

DECEMBER 27, 2020

Bell**Announcements****Prelude:** *In Dulci Jubilo*

J. S. Bach

Welcome

The angel said to [the shepherds], “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Confession and Forgiveness

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

In ✠ Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

Amen.

Gathering Carol: *Angels, From the Realms of Glory* p. 8

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise: *Angels We Have Heard on High* p. 9

Prayer of the Day

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lessons and Carols

Lesson: Matthew 1:18-21

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Carol: *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming* p. 10

Lesson: John 1:19-23, 29-34

¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’”
as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

Carol: *Let Our Gladness Have No End* p. 11

Lesson: Luke 1:26-35

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* p. 12

Nicene Creed

In the words of the Creed, let us confess our faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Night and day, all creation praises you, O God. Strengthen your church across nations, denominations, and traditions. Fill us with wisdom and unify our proclamation of your forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All creation is holy to you, O God. You cause the earth to bring forth its shoots and gardens to spring up. Protect hibernating animals and frozen lands that wait earnestly for longer days of awakening and growth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The nations are upheld by your hand, O God. Cause righteousness and praise to spring forth, inspiring leaders to serve with compassion and integrity. Send your spirit of discernment upon legislators grappling with complex decisions for the sake of the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Adopt us into your family, O God. Bless our elders with the peace and joy of Simeon and Anna. Strengthen those who have retired, those who work in older age, and those in need of income, food, company, or health care. Connect young and old across generations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us depart in peace, O God, according to your word. For all your saints, we give you thanks. Prepare our salvation in the sight of all your witnesses of every time and place. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send the spirit of your Son into our hearts, O God. Come quickly to hearts that race with fear, hearts that break with grief, and hearts that long for wholeness (*especially George, Lillian, Arlene, Linda, Dorothy, Jim, Shirley, Clark, Lois, Dan, Candy, Richard, Kaylie, Dave, Irene, Julie, Justin, Darlene, Randy, Louise, Kaela, Dorothy, Stan, Robin, Reed*). Reveal your power to heal and to save. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *especially Jane, Margaret, Aria, Chase, Daniel, Shirley, Beverly, Aaron, Nicholas, Jean.* Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever *especially Brian & Melinda.* Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Our Offering

Offering Carol: *All My Heart Again Rejoices*, p. 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
and the everlasting peace of Jesus
who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Carol

Go Tell It On the Mountain p. 14

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve our Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Joy to the World!*

-G. F. Handel

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth,
 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Let Our Gladness Have No End



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th cent.; tr. unknown
 Music: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PÁN, Bohemian carol, 15th cent.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

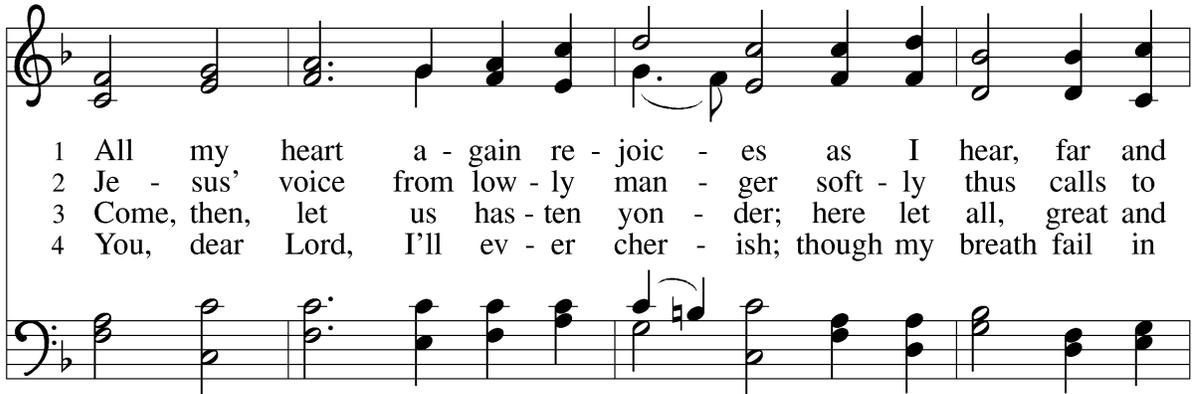
A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

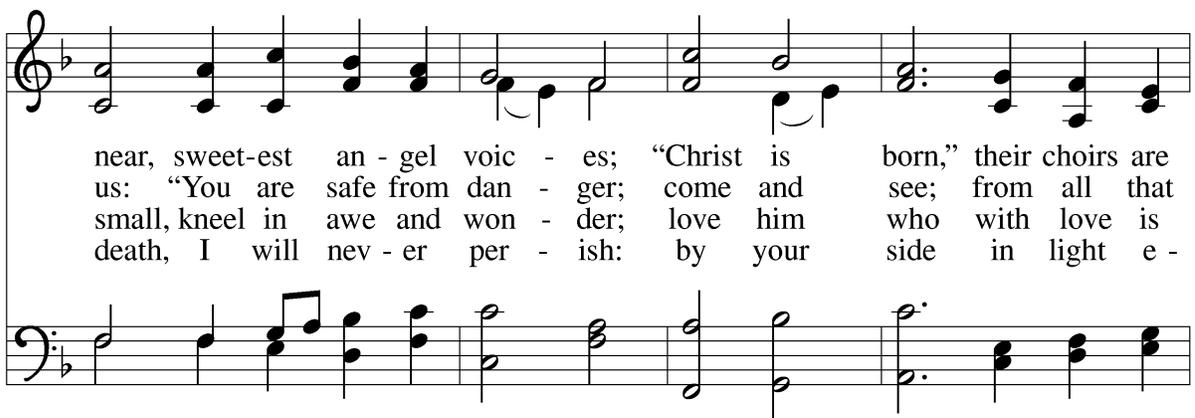
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

All My Heart Again Rejoices



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es as I hear, far and
 2 Je - sus' voice from low - ly man - ger soft - ly thus calls to
 3 Come, then, let us has - ten yon - der; here let all, great and
 4 You, dear Lord, I'll ev - er cher - ish; though my breath fail in



near, sweet-est an - gel voic - es; "Christ is born," their choirs are
 us: "You are safe from dan - ger; come and see; from all that
 small, kneel in awe and won - der; love him who with love is
 death, I will nev - er per - ish: by your side in light e -



sing - ing, till the air ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.
 grieves you you are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you."
 yearn - ing; hail the star that from far bright with hope is burn - ing.
 ter - nal I shall be end - less - ly filled with joy su - per - nal.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: WARUM SOLLT ICH, Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



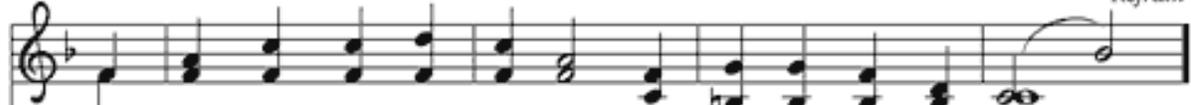
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

THIS WEEK (Dec. 27 – Jan. 2)

TODAY (27th)

-9:15am, LIVE-STREAMED Worship Service
-6:30pm, New Beginnings, M3/5/7

MON (28th)

-Church Office closed

TUES (28th)

-7:00pm, Relaunch Committee (virtual)

NEXT WEEK (Jan. 3 - Jan. 9)

(SUN 3rd)

-9:15am, LIVE-STREAMED Worship Service
w/Installation of Church Council

The church office will be closed Monday, Dec. 28th, and open Tuesday, Dec. 29th, Wednesday, Dec. 30th, and Thursday, Dec. 31st.



Cantors: Dave Mancke, Jan Kistler

Video: Tom Daniels

Say a Prayer & Send a Card & Pay a Visit

Fellowship Mnr: Florence Roth

Lehigh Commons: Barbara Diehl

Mosser: Arlene Miller

The Palmerton: Ferne Rock

Manor Care: MaryAnn Rau

Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Warren Gressley

Please keep these people in your prayers:

George Hein, Doug Fay, Lillian Young, Arlene Miller, Linda Grantz, Dorothy Diehl, Jim Miller, Shirley Hamm, Clark Snyder, Lois Heisler, Dan Stark, Candy Cordes, Richard Seltzer, Kaylie Radocha, Dave Ludwig, Irene Johnson, Justin Williams, Julie Williams, Darlene Wenhold, Randy Wenhold, Louise Quaintance, Kaela Biting, Dorothy Stehly, Stan Sockel, Robin Jensen, Reed Klotz

Birthdays this week: Jane Laudenslager, Margaret Smith, Aria Keinert, Chase Parker, Daniel Heckman, Shirley Hamm, Beverly Ruppert, Aaron Wertman, Nicholas Wertman, Jean Wisler

Anniversaries this week: Drew & Jocelyn Kessler (14)

How to contact us:

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Sexton: jordansexton@ptd.net

2020-2021 SPONSORSHIPS

All sponsorships have been temporarily suspended until we are back to live worship.

Thanks for understanding!

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). **Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the 9:15 service or want them taken to shut-ins.** If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Altar flowers are \$40. Bulletins are \$20. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

ATTENDANCE – 12/27/20 – -streaming // 35-drive-thru communion

**Treasurer's Report
for November 2020**

	Month	YTD	Budget Amounts	
			Month	YTD
Income:				
Operating Income	\$ 19,390.00	\$ 279,215.00	\$ 28,950.00	\$ 318,450.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 13,110.00	\$ 1,667.00	\$ 18,337.00
Property	\$ 2,009.00	\$ 24,252.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 27,500.00
Deficit Reduction	\$ 546.00	\$ 9,045.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 23,015.00	\$ 325,622.00	\$ 33,117.00	\$ 364,287.00
Expenses:				
Administration	\$ 1,898.00	\$ 13,995.00	\$ 1,985.00	\$ 21,835.00
Ministries	\$ 1,002.00	\$ 8,755.00	\$ 1,437.00	\$ 15,807.00
Payroll	\$ 20,884.00	\$ 233,984.00	\$ 22,049.00	\$ 242,539.00
Property-Utilities, grounds, etc	\$ 3,156.00	\$ 69,319.00	\$ 7,942.00	\$ 87,362.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,767.00	\$ 19,592.00	\$ 1,917.00	\$ 21,087.00
Total Expenses	\$ 28,707.00	\$ 345,645.00	\$ 35,330.00	\$ 388,630.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (5,692.00)	\$ (20,023.00)	\$ (2,213.00)	\$ (24,343.00)

We are now seeing updates on the Truist website for the next phase of the PPP SBA process where we apply for the loan forgiveness but we are in a holding pattern as Truist is finishing their online application process. So, we are still tracking our employee payroll expenses and utilities (electric & oil), which are being paid for through PPP SBA loan funds. We are required to track all these expenses separately for the necessary documentation in our forgiveness application with Truist Bank to show that we have met qualifications for possible forgiveness and conversion to a grant.

In this month's Treasurer's Report, the dollar amounts show the full expenses associated with Payroll and the Property-Utilities, grounds, etc. in the expenses section of the report. These expenses are still being tracked separately from our normal income and expense records using features of our PowerChurch software. This month's Treasurer's Report shows a deficit for the YTD (year to date) a little **less than (\$15,000)**. Treasurer's Reports will NOT be reporting any surplus amounts due to the \$ 47,400 SBA Loan, since this amount was deposited into our Operating Income as a balance adjustment until we are potentially granted forgiveness.



A gentle reminder about appropriate masks that are required to be worn whenever in the Jordan building: The masks should be either the disposable type or two-layer fabric masks of a similar design that cover both the nose and mouth. Face coverings such as plastic shields (unless used in conjunction with an appropriate mask) and masks with vent valves included, are not considered by the CDC to provide adequate protection. CDC approved masks are available in Monica's office if needed.

Having every all abide by the CDC guidelines will enhance the safety of others within the building. The responsible focus here is not our own personal preferences, it is based upon our loving consideration for those around us and reliable information. Please enjoy our streamed services from the comfort of your home now through January 10th, 2021.

The Relaunch Committee

Church Office Hours: The office is still open! Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon, to take your phone calls, drop off your offering envelopes, etc. Every effort will be made to do so contact-free.

2020 Year-end Contributions: need to be submitted to the church office **no later than Dec. 31, 2020** in order to receive a credit for the 2020 fiscal year. Any offering received after Dec. 31, 2020, will be considered as 2021 income. ***You may wish to drop off your offering IN PERSON if you want to be sure it gets attributed to 2020, as the mail is running quite slow right now. (see office hours above)***

Our clothing collection: is TEMPORARILY ON HOLD due to the collection company's inability to schedule a pick up. We are out of storage space right now so, please, no clothing drop offs till further notice.

Living Lutheran Magazine, Upper Room, and Christ in Our Home: are all available from the church. Please call and we can make arrangements for you to pick one up while we are here, or put one on the bench for you to pick up at your convenience.

Poinsettias: For those who sponsored poinsettias, they will be available for pick up this week Tuesday, 12/29, Wednesday, 12/30, and Thursday, 12/31, 9am-noon.

The Second Congregational Meeting: will be on Sunday, **March 7th, 2021**. All committees are asked to submit their yearly reports in a timely manner, **by Feb. 21, 2021**. Reports will be distributed a week prior to the meeting [Feb. 28th] for your review.

We send our gratitude to those who continue to faithfully make their offerings!

We highly recommend that at this time you prayerfully consider using online giving. Here is how you sign up:

WEBSITE – go to www.jordanlutheran.org click on the **SUPPORT** tab, then **Electronic Giving** and you will be offered two options to set up your electronic giving.

GIVE+ PLUS (a free, secure phone app) download this free app to your mobile phone, search by zip code 18069 and when you see Jordan, follow the instructions to make your donation.