

December 12, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is difficult to believe that we are in the Advent season once again, preparing and anticipating the Lord's birth in a simple manger. It is a heartwarming and profound event that we celebrate with festive hymns and special music, familiar Bible readings, and the soft glow of candles. We are truly blessed to participate, once again, in the story of God's self-giving to us in the form of the Christ child.

As we enter the Christmas season at St. John's Lutheran Church, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude, as your pastor, for the generous gifts we receive this time of year. Your support throughout the year makes our ministries possible, but during the holidays, I am especially aware of your generosity and how it benefits our faith community.

As we continue to emerge from the difficult challenges of COVID, I am amazed and heartened by the resiliency, energy, and generosity of our congregation!

Your ongoing financial support has been a true blessing for all of us! I am confident that with your continued support and effort, we will grow in strength and compassion in the year ahead.

It is vital that we consider our gifts to the church thoughtfully and prayerfully. While you are planning your seasonal giving, we have a suggestion to offer: Consider making your gift using our electronic giving tools. Giving on our church website is easy and convenient.

Go to [www.makedisciples.com](http://www.makedisciples.com) today to learn about all the ways you can give and why eGiving is an important part of our finances. And while you are on the website, you can plan ahead for next year by setting up your regularly scheduled gifts to be recurring throughout the year.

Thank you once again for your wonderful support for the mission and ministries of St. John's Lutheran Church!

Have a blessed Christmas!

*Pastor Brian*

Pastor Brian Halverson