# Christmas Eve and First Sunday of Christmas



# WNY Church Unleashed

December 24 and 26, 2021

Welcome to WNY Church Unleashed hosted by: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rev. Steve Biegner Parkside Lutheran Church, Rev. Jeremiah Smith Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Roger Griffiths Christmas Eve and First Sunday of Christmas December 24 and 26, 2021



Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV. MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels: For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1

## Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God of goodness and lovingkindness,
- C we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.
- P Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.
- C Amen.

## **Opening Hymn: LBW 65**



## Children's Time

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2nd Chapter or John the 1st Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

### Gospels for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

## Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

## Gospel: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



# Apostles' Creed

- P Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

## Prayers of the Church

# Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

# Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C Amen.

# Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Merry Christmas. Go in peace, remember the poor, and serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### This week at St. Paul's (Friday Christmas Eve-Sunday January 2nd)

Friday:	<ul> <li>12:00 pm: WNY Church Unleashed Christmas Eve at the Clarence Town Park</li> <li>4:00 pm: Christmas Eve Worship at St. Paul's</li> <li>5:00 pm: WNY Church Unleashed Christmas Eve Service on MeTv</li> <li>7:00 pm: Christmas Eve Worship at St. Paul's</li> </ul>
Saturday:	Merry Christmas!
Sunday:	10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	No In-Person Worship Service at St. Paul's
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
Monday:	4:30-6:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share at St. Paul's
Tuesday:	10:00 am: Bible Study
	4:30-6:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share at St. Paul's
Wednesday: 8:00 pm: AA Meeting	
Thursday:	3-7:00 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry is open
	3-5:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share
	7:00 pm: Alanon
Friday:	Office is closed for New Year's Eve
Saturday:	Happy New Year!
	9:00-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship
Sunday:	10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Family Blessings, Communion
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (\* indicates new names or changes added this week)
Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031
Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221
Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227
Chad Israel and Hayley Israel
David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214
Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221
Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105
Betty Venator: PO Box 386, Williamsville, NY 14231
David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

**Prayer List:** In our and extended family: Kevin Dennis (friend of Scott Vahue), Judy Brown (daughter of Kathryn Brown and sister of Bob Brown), Lanny Repman and Norm Kreuzer (friends of Sharon Ries); Aurora Miano (Robin and Joseph Miano's granddaughter); Ira Striejewske; Thomas Maier

## ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Reservations are not required. In accordance with NY State mandates and because of the increase of the Covid variant in our area, we are asking everyone to wear a face mask while in the building at all times regardless of vaccination status. There is no worship service for this Sunday December 26th. If you would like to worship in-person, join Pastor Chick Biegner at St. Paul's in Williamsville (68 Eagle St in the village) at 10 am.

WNY Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

**Tigers Den Food Pantry:** The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. January hours will be on Thursdays 1/6 and 1/20 from 3-7 pm AND Saturdays 1/8 and 1/22 from 9 am-1 pm.

**Daily Bread Food Truck:** The Daily Bread Food Truck in continuing their "give one" season and is parked in the St. Paul's driveway next to the flag pole each Monday night giving hot meals out from 4:30-6:00 pm and then Saturday mornings while the Tiger's Den Food Pantry is open from 9:00–11:00 am.

Haitian Church: Welcome to the Peniel Haitian Church. They are now worshipping at St. Paul's every Saturday from 9am-3pm.

Annual Family Blessing: Come join us on Sunday January 2nd for our Annual Family Blessing Worship Service at 10 am. Happy New Year!



#### Parkside Lutheran Church Announcements – December 24th through 26th 2021

At Parkside we are rediscovering the radical love of Jesus – Gathering All, Serving All, Caring for All
2 Wallace Ave Buffalo, NY 14214 (corner of Depew) (716)836-1361 parksidelutheran@gmail.com

#### There are 3 ways to watch the recorded Service 10am Sundays:

TV: Station METV – channel 5 on Cable, Fios & Dish or channel 67 on DirecTV Or, view anytime on WNY Church Unleashed Facebook or Youtube **Or, at Parkside Lutheran Church 10am** Masks are required indoors for everyone.

#### **Important Dates:**

Fri. 12/24 – Christmas Eve AM Service 10am and PM Service 8:30pm Music, 9pm Worship Mon 12/27 Holiday Carriage Ride - Parkside Lutheran Church 6:30-8:30pm (was rescheduled from 12/11 due to high winds)

#### Feeding our neighbors:

- North Buffalo Food Pantry: Hours are Saturday 9am-1pm enter on Depew.
- **Blessing Box:** Nonperishable food items (especially those able to withstand freezing temperatures) can be left in our little red box on the Depew side of the building. Give what you can, take what you need.
- Meals on Wheels Parkside LC location is in always in need of volunteers if you can help 2 or 3 mornings during the week for an hour or two, please contact the office.
- **Burrito Project** Every 4th Tuesday of the month, volunteers from Parkside hand out Burritos in Downtown Buffalo. Contact the office if you'd like to help! Next date is **December 28th**.

#### Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program: "All are Welcome"

What does it mean to be welcoming as a church community? The RIC Program is a public way for faith communities to see, name, celebrate, and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions in the Lutheran Church. Our hope is that each program will offer a safe place to ask questions and learn together. Interested in being part of the committee to plan programs? Contact Alison Smith at <u>alisonmsmith07@gmail.com</u> or Pastor Jeremiah.

You are invited to take the Anti-Racism Pledge Here: <u>https://elca.org/racialjusticepledge?</u> \_ga=2.38162592.2090941239.1623770446-953195394.1601662931

#### Praver Tree:

**Congregation**: The Pankow family; Stephanie and all who grieve the death of Patricia Ann Taylor; Jim Aston and family for peace; Strength and healing for Chelsea, John, and Haleigh; Jean Czora; Joan Bauer; Ruth DeAeth

**Friends & Family**: Prayers for Strength for Jilynn, Eddie, and healing for Evie; encouragement for Norma M;Prayers for Jen, Tara, and Brett for strength, Healing for Pam and Mike; Family & Friends of Laurence Woodward, Esq. as they mourn his passing; Bill & Mary Beck; Jermaine; Ken for healing; Tina (Jim Budny's sister) for recovery from a fall; Rebecca; Stephen; Kevin; Jamison; Don; Healing prayers for Judi's sister, Jo Anne; Pray for those coping with mental health challenges; Prayers for those affected by recent tornados and other natural disasters.

We offer our prayers for the church, the world & all people in need. If you would like to add to the prayer list please contact the office.

Want more info about all that is happening at Parkside LC? Sign up for our weekly email on our website - parksidelutheran.org - Like us on Facebook - *Follow us on Instagram* 

We would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals who have been gifting their services to help bring you the Sunday MeTV productions:

**Musicians:** 

Harmonia

Video and Editing: Nick Stroczkowski, Brothers and Sisters Film Production Company

Sound:

Andrew Gruszka, The Record DJ Co.



