

**Newark Lutheran Church**  
**December 12<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
**Welcome & Announcements**

**Opening~ Hymn #20**

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

**Refrain:**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th'Incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man dwell;  
Jesus, our Immanuel. **(Refrain)**

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. **(Refrain)**

**Call to Worship and Prayer**

**Confession of Sin:**

P: Let us confess our sins

**C: Dear Heavenly Father, we bow before  
You to seek Your forgiveness for our sins.  
We have sinned by disobedience and  
omission, with pride and selfishness, and  
with disrespect and unrighteous living. For  
these we are truly sorrowful and seek Your  
mercy and grace. Cleanse us according to  
Your Word in the Name of Jesus Christ our  
Lord, Amen.**

**Absolution:**

Almighty God has had mercy on us. He forgives us our sins, and brings us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**1st Lesson: Malachi 3:1-6**

“Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

“For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, *This is the Word of the Lord ~Thanks Be To God!*

**Epistles Lesson: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then every man will receive his commendation from God.

*This is the Word of the Lord ~Thanks Be To God!*

**Gospel Lesson: John 15:1-11**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in

the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. *This is the Word of the Lord ~Thanks Be To God!*

### ***Apostles Creed:***

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### ***Pulpit***

*"You Are the Vine"*

You are the vine;  
We are the branches  
Keep us abiding in you.  
You are the vine;  
We are the branches  
Keep us abiding in you.  
And we'll go, in your love  
And we'll go, in your name  
That the world, will surely know,  
That you have power to heal and to save.

You are the vine;  
We are the branches  
Keep us abiding in you.  
You are the vine;  
We are the branches  
Keep us abiding in you.  
And we'll go in your love  
And we'll go, in your name  
That the world, will surely know  
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You are the vine;  
We are the branches  
Keep us abiding in you.  
You are the vine;  
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Keep us abiding in you.

### ***Kid's Bible Time***

***Message: Pastor Jon Benson***  
***"The Vine and The Branches"***

*John 15:1-11*

### ***Offertory***

*"We Give Thee but Thine Own"*

### ***Lord's Prayer & Benediction***

### ***Closing~ Hymn #33***

*"The First Noel"*

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

#### **Refrain:**

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!**  
**Born is the King of Israel.**

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.

#### **(Refrain)**

And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise Men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

#### **(Refrain)**

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

#### **(Refrain)**

Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Full rev'rently upon the knee,  
And offered there, in His presence,  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

#### **(Refrain)**

*Thank you for worshiping with us today.  
May you be strengthened for His works this week.*