

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
**Ellsworth Road at King Street**  
**Peabody, Massachusetts 01960**  
[www.stjohnpeabody.org](http://www.stjohnpeabody.org)

The Rev. Raymond H. Phyles      Mrs. Margaret Knowlton  
 Pastor (phone 978-531-2264)      Organist

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Fourth Sunday in Advent      December 21, 2008  
 Service of the Word-III      9:30 a.m.

**Preparation**

Prelude      Enter quietly to worship

\*The Confession of Sins      p. 98

#\*The Entrance Hymn      (4)      # 231

\*The Greeting      (5)      p. 99

\*The Kyrie      (6)      p. 99

\*The Hymn of Praise      (7)      p.100

\*The Prayer of the Day      (8)      p. 14

\*The Lighting of the Advent Wreath (st.4)      # 34

**#latecomers may be seated**

**The Word**

The First Lesson      (9)      II Samuel 7: 11-16

The Psalm 89: 1-4, 14-18      pp. 256-7

The Second Lesson      Romans 16: 25-27

The Alleluia      p.103

\*The Holy Gospel      (15,16)      Luke 1: 26-38

The Sermon      Our Sunday School

"The Jesse Tree"

**The Response to the Word**

\*The Hymn of the Day      (19)      # 39

\*The Apostles Creed      p.106

The Offering and Offertory      p.118

\*The Pastoral Prayer      (47)      p.119

\*The Lord's Prayer (either version)      p.119

\*The Benediction      (48)      p.119

\*The Departure Hymn      # 45

A Moment of Reflection

The Postlude      Depart joyfully to serve

**\*Congregation Standing**

Lay Assistant: Fred Faust

Lector: Fred Faust

Ushers: Chip & Shannon Bott      Acolyte: Michael Winsor

Nursery: Rick & Cheryl Cormier

We extend a warm welcome to all who are present for worship, particularly you who may be visitors among us. We celebrate with you our fellowship in Christ and welcome your participation in our congregational life and ministry. Please sign our Guest Book before you leave, and please join us downstairs following the service for coffee and light refreshments.

We also extend a very special welcome to our own Sunday church school pupils who, in their own special way, will relate in words and song the story of our Lord's birth. Our thanks go to Susan Dancewicz and our Sunday school teachers and staff for their talent and dedication to the Christian education of our children.

Our Sunday church school classes will not meet today. Classes will resume as usual next Sunday.

This afternoon our Youth Group and any interested singers will go Christmas caroling to shut-ins. All are welcome. After the caroling, there will be pizza here at the church.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will begin at 7:30 this Wednesday evening. A beautiful service with carols and anthems and the sacrament, it is the most fitting way to celebrate our Lord's birth. Please invite friends and family. "O come, let us adore him".

The Flower Chart for 2009 is posted downstairs. Please sign for the Sunday(s) that you wish. The cost remains \$30.00 per Sunday.

Church calendars for 2009 are available downstairs. Our thanks go to the Conway, Cahill-Brodeur Funeral Home for this generous gift of these calendars.

Offering envelopes for 2009 are now available downstairs. Please be sure to take yours home with you today. If you have not made a pledge of support to St. John's ministry for 2009, please give prayerful support to doing so. We genuinely appreciate your ongoing partnership in our ministry together.

Christmas greetings from fellow members and friends of St. John are displayed downstairs. Please take a moment to enjoy them.

Next Sunday we shall worship with our annual Service of Lessons and Carols. Let us again gather together then for worship of the newborn King.

If you are looking for a last-minute stocking stuffer, St. John note cards, tree ornaments, and cookbooks are available for purchase downstairs at a modest cost.

Haven from Hunger is always in need of canned and dry goods for the pantry. Please put any donations you wish to make over the Christmas Season in the container downstairs. Thank you.

We ask your prayers and concern for these members and friends of St. John today and throughout the coming week.

Ellen Hepburn	Sylvia Moynihan	David Fredricksen
Dorothy Fender	Gary Garaputo	George Winsor
Anna Snow	Bill Henderson	
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We join with those who mourn in remembering before God and one another those who have departed this life in the sign of the faith.

Alma Kleemola - 12/24/60

Anna Karjalainen Varvas - 12/27/80

Please disable all cellphones and other devices upon entering the sanctuary. Thank you