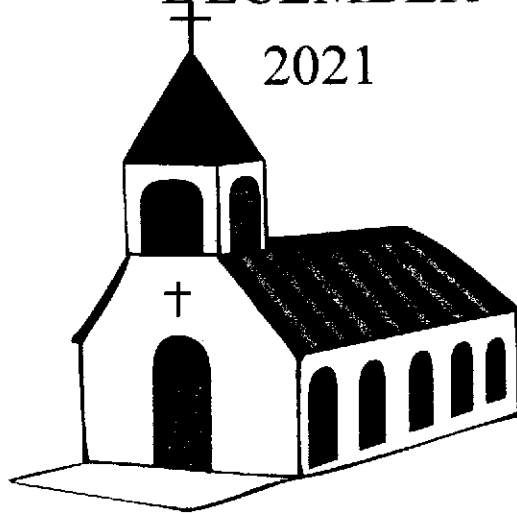


Silverstreet Lutheran Church

Scroll

DECEMBER

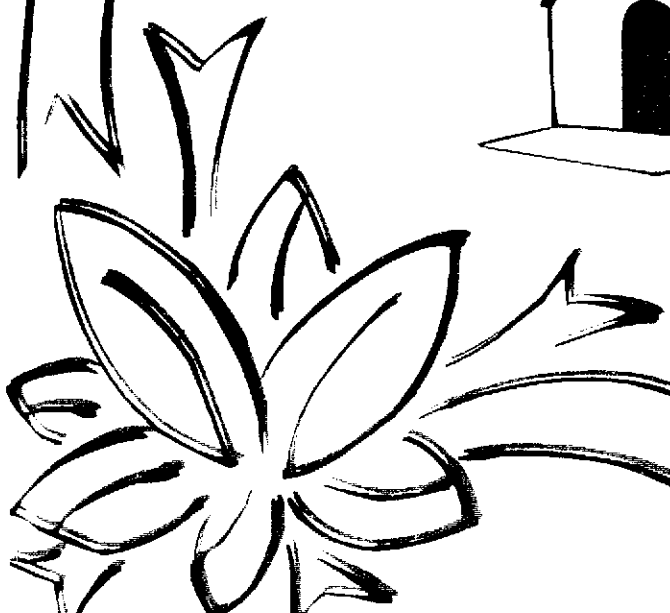
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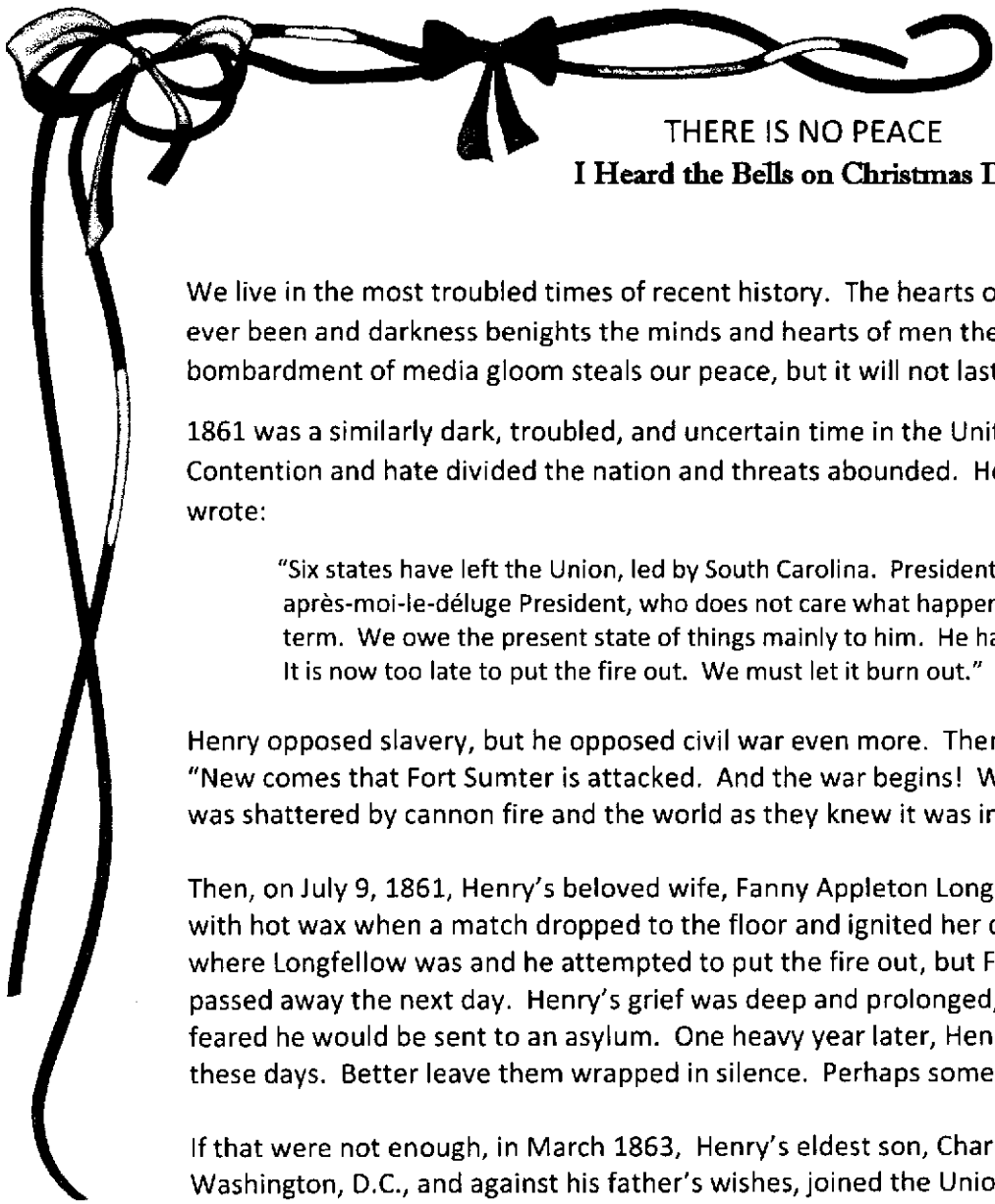


Christ is the Word. Live it!!

www.silverstreetlutheranchurch.com

silverstreetlutheranchurch@gmail.com





THERE IS NO PEACE
I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

We live in the most troubled times of recent history. The hearts of men wax colder than they have ever been and darkness benights the minds and hearts of men the world over. The constant bombardment of media gloom steals our peace, but it will not last! We have been here before.

1861 was a similarly dark, troubled, and uncertain time in the United States. Civil war loomed. Contention and hate divided the nation and threats abounded. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote:

“Six states have left the Union, led by South Carolina. President Buchanan is an antediluvian, an après-moi-le-déluge President, who does not care what happens, if he only gets safely through his term. We owe the present state of things mainly to him. He has sympathized with the disunionists. It is now too late to put the fire out. We must let it burn out.”

Henry opposed slavery, but he opposed civil war even more. Then came word on April 12, 1861, “New comes that Fort Sumter is attacked. And the war begins! Who can foresee the end?” Peace was shattered by cannon fire and the world as they knew it was in sudden turmoil.

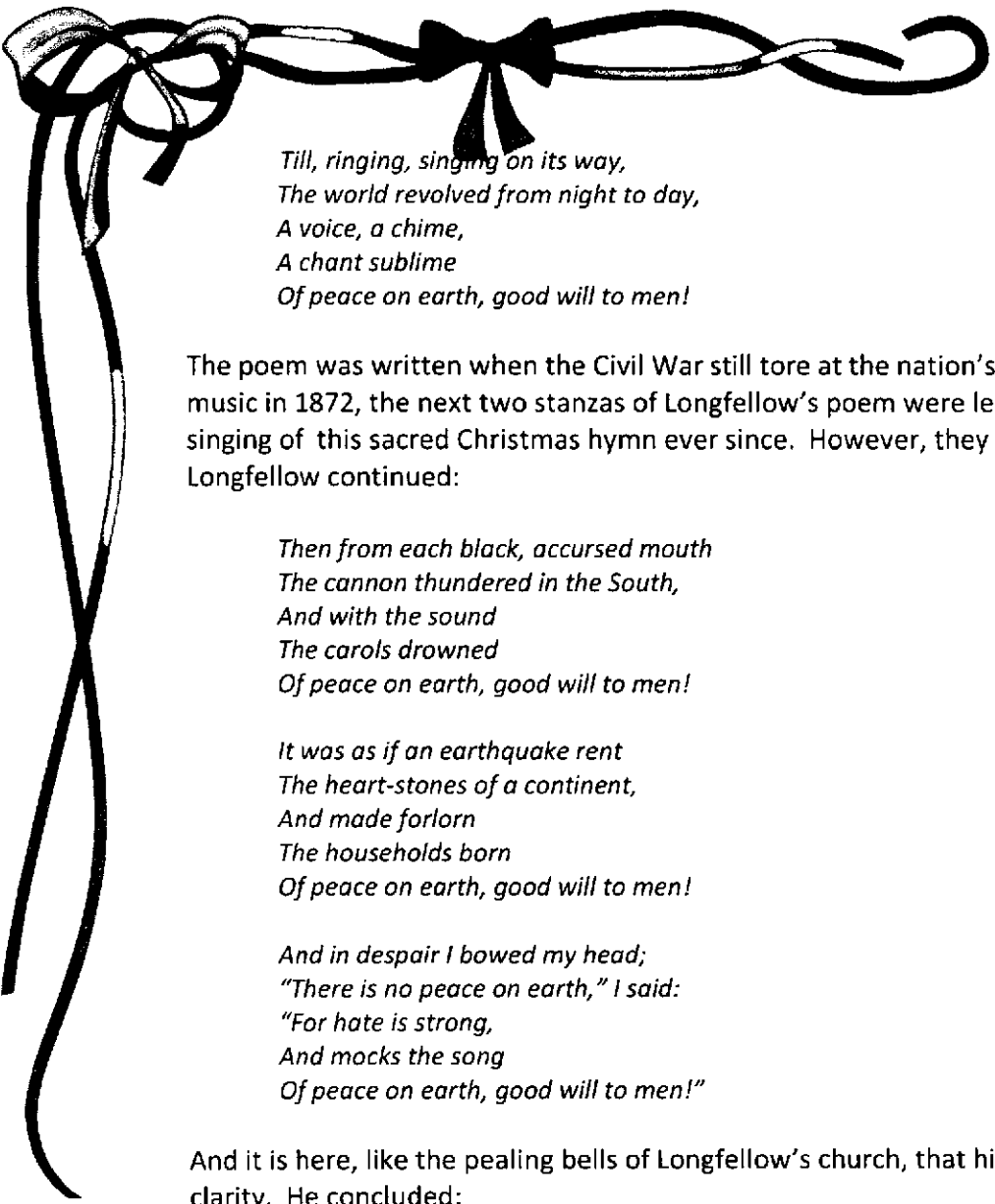
Then, on July 9, 1861, Henry’s beloved wife, Fanny Appleton Longfellow, was sealing some packages with hot wax when a match dropped to the floor and ignited her dress on fire. She ran to the study where Longfellow was and he attempted to put the fire out, but Fanny was badly burned and passed away the next day. Henry’s grief was deep and prolonged, so much so that at times he feared he would be sent to an asylum. One heavy year later, Henry wrote, “I can make no record of these days. Better leave them wrapped in silence. Perhaps someday God will give me peace.”

If that were not enough, in March 1863, Henry’s eldest son, Charles, age 19, boarded a train for Washington, D.C., and against his father’s wishes, joined the Union Army. On December 1, 1863, Henry was sitting down to dinner at his Cambridge, Massachusetts home when he received a telegram that Charles had been severely wounded in the Battle of Mine Run. Henry quickly went south and brought his son home for what would be a lengthy recovery. Henry would summarize these days thus, “I have been through a great deal of trouble and anxiety.”

It is out of this series of tragic events that on Christmas Day, 1864, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow penned the following words:

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*



*Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

The poem was written when the Civil War still tore at the nation's heart. When the poem was set to music in 1872, the next two stanzas of Longfellow's poem were left out as they have been in the singing of this sacred Christmas hymn ever since. However, they tell the full story behind the hymn. Longfellow continued:

*Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*It was as if an earthquake rent
The heart-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said:
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!"*

And it is here, like the pealing bells of Longfellow's church, that his message sounds with ringing clarity. He concluded:

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The wrong shall fail
The right prevail
With peace on earth, good will to men!"*

And so, it will be for us! God is not dead! The wrong and all who support it, will fail, and the righteousness of Jesus Christ will prevail with peace. Have no fear!

Source: Stories of the Hymns, Rawson & Tonioli

Bits 'N Pieces.....

Poinsettias – Today is the last day to turn in any Poinsettia orders. Please turn them in to Mary Willingham or April Bryant.

Drive Through Nativity – December 18th – The time is here. We are fast approaching the final weeks of preparation. We hope everyone is excited and spreading the word about this wonderful community outreach event.

A Special Day – On November 28th, the congregation welcomed our newest member into our Congregational family. Emma Jewel Piersol, daughter of Josh and Kimberly Piersol was welcomed through Holy Baptizism.

Flower Calendar – The 2022 Flower Calendar has been placed in the Narthex for those who would like to place flowers in the church next year. Please consider signing up for a Sunday that may be special to you.

Christmas Caroling – Members of our congregation will be doing our yearly Christmas tradition of caroling to our members and community on December 15th.

Christmas Eve Service – December 24th at 6:00 p.m. Please note the time change. We hope everyone will come and join us for this special worship service.

Committee Chairpersons – Please prepare your yearend reports and turn them in to Mary Willingham by December 26th so that they may be included in the year book.

Changes in Yearbook – Please let Mary Willingham know of any changes that may need to be made for the 2022 Yearbook.

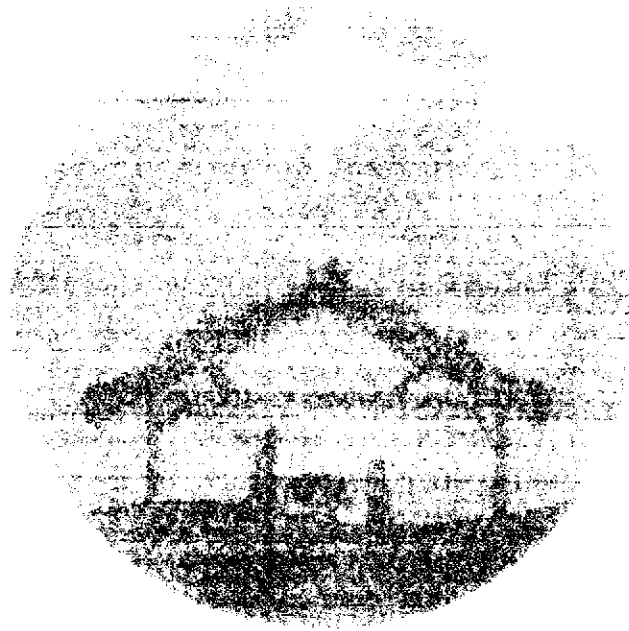


MEMORIALS FOR NOVEMBER 2021

In Memory of
James E. Livingston

The Estate of James E. Livingston





*A Drive-Thru Nativity
in Nine Living Scenes*

a re-enactment of the Christmas story
by members of

Silverstreet Lutheran Church

Saturday, December 18

(Rain Date: Sunday, December 19)

6:00 pm

120 Long Street, Silverstreet, SC
silverstreetlutheranchurch@gmail.com

WELCA Dates

Circle II

December

3:30 p.m.

Hostess

Leader

Christmas Gathering

Circle IV

Dec 10th

7:00 p.m.

Hostess

Leader

Christmas Gathering



We would like to invite all women
of the church to join one of our circles.

SERVING GOD IN DECEMBER 2021

*If a conflict arises and you cannot serve on the appointed date, please find a replacement. Each person and Their duty is vitally important to the worship service of the church. Thank you. *Head Usher ** Greeter*

Ushers

Dalton Shealy
Helen Shealy
Jerry Willingham
Alicia Willingham

Communion Steward

Dec 5th Johnny Hayes
24th Mike Willingham

Offering Tabulators

Mike Willingham
Dell Miller

Locking of the Church

Mike Willingham

Lay Reader

Dec 5 Johnny Hayes
12 Betsy Smith
19 Bill Floyd
24 Johnny Hayes (Christmas Eve)
26 Lessons & Carols



Altar Flowers

Mike & Mary Willingham
Helen & Dalton Shealy
April & Terry Bryant
Johnny & Mary Ann Hayes



Acolyte

Dec 5 Hannah Chapman
12 Hannah Chapman
19 Peyton Piersol
24 Peyton Piersol (Christmas Eve)
26 Peyton Piersol



Crucifer

Kamden Wix
Kamden Wix
Hunter Piersol
Sarah Bryant (Christmas Eve)
Hunter Piersol

Happy Birthday to the following.....

Dec 2	Bryce Willingham	12	Terry Crone
4	Paula Gable	15	Sarah Bryant
5	Casey Lybrand	16	Holly Hill
6	John Harold Piersol	17	Diane Merchant
7	Loxie Hazel	27	Lindsay Piersol
		29	Mary Grace Bryant



Happy Anniversary to the following.....

Dec 9 Josh & Kimberly Piersol
11 Anne & Al Shealy
26 Mary Ann & Johnny Hayes



Anyone missing? Please let us know. We want to recognize everyone! Also if you see an error, please call the Church office or Mary Willingham. Thank you.

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			5	6	7	8
9 am Choir 10 am Sun School 11 am Worship/ Communion					WELCA Grp IV & LMM Christmas Social 7:00 pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 am Council 9 am Choir 10 Sun School 11 am Worship			5:00 pm Christmas Caroling			Drive Thru Nativity 6 - 8 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 am Choir 10 Sun School 11 am Worship					6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service Holy Communion	Merry Christmas 
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9 am Choir 10 Sunday School 11 am Worship/ Lessons & Carols						