



THE CHRISTIAN ALERT
December 3, 2018

The prophet Isaiah shares an ancient vision of God's peace:

"The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid.... The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain" (Isaiah 11:6-9a).

If harmony between nature and humankind is a sign of God's reign, then perhaps the kingdom has come to the Episcopal Church of The Holy Trinity on Manhattan's Upper East Side. During their 8:15 service you can find parishioners and their pooches worshipping together. As long as they behave, dogs and their masters are welcome to sit side by side and even accompany each other to the altar during Communion. "It's like being with a family member," says Judith Gwyn Brown, who regularly attends with her puli sheepdog, Cordelia.

Do you think this is what Isaiah had in mind? What does God's peace look like?

While in our time "peace" has come to mean the absence of conflict, in Hebrew "peace" ... *shalom* ... means fullness, wholeness, having everything you need to be happily yourself.

One of the titles by which Jesus is known is Prince of Peace. But even he used the term in what seems like two radically contradictory ways. On one occasion he told his disciples, *"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword"* (Matt. 10:34). Yet the last time they ate together, Jesus said to them, *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you"* (John 14:27).

Could it be that for the prophet, one parish and the Prince of Peace God's kingdom is not only marked by the absence of struggle, but the presence of love?

See you Sunday as we pray for the advent of God's peace.

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Website: www.championchristianchurch.org
Lord's Day Happenings – December 9, 2018
 10:30 am Worship
 Scripture: Luke 3:1-6
 Sermon: "Refreshed by Wilderness"

TETELSTAI IS COMING!
MARCH 8-10

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Monday, Dec. 3- 7 pm Youth Group
- Thurs. Dec. 6- Christmas Cards are due for delivery
 10 am Ladies Aid
 6:45 pm Bible Journaling
 7 pm Choir Practice
- Sat. Dec. 8-10:30 am Breakfast with Santa
 10:30 Friends in Faith Cookie prep

NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Sun. Dec. 9- Poinsettia orders due
 5 pm Caroling meet at church @
- Mon. Dec. 10- 11:30 Rebekah Christmas party
 7 pm Youth Group
- Tue. Dec. 11- 10:30 Ruth Circle Christmas party
- Wed. Dec. 12- 6 pm WZ Christmas program
 7 pm Friends in Faith
 7 pm Elders
- Thurs. Dec. 13- 10 am Ladies Aid
 6:45 pm Bible Journaling
 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- Friday, Dec. 14- 6 pm WZ Christmas Program
- Saturday, Dec. 15- 11 am Feeding ministry



Joy to the World!

JOIN US FOR CAROLING

EVERYONE is welcome! What better way to get into the holiday spirit and share with our friends. We will meet at the Church on Sunday, December 9 at 4:45pm to leave at 5pm sharp! Please dress for the outdoor weather. We will be singing for our shut-ins of the church. After caroling we will meet back at the church for cookies and hot chocolate!

Servers for Sunday, December 9, 2018

Elders – Nancy Countryman, Jerry Hixenbaugh
Diaconate –Janice Bruner, John Cligrow, Stacey Gardner, Pat Mollenauer, Dave Gargas, Vicki Gargas, Kylie Gardner, Natalie Gardner, Morgan Hardman, KylieTeuscher, Karlie Klingeman, Shyanna Cerny

Prepare Only- Rayetta Smith

Worship Leader- Dave Sponaugle

Communion Bread- Jean Smith

Greeters – Tom and Janice Bruner

Nursery – Chelsea Thomas

Children’s Church- Casey Lewis rehearsal

Acolyte- Natalie Emerine and Amara Kim

Media –Beth, Casey L.

Sound – Dave C.

Counter Team – Janice Dykes, Debi Patchin

Captains – Barb and Mike Wilkinson

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Breakfast with Santa will be Saturday, December 8th from 9:00-10:30am. Join us for a pancake breakfast, a craft and put in your Christmas requests to Santa! Donations will be accepted.

KEEP THE CHANGE

Beginning Sunday, November 25th, the youth will be starting a “Keep the Change” campaign. If you would like to participate, please take a container in the Parlor and collect your pocket change and bring it back on Sunday, December 16th. Donations will benefit the youth’s mission trip this summer.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS



To order a red poinsettia for this holiday season in memory and/or honor of special loved ones, simply put this note with your check in the church offering tray ... or you may call the church office. Cost is \$7, payable to Champion Christian Church. **Please be sure to mark your envelope “Christmas Poinsettia”**

Order deadline is Sunday, December 9, 2018!

Your Name _____

Telephone _____

In Memory/Honor _____

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree is up. Please pick a scroll from an angel on the tree to buy a gift for a child. Pink is for \$10.00 gift, green is for a \$15.00 gift and blue for a \$25.00 gift. After selecting a scroll please register your name in the appropriate space on the paper you will find on the table next to the tree. All gifts need to be wrapped and returned to the church by Sunday, December 9th. Please attach the scroll to the outside of your gift. This is very important so we know who is to receive each gift.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX

The Youth will be delivering Christmas cards among our congregation friends and family. The blue mail box is in the narthex to receive your cards in to be delivered by December 9th. Please have all cards with a donation of your choice in the “mail box” no later than Thursday, December 6th. Thanks!

RUTH CIRCLE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ruth Circle Christmas is Tuesday, December 11 at 10:30 am at the home of Karen Sprague. At which time a \$5 donation will be taken for Layette diapers. Also, a \$5 gift exchange is optional. All members are encouraged to attend this Christmas celebrations at Karen’s home.

REBEKAH CIRCLE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Rebekah Circle will meet on Monday, December 10 at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Sue Criddle for their Christmas luncheon. Please bring a \$5 while elephant gift for the gift exchange.

There will be regular meeting on December 17th

NEW ADDRESS FOR IAN KELLER

Ian is still doing very well on his exchange in Norway. He has enjoyed hearing from some of his church family! Here is his new address - unfortunately, it takes extra postage to get to Norway!

Ian Keller c/o Kjersti Sorby
Rambydalsvegen 542
2040 Klofta
Norway