

St John Church of Christ

December 26, 2021

Worship
Service

Premiers
Sunday at 11:00

Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. Bible classes begin at 10:00. For kids, Pete & Penelope, our children's puppet program, is followed by songs and classes in the Fellowship Hall.

"Basic Training" continues in the auditorium this morning. Have you ever wondered why Jesus had to die? The doctrine is called the "Atonement" and is the very core of Christianity.

It all begins at 10:00 A.M. with worship following at 11:00 A.M.

If you are unable to be with us in person, our worship is shared through our website:

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

Simply select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](#)

Sappy Christmas Cards



Photo by Jonathan Borba

Ah! It's the holiday season, and Christmas cards are beginning to pile up in the mailbox. As I was re-reading the story of the birth of Jesus from Luke 2, I noticed something odd. According to my beautiful Christmas cards, the angels sing to the shepherds:

"Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace,
Good will toward men" (Luke
2:14 KJV).

But according to my English Standard Version, they sing:

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among
those with whom he is
pleased!"

What's the difference? In the older translations (and the New King James), God's goodwill is upon everyone in every place. On the other hand, in most of the modern English versions, God's goodwill is "among those with whom he is pleased." In other words, the blessing of peace rests on those who have found favor with God. So, the Apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

It's a lovely Christmas thought to think that on the night Jesus

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was born, the world enjoyed a respite from war and hatred, anger, and vengeance. So many sappy Christmas songs say it was so, but they are wrong. King Herod was in his palace, plotting evil. The emperor was still in Rome, and people's hearts were still black. The angels' song is a celebration of faithfulness. For those who find Christ, God grants peace. The bumper sticker got it right:

Know Jesus, know peace.
No Jesus, no peace.



Technical Note: The manuscripts used to translate the KJV used the word *eudokia*, "goodwill" (subject case in Greek) while the older, better manuscripts used *eudokias* "of good will" or "characterized by [God's] goodwill" (genitive case). There is only one letter difference between the two words, but it completely changes the meaning. See William D. Mounce's wonderful *Basics of Biblical Greek*, p. 45.

Prayer Requests

Praise God! The Cornwells are out of quarantine and doing well.

We have a number of members who would like to be here with us, but, because of health and age are confined at home. They are not forgotten! Let's remember to pray for:

Gail Byer
Don Hornbaker
Garland and Dena Mansel
Don Rugan

Please pray for Terry. After his bout with pneumonia, he was released from the hospital only to discover he has a serious back issue that needs to be treated.

Merry Christmas



**WISEMEN STILL
SEEK HIM**

MATTHEW 2:1-18

Key Dates

Birthdays and Anniversaries

1/10: Mason Gunter
1/12: Kolton Sizemore
1/13: Darrell Willinger
1/14 Joy and Terry Anniversary
1/30: Chet Lyons
2/3: Anissa Potter
2/6: Garland Mansel
2/18: Hannah Sallee
2/21: Shirley Shelton
3/1: Orrin Feril
3/1: Dylan Huffman
3/5: Destiny Huffman
3/11: Orvalee Aldrich
3/12: Meagan Feril

Those Who Serve This Week

Song Leader: Richard Brensing

Welcome: Tom Turner

Communion: Orrin Feril

Closing Prayer: Tom Turner

Sound System: Orrin Feril

Those Who Serve Next Week, 1/2

Song Leader: Gary Hornbaker

Welcome: Tom Turner

Communion: Chris Mansel

Closing Prayer: Orrin Feril

Sound System: Orrin Feril

January's schedule is posted.