

## The Coming Week at St. John's Episcopal Church

### Sunday, 12/14

8:00am – Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)  
 8:30am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
 9:00am – Fellowship Hour (Williams Hall)  
 10:00am – Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary & Livestream)  
 11:00am – Fellowship Hour (Williams Hall)  
 11:30am – Sunday Sharing (Williams Hall)  
 11:30am – Handbell Choir (Bell Zone)  
 2:00pm – Girl Scout Troop 50593 (Activity Room)  
 2:00pm – Lux Women's Choir Concert (Sanctuary)  
 5:00pm – NA (McNab Room)

### Monday, 12/15

12:00pm – AA (McNab Room)  
 1:00pm – Pastoral Care Committee (McNab Room)  
 6:00pm – Popup Bible Study (Library)

### Tuesday, 12/16

10:00am – Samaritan Fund (Library)  
 11:30am – Budget Committee (Library)  
 1:00pm – Knitpickers (Williams Hall)  
 6:30pm – Vestry (McNab Room)

### Wednesday, 12/17

10:30am – Women's Bible Study (Library)  
 12:00pm – Holy Eucharist (Chapel—use office entrance)  
 1:00pm – AA (McNab Room)  
 5:30pm – Tai Chi (Williams Hall)  
 6:30pm – Christian Meditation Williams Hall)

### Thursday, 12/18

9:00am – Alissa's Coffee Shop Office Hours (Live Oak)  
 9:30am – Preschool Holiday Party (Williams Hall)  
 1:00pm – Women Journeying Together (Activity Room)

### Friday, 12/19

12:00pm – AA (McNab Room)  
 5:45pm – Peer Support Meeting (McNab Room)  
 6:00pm – Community Game Night (Williams Hall)

### Saturday, 12/20

12:00pm – AA (McNab Room)  
 7:00pm – NA (McNab Room)

### Sunday, 12/21

8:00am – Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)  
 8:30am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
 9:00am – Fellowship Hour (Williams Hall)  
 10:00am – Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary & Livestream)  
 11:00am – Fellowship Hour (Williams Hall)  
 11:30am – Handbell Choir (Bell Zone)  
 5:00pm – NA (McNab Room)  
 6:30pm – Bible in the Basement (Activity Room)



**REMINDER:** St. John's follows the Midland Public Schools when it comes to weather-related closures. If MPS are closed due to inclement weather, the church building will be closed.

Point your smartphone's camera here to view these announcements electronically →



## Our Daily Prayers

**Please keep the following people in your prayers...**



Cathy Chang & Juan Lopez, Susan & Bob, Char Bakeman, Ronnie, Henry Youngquist, Chris, Yvonne, Charlene & John Adams, Lynn Miller, Linda Johannsen, Phillip, Tellie & the Wright family, and the Gwaltney family.

**Give thanks with those from St. John's celebrating anniversaries this week...** none

**Give thanks with those from St. John's celebrating birthdays this week...** 15-John Adams, 19-Georgia Wilson, 20-Vicki Leigeb, Carole Adams

**Pray for the Diocesan Standing Committee and the people of the Diocese of the Great Lakes;** PRAY for Trinity, West Branch - Luke Stefanovsky, Senior Warden; St. John's, Mt. Pleasant – Diane Stier, Rector

**In our international Anglican prayer cycle;** PRAY for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

**Online Calendar:** Click on the "[Events](#)" link at top right of our [website](#) & explore in a dynamic monthly or weekly format. Click on an entry and, if info is available, a brief description will share more about that ministry or event. Keep tabs on all going on at St. John's and share those happenings with others!

## Pastoral Care

*Members of the congregation who have received Pastoral Care training are available all year for friendly visits. Members who are in the hospital, nursing homes, or homebound may request a visit from our team to receive communion, a comforting prayer shawl or a pocket cross.*



*Team members include:*

**The Rev. Alissa Anderson and parishioners**

**Chris Esquivel  
 Jan Marcou  
 Pat Roush  
 Dave Schafer**

**Chris Schuster  
 Fred Schuster  
 Michelle Spencer**

*Call the parish office (989-631-2260) with a pastoral care request. In the case of a pastoral emergency outside office hours, please contact **The Rev. Alissa Anderson at 616-540-9102 (cell).***

### Contact the church office

**989-631-2260 / [office@sjec-midland.org](mailto:office@sjec-midland.org)**

- To add someone to the prayer list
- Request receipt of the weekly Worship++email
- Request receipt of the monthly Epistle
- To update your membership directory info

### We appreciate your ongoing support!

St. John's depends on the generosity of our friends and members. Please consider making a gift today. Visit [tinyurl.com/Give2SJEC](http://tinyurl.com/Give2SJEC), mail your check to the church, place it in the drop box outside the office entrance, or point your smartphone's camera here: →



**Next Sunday's Readings – December 21, 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Isaiah 7:10-16      Romans 1:1-7  
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18      Matthew 1:18-25**

*Spend some time this week looking at next Sunday's readings. It's a great way to prepare for worship & build a personal spiritual discipline of regular bible reading.*

The Episcopal Church provides a Lectionary Calendar with links to all the upcoming and past readings:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/lectionary/>

**Wednesday Noon in the Chapel–December 17, 2025  
Commemoration: Katharina von Bora**

**Isaiah 55:6-11      Romans 3:21-28  
Psalm 46      John 15:1-11**



**How to Connect with Rev. Alissa**

**Schedule a time via Calendly:**  
<https://calendly.com/sjec-rector>

**Drop in for Coffee Shop Office**

**Hours: Thurs., 9-11 AM.** This month you can find her at Live Oak (711 Ashman)



Join us **TODAY**, after the 10am worship service for our next **Sunday Sharing** covering the duties and responsibilities of serving on the vestry. Members of the vestry will be in attendance to answer any questions about the honor and blessings of serving.

The **St. Martha's Guild Annual Basket Auction** (and sale) **ENDS TODAY!** This is our major fundraiser for the year, and we use these funds to bless a number of charitable endeavors around Midland. We have some assembled baskets as in years past, though we also have some homemade decorative items directly for sale as well. The auction will end on Sunday, December 14th at 11:30 am. If you would like to purchase a direct-purchase item, you



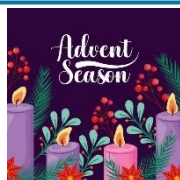
may take that item before December 14th. Please see Denée Koonce or Christy Hopper for payment options for those items. **Thank you ALL as always for your generous support!**

**Christmas Decorations Fund**

Christmas is a special time for adorning the church with seasonal decorations in traditional colors. You are invited to make a contribution to the Christmas Decorations Fund in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones. A minimum donation of \$35 is requested and must be received by December 18. Forms available on the table in the Narthex and from the church office.



**Advent materials** are now available in Williams Hall on a table near the windows (next to the St. Martha's auctions). These include devotionals, information, and calendars. Note, the calendars are marked 2024 but go from Dec. 1-24, so are good for any year! Books of devotionals, poetry, and information for Advent and Christmas are also available on the Feature Shelves. Check out the possibilities and plan for a few minutes of quiet in each day of Advent!

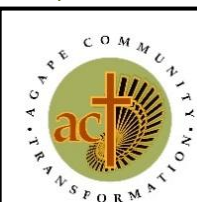


**We will be decorating the church NEXT SUNDAY, December 21, after the 10am service. Please join us if you are able for some church community fun.**

**Celebrate the Season**  
Sunday, December 14  
2:00 PM  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
Free Admission

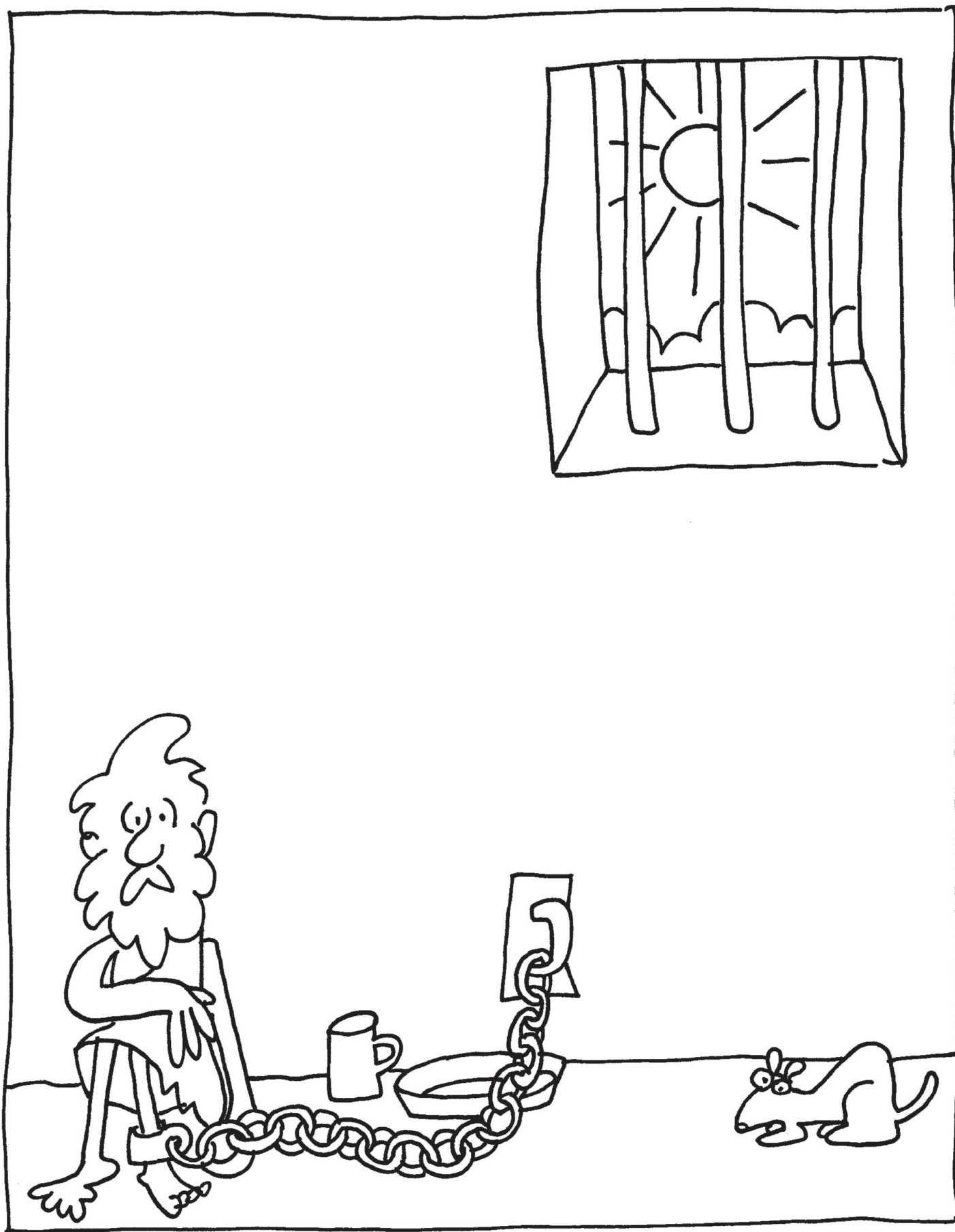
**Christmas Eve**  
4:00 pm      7:00 pm  
All Ages      Traditional  
Eucharist      Eucharist

**Christmas Day**  
11:00 am  
Casual & Contemplative  
Eucharist in Williams Hall



**ACT Uganda – Still looking for the perfect Holiday Gift for the one who has everything!?** Give a donation in the name of a loved one to help ACT continue supporting and initiating social businesses in the Rubanda

District of Uganda. To donate, visit [actuganda.org/donate](http://actuganda.org/donate)  
Thank you for your continued support!





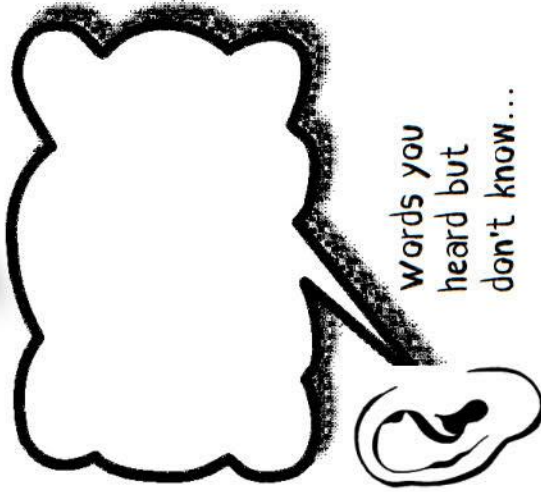
# Sermon Notes FOR KIDS



As you attend church services with your family, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.

Date:

who is speaking?



words you  
heard but  
don't know...

what is the main  
passage we are  
reading today?

Book:

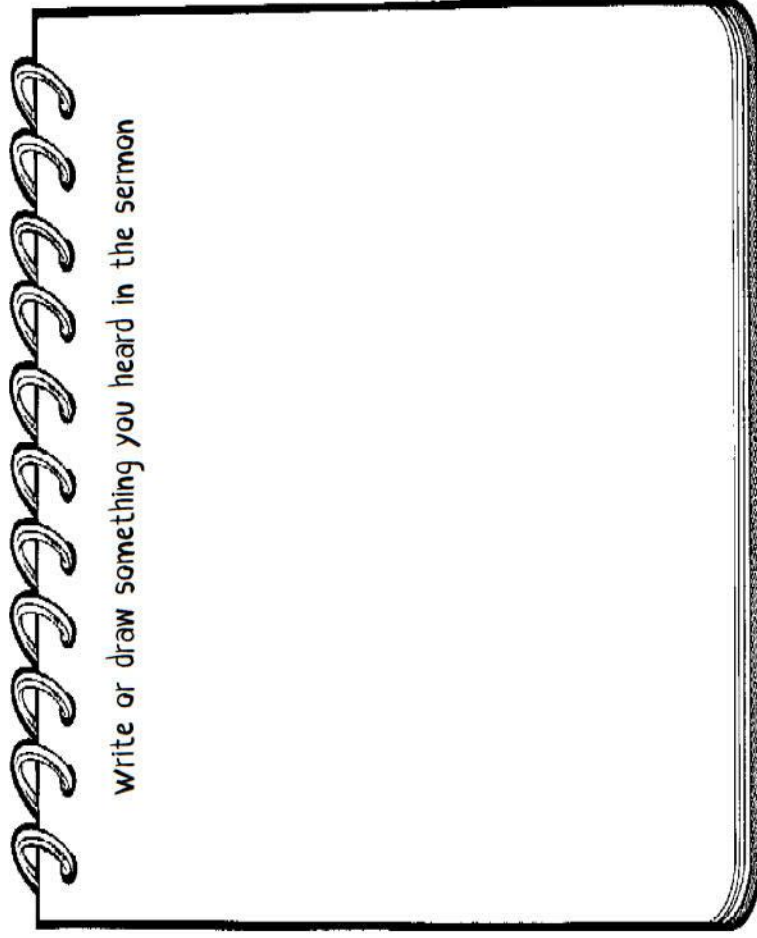
chapter:

**verse:**

Favorite song today was:



what are we learning about  
God from this passage?



## Questions?

The most important thing you learned was:

How does today's message apply to your life?

