

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### The Evangelical Covenant Church of Bay Indies

**December 20, 2020**

#### Online Worship

Prelude	O Little Town of Bethlehem	Pete Vaast
Welcome & Church Life		Wanda Thies
Call to Worship		Pastor Tom Thies
Advent Candle Lighting		

\*Hymn insert # 128      Angels from the Realms of Glory

#### \*Unison Prayer

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

#### \*Choral Response:

**O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

#### Personal Prayer (Silent personal confession and prayers of intercession)

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer      Pastor Tom Thies

Special Music      Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord/The First Noel      Betsy Wagner

Scripture Reading      Luke 1: 57-80

Sermon      Birth of John the Baptist      Pastor Tom Thies

\*Hymn insert # 125      Angels We Have Heard on High

\*\*Dedication of Our Tithes and Gifts      Pastor Tom Thies

\*The Benediction

\*Postlude      What Child is This?      Betsy Wagner

\*\*Thank you for your continued financial support of the ministry of your church.

Support may also be sent to the church office at **950 Ridgewood Ave Venice 34285.**

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Global Mission Emphasis: International Justice Mission: fight against human trafficking

Local Mission Emphasis: Agape Pilots

Pray for the leadership of ECC

Pray for world and local leaders

Pray for newly elected leaders

Pray for the many members of our congregation who are dealing with illness and recovering from surgery.

Pray for our outreach in the Bay Indies Community. You are the Church.

## CHURCH LIFE

**Church Council:** The nominating committee is currently meeting with interested candidates for open positions for 2021. If you are interested in serving or would like more information about the open positions, please leave a message on the office phone, 941-484-1150. Candidates need to be members of the church. Nominations will close the end of this month in preparation for the elections which will be held at the Annual Meeting in January.

**Offering Envelopes:** If you ordered envelopes you can find them on top of the filing cabinet outside of Pastor Tom's office. Your name is on your envelopes.

## BIRTHDAYS

Linda Rafferty 12/21, Lucas Clauson 12/22, David Warner 12/24

## ANNIVERSARIES

Pete & Jan Vaast 12/21, Mike & Deb Martin 12/23

## Attendance Last Sunday

Virtual -52 (this may include 2 or more people on each viewing)

## CHURCH WEBSITE

[www.bayindieschurch.com](http://www.bayindieschurch.com) you will find the video recording of previous services. You will also find copies of the worship folders. You may also place a confidential prayer request by clicking on the tab- Send a prayer request. Check it out. Be sure to let Pastor Tom and Wanda know how we can pray for you.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:57–80 (ESV)

<sup>57</sup>Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup>And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. <sup>59</sup>And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, <sup>60</sup>but his mother answered, “No; he shall be called John.” <sup>61</sup>And they said to her, “None of your relatives is called by this name.” <sup>62</sup>And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. <sup>63</sup>And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And they all wondered. <sup>64</sup>And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. <sup>65</sup>And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, <sup>66</sup>and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, “What then will this child be?” For the hand of the Lord was with him.

<sup>67</sup>And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, <sup>68</sup>“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people <sup>69</sup>and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, <sup>70</sup>as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, <sup>71</sup>that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; <sup>72</sup>to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup>the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us <sup>74</sup>that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, <sup>77</sup>to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup>because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high <sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

<sup>80</sup>And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.



## EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF BAY INDIES



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