



E-Note for  
December 18, 2024

Dear Friends,

*This Advent Season, I have been following along in a book called "Honest Advent" by Artist and Spiritual Director Scott Erickson. Today's devotional is titled "With" about Jesus, the Christ child being a companion, intertwined into our lives, journeys, and experiences. He ends the devotional with the prayer, "May you see that you never have to do it alone".*

*I am thinking about this prayer wish. May you see that you never have to do it alone. And it's relevant to be together \*with\* one another tonight for a Blue Christmas service. With ones who feel unconnected. With ones who are searching for more meaning in this Christmas. With ones whose Christmas looks different than it has before. With ones who need others to be with. We will gather to recognize the change in Christmas and ourselves—that there may be grief or sadness that isn't the merry cheer of the season. But we will also remember our celebration of Jesus Christ's with-ness to us. Even in the blue, Christ meets us, embraces us, and loves in holy mercy for every one of us. Merry Christmas! May you see that you never have to do it alone!*

*Merry Christmas! May you see that you never have to do it alone!*

*Pastor Dana Becker*



### **Blue Christmas**

Please join us tonight, December 18th at 6:30pm for a quiet and contemplative Christmas worship service. Our Blue Christmas service is a space to acknowledge the "blue" feelings that can accompany this holiday season. At Christmas, we can feel a pressure to hide our loneliness and sadness and "be of good cheer" 24/7 through the month of December. Christmas is not about covering up our pain and grief, but of finding hope and healing even in our mourning. This service will honor the grief and the struggles that can accompany the darkest nights of the year.



### **Christmas Worship Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Christmas Eve Services at 2:00 pm, 3:30 pm and 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, December 29, 2024 one service at 9:00 am**



### **Lasagna-thon- Saturday, January 25, 1:00 – 2:30 pm at All Saints**

Join us for a “lasagna-thon” for Hope House in Chanhassen. Hope House is a place where teens (13-19 years) can stay for up to 3 months. The services are completely free. Here they receive support-mental health, physical well being support, schooling/tutoring help, help finding a job, free food, clothing, bedding, and much more. After Hope House, teens exit to safe housing-sometimes back home, with a relative, or possible a place of their own.

These pans of “take and bake” lasagnas are a real practical way to support the vulnerable in our community. It’s a tangible way to be the hands and feet of Christ for those in need and provide a simple hearty meal.

Please sign up to help with this event by assembling take and bake lasagnas on January 25 and/or by donating funds to purchase the supplies. Make checks payable to All Saints and memo “Lasagna”.

Thank you for supporting this event and thanks for helping us feed those in need and bring some love into their world!"

### **Serving Schedules**

Our monthly serving schedules are available online through Signup.com. There you can volunteer to usher, read scripture lessons, assist with communion and serve fellowship. Go to our website [www.allsaintsnya.org](http://www.allsaintsnya.org) and click on the Signup.com logo or sign up at the Welcome Center.

**Confirmation Students: You can start signing up for Sunday Morning Service Activities too. Remember you need four service activities for the year, one of them that is required is Acolyting. Sign up today for service through next May. <http://signup.com/go/7nvSnh>**



Online Giving at All Saints:

Visit [www.allsaintsnya.org](http://www.allsaintsnya.org) or scan the QR code to set up a one time or recurring donation using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.

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