



December 2019

Things learned along the way...

Soon we will hear again, *"And this will be a sign for you; you will find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."* What is the sign? The baby? The swaddling cloth? The manger?

Actually all of it is the sign. A sign for the shepherds certainly so that they would know where to find Jesus. But it is a sign for you and me. *"This will be a sign for you, ... a baby."* God in the flesh. A human being. The creator has been carried for nine months by His own creation. He who made man was made man.

"This will be a sign for you, ... a baby wrapped in swaddling cloth." Swaddled — Jesus was not merely lying in a manger — he was swaddled. A swaddled baby's arms and legs are restricted and bound tight. God in the flesh swaddled. Limited. Is this what Philippians 2:7 looks like up close *"But He emptied Himself by taking the form of a servant ..."* Years later He would be bound and restricted on the cross.

Here in the manger — a humble feeding trough is the heart of the Gospel. There in the manger lies hidden, swaddled glory. Power restrained, but revealed in weakness.

However, do not forget, He would be bound a third time — bound with strips of cloth. Remember? *"They bound up His body with strips of linen ..."* John 19:40.

But on the third day — no longer bound by death, He walked out of the tomb.

In the days to come as our attention is on a baby born in a manger, don't ignore what the baby is wrapped in, for that is the gift as well.

Pastor Barry

CHRISTMAS & ADVENT SCHEDULE

<i>December 4</i>	<i>Advent Service</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. - St. Luke Butler</i>
<i>December 10</i>	<i>K - 5th Christmas Service</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>December 11</i>	<i>Advent Service</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. - St. Luke Butler</i>
<i>December 16</i>	<i>6th - 8th Christmas Program</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 18</i>	<i>Pre-K Christmas Program</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>
<i>December 18</i>	<i>Advent Service</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. - St. Luke Butler</i>
<i>December 21</i>	<i>Saturday before Christmas</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>December 22</i>	<i>Sunday before Christmas</i>	<i>8:00, 10:30, & 10:45* a.m.</i>
<i>December 23</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Eve Worship</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<i>3:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<i>5:00 p.m. - New Life - Family oriented</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<i>5:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<i>11:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary *</i>
<i>December 25</i>	<i>Christmas Day Worship</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary</i>
<i>December 31</i>	<i>New Year's Eve Worship</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. - St. Luke Sanctuary*</i>

**with communion*

OFFICIAL ACTS: OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2019

BAPTISMS:	Violet Grace Skrip	October 19, 2019
MARRIAGES:	Steven Beres & Asa Page	October 16, 2019
DEATHS:	Margaret B. Goldinger	October 4, 2019
	Charles P. Watson	October 19, 2019
	Ethel R. Smith	November 14, 2019
	Rev. Irvin E.M. Pflueger	August 8, 2019

ST. LUKE FALL EVENTS

JOYFUL ALWAYS!
1 THESS. 5:16-18



**Fall
Festival**



**Thanksgiving Food Drive -
over 2000 items collected.**



175 shoe boxes were packed with toys, school supplies and more for children in impoverished areas.



**Camp
Pioneer**

Upcoming Events:

K- 5th Christmas Service - 12-10
Winter Wonderland Dance - 12-13
6 - 8th Christmas Service - 12-16

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

St. Luke Lutheran Church & School

330 Hannahstown Rd.
Cabot, PA 16023
724-352-2777
www.stlukecabot.org
stlukecabot@stlukecabot.

241 Freeport Rd.
Butler, PA 16002
724-285-5893

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Permit No. 79
Butler, PA 16001

Return service requested

*A community of believers
worshipping and proclaiming
the Good News of
salvation for over 170 years
1847 - 2019*



Look for your copy of this Bible reading plan coming in the mail. Start your New Year off with a new commitment to read your Bible every day.

"By the power of Christ, we carry the power of hope to the poor, the broken, and the outcast."