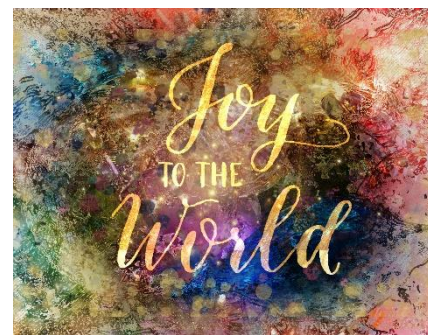




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## *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

‘Joy to the World’ was written by a man called Isaac Watts, an English Christian minister and writer whose sacred words were inspired by Psalm 98 of the Bible.

Watts published it in his collection of hymns and spiritual songs, *The Psalms of David*, way back in 1719.



## January Blessings

By Elaine Peacock



The New Year has arrived not with its usual fan fair but very quietly. Gone are the crowds in Times Square of years past. We learned a new word “virtual” in 2020 and will be still using it in 2021, but there is a cautious optimism as 2021 settles in. As we put away our Christmas decorations we start looking ahead at new opportunities God will be showing us where he wants us to focus on so we can make this “new normal” a better place for everyone; God has been guiding us to this moment and will be walking beside us guiding our steps in 2021. It just feels wonderful to say 2021 and having a clean slate to start all over again. May you feel God’s blessings and guidance every day of this new year. Happy New Year PRC!

After a fairly quiet fall, December was busy by covid standards for PRC.

We had *Angel Tree* gift distribution on the 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by the *Longest Night* service on the 13<sup>th</sup> (in preparation for the 21<sup>st</sup>), the quiet but joy filled *Candlelight and Carols* on the 17<sup>th</sup> and then our *Christmas Eve* service at 5pm on Dec. 4. We did not have pageants or cookie socials but maybe this made Christmas sink a little deeper for us. I loved the music that was abundant in our worship services and the special services that were available to watch live or at your leisure. You still can if you missed them!

Jan. 3, 2021- Epiphany Sunday, Communion will be celebrated.

Prayers for Bobby and Russell Cockefair as they mourn the anniversary of Gregory’s passing.



## Christmas Greetings to the Congregation

Hi Folks,

As I wrote out cards, I realized there are so many people I would like to send Christmas and holiday wishes to in the church family.

I couldn't send an individual card to everyone, so I asked if anyone would like to join me in sending wishes out.....

May God's blessings be apparent as we celebrate the birth of the Savior! Merry Christmas,  
Karen Huysers

Wishes to our church family for a joyous and healthy Christmas and New Year. Peace and love,  
Ronnie and Ron.

Greetings, my PRC family. Thinking of all of you in this tough and challenging year.  
May we all experience the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of Jesus now and in the year to come. Merry Christmas to All! Peace, Love, and Health, Caroline Winter

We hope this holiday season brings peace, joy and happiness to you and your loved ones.  
Carolyn & Wayne Haussler

The Apgar's would like to thank our PRC Family for the cards, thoughts and prayers for Joe. Joe is recovering well from a torn meniscus and a displaced L4 in his back, in addition to doing his daily radiation treatments for cancer. Rest and physical therapy are helping with the leg and back issues and the radiation treatments are going smoothly.

Son, Brian has a break in his 5th lumbar, and is under Dr's. orders restricting lifting anything heavy for 3 months.  
We thank God for Doreen who takes great care of "her boys".

Doreen is the Rock of the family!

Blessings,  
Joe, Doreen & Brian Apgar

To My PRC Family:  
I hope you had a blessed Christmas Holiday and will be blessed with good health and happiness for the New Year.  
Hugs to all!  
Elaine Peacock

Our hope is that the Advent and Christmas season brought hope and peace to all! We pray for good health, access to good medical treatment, and confidence that we will all make the most of 2021!

Lynn and Emil Scarmazzo

I would like to thank my church friends for all the prayers and blessings you have send to me and my family. It's been a hard year for all of us. Thank you, Pastor John, for your support and blessings. We're very lucky to have you and your family at PRC. 🙏. Ellen Lockwood and family

We may not be able  
to connect, but be assured PRC is in our hearts, thoughts,  
and prayers.

We are doing well and hope you are, too.

Merry Christmas with love,  
joy, and God's richest  
blessings.

And, Happy New Year  
and may 2021 be prosperous for all.

From our house to yours with peace and grace,

The De Block Family

To our church family,

Merry Christmas from our home to yours.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.

2020 was a challenge. I hope you have a healthy, happy and peaceful 2021. Happy New Year! Gerry Mamalis and Linda D.

# Mission News

WISHING ALL GOD'S BLESSING IN THIS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS,

For all of us 2020 has certainly been a very challenging year. Here in Japan there had been so much expectation building up for the Tokyo Olympics. I was kind of excited because I had been selected to be one of the chaplains to serve for the English-speaking Olympic athletes. In the aftermath of all that has happened and the midst of all that continues to be going on, the postponement of a sporting event seems so very trivial. One of the shocking things to me is how this global pandemic, which has impacted us all, seems to have heightened divisions among people rather than causing a greater sense of unity throughout the world.

With almost no foreign travel being allowed into Japan, I really have felt more like a foreigner in Japan than at any other point in my twenty-five years living here. And with international flights from Japan running at 4% of the pre-pandemic level, leaving is not an easy task. We had a neighbor who had to wait nearly two months to return home to California.

However, throughout this year, I never felt isolated or distant from all those who have been supporting us through the years. We have felt constantly uplifted by your prayers and support. It has also been wonderful that we've been able to join the Zoom and Facebook worship services of so many congregations in America. If you would like to watch one of our bilingual worship services at Kugahara Church, please go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/minamishiku>

Since the Summer most of the churches that we are working with in Japan are worshipping with about half of the congregation in the sanctuary and the rest worshipping online at home. We have noticed that in this time of uncertainty, the number of first-time visitors to Sunday worship has been somewhat higher than anticipated which has been an unexpected blessing.


We pray that God has given you strength to go through the many challenges of 2020 and we look forward to the time when we can once again meet face to face. Our prayers are with you in the coming New Year and we pray for God's blessings on your lives.

Much love to all,

Abraham and Sayuri Kist-Okazaki

## Do You Like to Color?

Good Afternoon Friends! I hope you are enjoying the holidays and staying warm. Some of my Woman's Club members are coloring pages for people in the hospital and nursing homes to spread a little joy and happiness to those who could use it. If you would like to participate in this that would be great. I will be taking the pictures down to Chilton on January 31st. If you would like to participate but do not have adult coloring books, I would be glad to leave a coloring book or two outside of the church and you could tear out a page or two. They have these books all over so you could get your own if you would like. If you know others who would like to participate please spread the word. The more the merrier! The people do not have to belong to our church. If you have a friend, neighbor, or relative who likes to color and is looking for something to do please ask them! When I take it down to Chilton I have a note on it with the organizations that participated in this. I will say The Pompton Lakes Woman's Club and the Pompton Lakes Reformed Church. If you want to put a little note of encouragement on your picture you can. But you do not have to! If you want to put your name just put your first name. These pictures will be taken to either the hospital or a nursing home at the end of each month. The last week of January I will have a folder outside of the church where you can leave your finished project! This would be a great project for the kids! People love receiving cards or pictures from the kids! This is a great way to keep busy during these bleak winter days while bringing joy and happiness to those who can really use it! If you have any questions you can text, email, or call me. My cell phone number is 973-896-8687. Enjoy the rest of the Holidays and keep warm! Jo-Ann Sisco .



February Newsletter  
Items must be submitted  
By Sunday,  
January 31, 2021