



# Leap of Faith

## January 2022

F. B. O. G.  
Forever Relying On God



A new year is a new beginning. It is exciting to have the opportunity to start again. As we open a new year, it is like putting on some of the new clothes that we may have gotten for Christmas. Have you ever thought about your Christian clothes?

Paul, in his letter to the Colossians, reminds us of the clothes Jesus wants us to wear. We are to clothe ourselves in compassion and kindness. We need to look outside of ourselves to see the needs of others, not just at Christmas, but all through the year.

We are to wear humility, gentleness, and patience in our dealings with our family and friends. Indeed, the Golden Rule reminds us that we should treat others in the ways that we would like to be treated. A smile, a kind word, and a gentle reply can make someone's day.

Paul ends this message by reminding us that whatever we do, that we should do it in the name of Jesus. As you begin a new year, make sure you are wearing your Christian clothes.

Pastor Laura

COME TO WORSHIP WITH US ON ZOOM!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here at St. John's United Church of Christ.

Contact [stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com) for service information.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Fourth Sunday in Advent – JOY  
December 19, 2021 10:15 am  
PRELUDE "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"  
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
*Christmas Eve Service*  
Will be December 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Please email [stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com) for more information.  
*Bible Study*  
Our next Bible Study will be Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6PM via Zoom. If you would like to join, please contact Mary Ellen Harris. If you are unable to attend you can watch Pastor Laura's Message on our website or on St. Johns UCC Elkhart's [Facebook Page](#)

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR JANUARY

- 1 – New Year's Day
- 6 – Epiphany
- 17 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Mary Ellen Harris (Pres)	Wayne Knudson
Jean Quillin (VP)	Edward Quillin
Kelly Harris (Sec)	Courtney Papa
George Adamson (Treas)	
Dennis Harris	

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank our Pastor, Guest Speakers and all our Consistory members from 2021 for their service. A big thank you to all who helped with our in-person services as well as our online services.

## PRAYER WARRIORS

The Prayer Warriors are praying for any concerns or joys you may have. You can make a request on our website [stjohnsuccelkhart.com](http://stjohnsuccelkhart.com) or email [stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com). You can also call Mary Ellen Harris, 293-7481.

## JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

January 02 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist – Mary Ellen Harris  
09 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist – Wayne Knudson  
16 Jamelle Godlewski, Guest Speaker  
Liturgist – George Adamson  
23 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist – Courtney Papa-Abell  
30 TBA  
Liturgist – Kelly Harris

*Thank you to everyone for helping out!*

### CONSISTORY MEETING

Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm  
on Zoom. If you would like to  
join please contact Mary Ellen  
Harris.

## WHAT IS EPIPHANY?

Epiphany is the day Christians remember the coming of the Magi to visit Jesus, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. It occurs on January 6 every year.

The word "epiphany," from the Greek word epiphania, means appearance or manifestation. The arrival of these visitors was a sign that the incarnation of God in Christ had been made known and was recognized by the heavens to the whole world, so that even Gentile wise men from the East came to pay him homage. This is an observance of great majesty, solemnity and awe.



*Wise Men Still Seek Him*

## FOOD FOR FOLKS

### Ongoing Food Pantry Needs For Church Community Services

- Canned meat and vegetables
- Hearty soups and ready-to-heat  
canned pasta meals
- Cereals (hot and cold)
- Crackers
- Rice
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Hamburger Helper-like meal  
helpers
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Condiments
- Boxed potatoes
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers, wipes, baby shampoo  
and body wash
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Can openers



Last Oct. & Nov. we donated Blessing Bags to people who came to Central Christian's free breakfast. In Dec. we gave a gift card to a lady to help her and her daughter.

If you would like to help us with community projects or charitable gifts, you can do so by making a check out to St. John's UCC and send it to:  
St. John's UCC % Laura Doty, 55839  
Rivershore Lane, Elkhart, IN 46516.  
Thank you.

Eastlake Terrace has a new name. It is now Brentwood at Elkhart Assisted Living.

## SUBSCRIBE TO PRAYER

To get a list of prayer request you have to subscribe to it on our web page. You will not see all the requests unless you have a subscription. You do not have to be a member of our Prayer Warriors group or even a member of our church to subscribe. For instructions on how to subscribe please, email [webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com](mailto:webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com)



# THE THREE KINGS

Three Kings came riding from far away,  
Melchior and Gaspar and Baltasar;  
Three Wise Men out of the East were they,  
And they traveled by night and they slept by day,  
For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The star was so beautiful, large and clear,  
That all the other stars of the sky  
Became a white mist in the atmosphere;  
And by this they knew that the coming was near  
Of the Prince foretold in the prophecy.

Three caskets they bore on their saddle-bows,  
Three caskets of gold with golden keys;  
Their robes were of crimson silk, with rows  
Of bells and pomegranates and furbelows,  
Their turbans like blossoming almond-trees

And so the Three Kings rode into the West,  
Through the dusk of night over hill and dell,  
And sometimes they nodded with beard on breast,  
And sometimes talked, as they paused to rest,  
With the people they met at some wayside well.

"Of the child that is born," said Baltasar,  
"Good people, I pray you, tell us the news;  
For we in the East have seen his star,  
And have ridden fast, and have ridden far,  
To find and worship the King of the Jews."

And the people answered, "You ask in vain;  
We know of no king but Herod the Great!"  
They thought the Wise Men were men insane,  
As they spurred their horses across the plain  
Like riders in haste who cannot wait.

And when they came to Jerusalem,  
Herod the Great, who had heard this thing,  
Sent for the Wise Men and questioned them;  
And said, "Go down unto Bethlehem,  
And bring me tidings of this new king."

So they rode away, and the star stood still,  
The only one in the gray of morn;

Yes, it stopped, it stood still of its own free will,  
Right over Bethlehem on the hill,  
The city of David where Christ was born.

And the Three Kings rode through the gate and the  
guard,  
Through the silent street, till their horses turned  
And neighed as they entered the great inn-yard;  
But the windows were closed, and the doors were  
barred,  
And only a light in the stable burned.

And cradled there in the scented hay,  
In the air made sweet by the breath of kine,  
The little child in the manger lay,  
The Child that would be King one day  
Of a kingdom not human, but divine.

His mother, Mary of Nazareth,  
Sat watching beside his place of rest,  
Watching the even flow of his breath,  
For the joy of life and the terror of death  
Were mingled together in her breast.

They laid their offerings at his feet:  
The gold was their tribute to a King;  
The frankincense, with its odor sweet,  
Was for the Priest, the Paraclete;  
The myrrh for the body's burying.

And the mother wondered and bowed her head,  
And sat as still as a statue of stone;  
Her heart was troubled yet comforted,  
Remembering what the angel had said  
Of an endless reign and of David's throne.

Then the Kings rode out of the city gate,  
With a clatter of hoofs in proud array;  
But they went not back to Herod the Great,  
For they knew his malice and feared his hate,  
And returned to their homes by another way.

- by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



Christmas Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Holy Name of Jesus</b> January 1, 2022 (Mary, Mother of God) <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Numbers 6:22-27</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 8</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 4:4-7</a> or <a href="#">Philippians 2:5-11</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:15-21</a>
<b>New Year's Day</b> January 1, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Ecclesiastes 3:1-13</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 8</a>	<a href="#">Revelation 21:1-6a</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 25:31-46</a>
<b>Second Sunday after Christmas Day</b> January 2, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Jeremiah 31:7-14</a> or <a href="#">Sirach 24:1-12</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 147:12-20</a> or <a href="#">Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21</a>	<a href="#">Ephesians 1:3-14</a>	<a href="#">John 1:(1-9), 10-18</a>

Epiphany Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> January 6, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 60:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14</a>	<a href="#">Ephesians 3:1-12</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 2:1-12</a>
<b>Baptism of the Lord</b> January 9, 2022 First Sunday after the Epiphany <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 43:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 29</a>	<a href="#">Acts 8:14-17</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</a>
<b>Second Sunday after the Epiphany</b> January 16, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 62:1-5</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 36:5-10</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 12:1-11</a>	<a href="#">John 2:1-11</a>
<b>Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b> January 23, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 19</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 12:12-31a</a>	<a href="#">Luke 4:14-21</a>
<b>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> January 30, 2022 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Jeremiah 1:4-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 71:1-6</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 13:1-13</a>	<a href="#">Luke 4:21-30</a>



St. John's United Church of Christ  
% Laura Doty  
55839 Rivershore Lane,  
Elkhart, IN 46516

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

St. John's United Church of Christ  
c/o Laura Doty  
55839 Rivershore Lane  
Elkhart, IN 46516

Phone: 574-651-7612

Email: [stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stjohnsuccelkhart.com](http://www.stjohnsuccelkhart.com)

Webmaster: Kevin Harris – [webmaster@stjohnsuccelkhart.com](mailto:webmaster@stjohnsuccelkhart.com)

Face Book - *St. John's United Church of Christ*

Northwest Association IKC - [www.nwaikcucc.org](http://www.nwaikcucc.org)

Indiana-Kentucky Conference - [www.ikc.org](http://www.ikc.org)

United Church of Christ – [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)