## Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer

MO US House of Rep District 3- Blaine Luetkemeyer MO US House of Rep District 4- Vicky Hartzler MO State House of Rep District 104- Adam Schnelting St. Peters Board of Alderman Ward 3- Terri Violet

#### **Emergency Weather Response**

From December through March, if temperatures are predicted to be 20 degrees or below overnight (via weather.com), the Continuum of Care will activate a Free Warming Center Response to provide safe sleeping accommodations for the night. To locate the nearest warming center, call the hotline number at 636-395-0492.

Transportation services may be available.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook posts and share this information with anyone in need or those who help serve them.

#### **2023 Point in Time Count**

The Annual Point in Time Count is scheduled for Wednesday January 25, 2023. Volunteers are needed to help:

- Go out in teams to talk to our neighbors experiencing homelessness.
- Make phone calls to touch base with those who have utilized Coordinated Entry in the past.
- Donate needed items (i.e. socks, granola bars, toiletries, gloves, and hats).

For more information, please email Bill Weisrock at tulsabillw@gmail.com or Rebecca Splain at rsplain@stchlibrary.org

Your support helps the TriCounty Continuum of Care fulfill requirements from HUD and to keep in touch with our homeless neighbors.



# **FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES**

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

faithcovenantstl.com

### Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

#### **Mission Statement:**

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfill our purpose, for the glory of God.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430 St. Charles, MO 63302 636-373-9001

Weekly Corporate Gatherings: Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM Discipleship Groups (times vary)

## Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor Rose Hammond- Receptionist

## Order of Worship Sunday, December 4, 2022

## Second Sunday of Advent

Congregation responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

This second Sunday of Advent is a day of preparation. Open our hearts O Lord and make us ready to receive You. Repentance, changing our attitudes, and our lives, is the beginning of our preparation. Come, let us worship God together. (prayer)

Worship in Song (click on the song title for a YouTube track)

Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy)

**Holy Spirit** 

Here I Am To Worship

Prayer for Illumination

God of all peace and joy, send Your Spirit to this place to bless the reading of Your word that it may be a lamp to our feet and a light unto our path. In Jesus name we pray, and we all agree by saying,

Amen

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word (reflection)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 72:1-7 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank You Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

Worship in Song: Hymn of the Month

Go Tell It On The Mountain | View the lyrics here

Scripture Reading: Romans 15:4-13 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

Sermon (10:30 a.m.) https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl

Confession & Prayer of Repentance

Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us confess our sin to God with one another.

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we are often distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing You in our midst, for all the times we have doubted Your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days. Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of Your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all. We open our hearts to You, O God and we confess

(Personal quiet confession)

Father, you have heard our confessions. Forgive us, we pray. Empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. And we all agree by saying, **Amen** 

Words of Comfort & Affirmation

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9 KJV)

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. All: Glory be to God! Amen

<u>Prayers of the People</u>: (liturgy on screen)

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always.

**People: And, with you** (Passing of the Peace)

Corporate Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed

**Benediction and Sending** 

<b>How Are You Preparing the Way</b>	4 Dec 2022
<b>Matthew 3:1-11</b>	Pastor Michael Hammond

#### A Son is Given

by Dr. Kari Vo

And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." (Luke 1:18-20)

Zechariah is ... noticeably unenthusiastic. His first words show doubt: "How shall I know this? Give me some proof. I'm too old to have a baby, and my wife is, too." Man, did you forget you're talking to an angel? What more proof do you need?

I bet it wasn't the answer Gabriel was expecting. Humans are weird! And so he does the heavenly equivalent of pulling out his ID card, and then hands Zechariah a totally appropriate consequence: "You don't believe my words? Fine. You don't get to have any words of your own—until the day when you see these words come true!"

The result? The only words in Zechariah's home for the next nine months are going to be his wife's—and maybe a servant's, yeah—and Mary's, when she comes to visit. The believers get words, sure—lots of them, full of praise and joy. And by God's mercy and patient humor, the unbelieving world gets the Word of God—Jesus—our Savior, who came to lay down His life for us, to win for us life that lasts forever.

- \* When have you seen God's sense of humor in action?
  - \* When has God been patient with you?
- \* How does God help you to be patient and kind to others who drive you nuts?