## St John Church of Christ January 2, 2022



# 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. The third point of the Gospel is the "Exaltation of Christ." That is, "Jesus ascended into heaven. What does that mean to me?"

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

### Happy 2022 (or Not)



Photo by Jonas Von Werne

Today, while I was standing in the checkout line, I tried making small talk with the clerk. "Are you excited about the new year?" I asked.

She looked at me. "2020 was a terrible year, and 2021 was worse. I don't want to think about 2022," she answered.

Thinking back, I had to agree. The virus put a big hole in our programs and our lives in 2020. For a good part of the year, I broadcast the sermons and the lessons from my living room over the internet. For 2021, it was on again and off again. We were introduced first to

the delta variant and now the omicron version. What a mess!

But, on the other hand, I recently read an article in the New York Times that reported Millennials have started writing their wills. Just two years ago, if I tried to start a conversion about death and the afterlife (unless I was talking about vampires or zombies), the room would have gone strangely quiet. Now with funerals becoming almost a weekly occurrence, I've found people want to know about the hope we have in Christ.

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Yes, but on the other, other hand, in talking with ministers across the country, it seems like people have gotten use to staying home from church and they aren't coming back.

Perhaps she was right to be worried about 2022. However, Christians stand on "Faith, Hope, and Love." If Christ is for us, what have we to fear? I can hardly wait to see what the Lord has planned for the coming year.

Meanwhile, I want to encourage everyone to become a daily Bible reader. I've been promoting a wonderful reading schedule. (Click on the link below to download the whole year's program.) To show you how easy it is, here are the four pages to read tomorrow, January 1st, 2022:

#### Saturday, January 1

Genesis 1; Ezra 1; Matthew 1; Acts 1

#### Sunday, January 2

Genesis 2; Ezra 2; Matthew 2; Acts 2

#### Monday, January 3

Genesis 3; Ezra 3; Matthew 3; Acts 3



#### **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

3/13: Misty Blakeslee Rudy

3/13: Gary Hornbaker

3/15: Joe Cornwell

3/16: Adam Holmes

#### Those Who Serve This Week

Song Leader: Gary Hornbaker

Welcome: Tom Turner

Communion: Chris Mansel

Closing Prayer: Orrin Feril

Sound System: Orrin Feril

#### No Potluck Today!

Our monthly potlucks will resume in February. Make plans to join us after services February 6<sup>th</sup>.



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



