

Dear Friends,

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas! I want to wish you Happy Holidays! I want to wish you safe travels, warm gatherings with friends and family, and hope, peace, love, and joy. Thank you to all for your time and talents for our Christmas Pageant 2022. It was loads of fun to create, work on, and perform. The piano playing of Ben Nichols was right on point, and our illustrious leader, Tom Yuhasey couldn't contain himself and brought an extra level of joy to the event. If you haven't watched it, you can check it out [HERE](#).

I have mentioned this to a couple people that this church really allows themselves and knows how to have fun. In any other church, this pageant would have brought polite laughter and timid acting. Tom told me he didn't want to go too far, but he really wanted people to laugh and enjoy themselves. Playing Joseph and being turned away from the Inn, he yelled out, "You will be hearing from my lawyer, Rudy Gullianius!" My favorite line of the pageant.

It was the Sunday for Joy! And I believe joy was abundant throughout our church building and the people. We had our Blue Christmas service the week before and we acknowledged that the Holiday Season can be hard and difficult. We can be both joyful and sad, hopeful and dejected. It is with open hearts that we worship God, lifted up and brought low. Whatever you are feeling and experiencing during the Christmas season, it is OK. There were highs and lows in the manger, with the shepherds, and the wise ones.

May you experience more peace than turmoil, more hope than despair, more love than loneliness, and more joy than sorrow. May you have family or someone to share these with. May you know that God so loves you, Christ came to share all of what this world offers, the good and the bad.

At the Board Meeting on December 13th, the Board voted to change the policy in our church for wearing masks. Masks are no longer required when in the building or in worship. They encourage everyone to wear them at their comfort level. We will also be including more singing into our worship services. This, of course, is subject to change as we go forward. Covid is still out there, along with the flu and RSV, so please be cautious and stay home if you aren't feeling well.

Peace,  
Pastor Enno