auction: **Sunday, April 28, 2019, 6 pm**

## PARISH ADMINISTRATOR'S WINTER OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays 9:30 am—1:30 pm

Thursdays 10:30 pm—2:30 pm

Gemma will generally be in the church office during these hours. You can also contact Gemma at any time during the week via her cell: 847-275-3904 or by email: [gemma@stphilipglenview.org](mailto:gemma@stphilipglenview.org)

## St. Philip Lutheran Church

1609 Pfingsten Road

Glenview IL 60025



## Church Leadership and Staff

**Email:** [info@stphilipglenview.org](mailto:info@stphilipglenview.org)

**Phone:** (847) 998-1946

**Web:** [www.stphilipglenview.org](http://www.stphilipglenview.org)

### **Pastor**

The Rev. Kyle Severson

[pastorkyle@stphilipglenview.org](mailto:pastorkyle@stphilipglenview.org)

### **Parish Administrator**

Gemma Batty

[gemma@stphilipglenview.org](mailto:gemma@stphilipglenview.org)

### **Minister of Music**

Kjel Hanson

[music@stphilipglenview.org](mailto:music@stphilipglenview.org)

### **Treasurer**

Jack Taylor

### **Bookkeeper**

Barb Kot-Mitalo

### **Financial Secretary**

Mary Roth

### **Council President**

Steve Parks

### **Council VP**

Melanie Chavin

### **Council Secretary**

Cris Bartlett

### **Team**

#### **Communication**

#### **Faith Formation**

#### **Fellowship**

#### **Finance**

#### **Mutual Ministry**

#### **Outreach**

#### **Property**

#### **Stewardship**

#### **Worship and Music**

### **Team Leader**

Gemma Batty

Gemma Batty

Mary Roth

Marzee Eckhoff

Terri Schlangen

Pam Blackstone

Todd Hartman

Clyde Walter

Melanie Chavin

### **Council Liaison**

Pastor Kyle Severson

Pastor Kyle Severson

Sharon Holmstrom

Marzee Eckhoff

Steve Parks

Pam Blackstone

Steve Parks

Steve Parks

Melanie Chavin

Season	Due Date for Items
Lent/Easter	Feb 15, 2019
Pentecost I	May 15, 2019
Pentecost II	Aug 15, 2019
Advent—	Nov 15, 2019