

Christmas Eve Eve



December 23, 2023

5:00 pm

St. Paul's Amherst Lutheran Campus

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Amherst Lutheran Campus
Christmas Eve Eve
December 23, 2023*



Pre-Service Music: Adam Schmidt

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.
- God of life,
- C you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.
- P Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.
- C Amen.

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

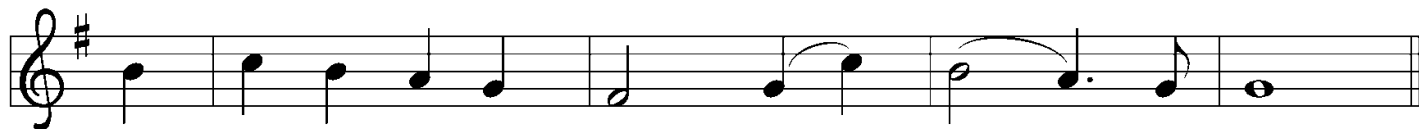


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Apostolic Greeting

P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Lighting of the Advent Wreath



Today's Reader: Tom Depczynski

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.



Psalm 96 (read responsively)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. (Ps. 96:11)

- P Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- C **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
- P Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- C **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**
- P As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- C **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- P Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- C **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
- P Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- C **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**
- P Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- C **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**
- P You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.
- P This is the Word of the Lord
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked
Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay; the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Second Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: 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.]

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



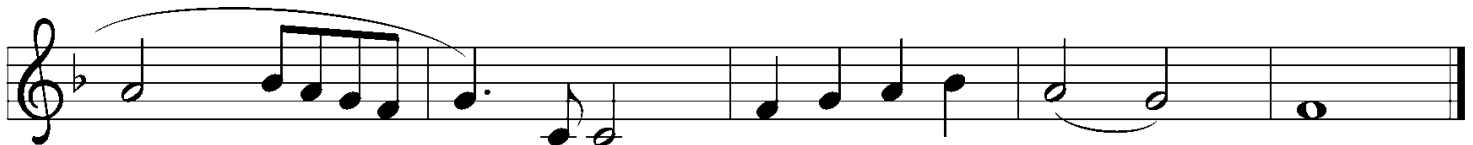
and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Apostle's Creed

P Let's join to proclaim our faith in the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 INTERCESSION

P Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we pray for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves. *(Please kneel or sit as you are able.)*

Glory to you, God, for the angels who sing to the world about Christ's holy birth. Give us a joyful song to sing, so we can bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the dark of the night. The bigness of space and the beauty of stars help us to wonder about you. Help us to find beauty in all your creation and to care for the earth, seas, and cosmos as you want us to. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Glory to you, God, for the child born to us, Jesus, who teaches us new ways of living and being. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace. Help us to dismantle hatred and evil and to recognize you among us, so that your kingdom of justice and righteousness will reign. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to distance, incarceration, illness, or broken relationships. We pray especially for those on our prayer lists and

prayer chain, and those we name before you, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in the work you called them to do. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host and our great cloud of witnesses. We rejoice in the lives of those have gone before us in faith and all those who have taught us and shown us that God is with us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Be with us, O God of mercy and grace, and hear our prayers.

C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

P Let us pray.

C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence, and your love. Amen

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

Offering Hymn: LBW 40

What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

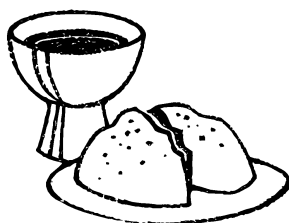
Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

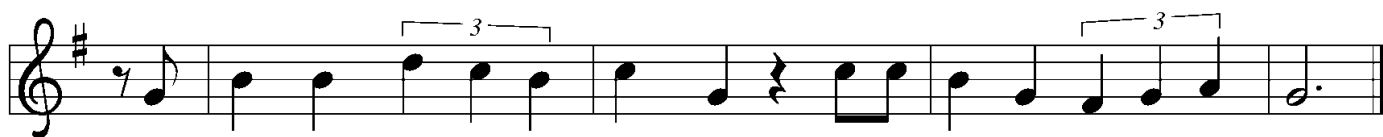


Communion Hymn: ELW 253

He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
- 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C Amen.

Candlelight Benediction

The Gospel of 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.

(The light is passed back through the community. Please leave burning candles upright and light one another's candles down the row. When all the candles are lit, we will sing together.)



Candlelight Hymn: LBW 65: Silent Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

Benediction

P 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. May this good news,
born for you, keep you in God's peace.

C Amen.

*(As the lights are turned on please extinguish your candles, taking care not to drip
hot wax.)*

Closing Hymn: LBW 39 (on the following page)

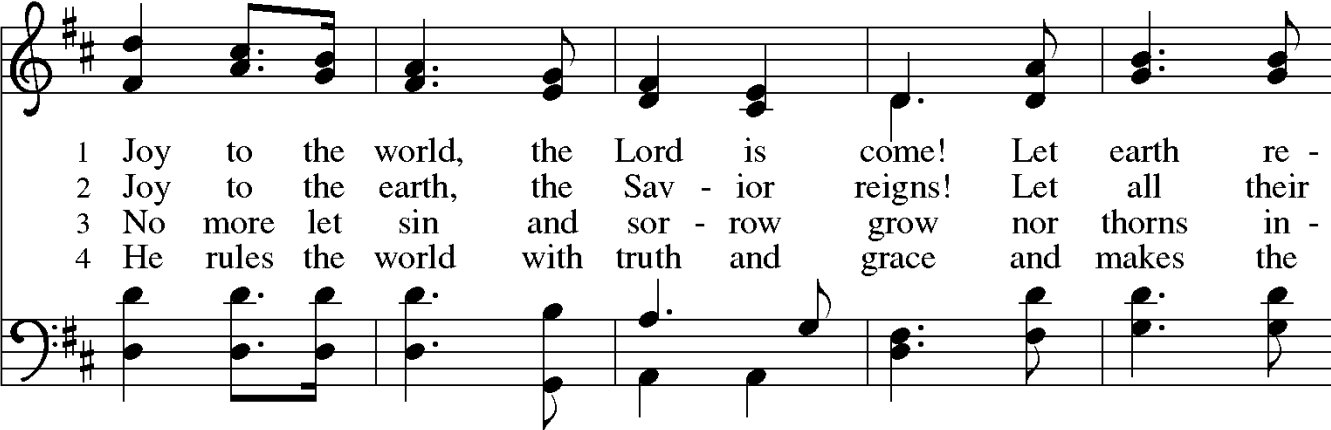
Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Christ is born! So go in peace and serve the Lord.


C Thanks be to God!



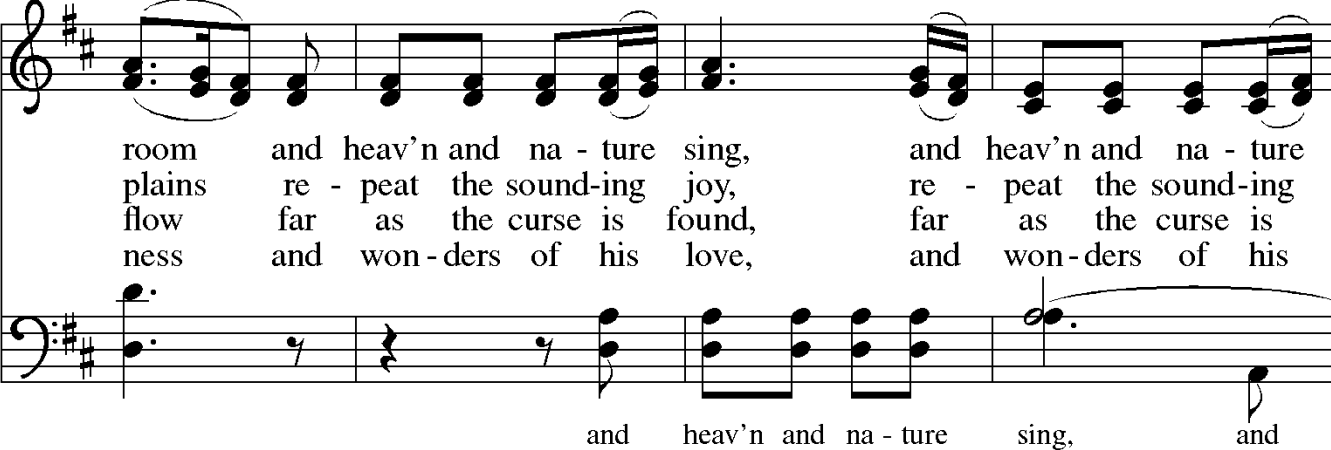
Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



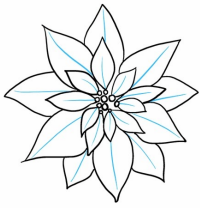
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

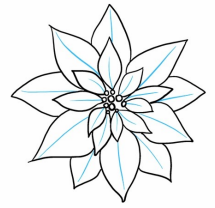


sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,



Poinsettias are given
to the Glory of the Newborn King....



In Memory of:

Mother
Rich and Helen Heuer
Mom, Dad, Linda, and Sue
My beloved husband, Courtney Brown
My husband, Ron Ginal
Our loved ones
MaryLou Herschlag
Raymond Johnson and Barbara Dittenhauser
Jack Miller
John Pilato, Sr.
Our loved ones
Glenn Simet
William and Dolores Skinner
Rita Singer
Gladys and Gregory Hodge
Laurence H. Woodward
Bill And Dolores and David Skinner

In Honor of:

Beloved family and friends

Family and Friends

In Celebration of:

Lizzie and Mike's Wedding
Grandchildren: Everett, Emma, and JT
Judy Brown's health recovery
Lucky #7
The Glory of God

Other

Juan Summerville
Thankful for blessings

By:

Dad and Debbie
The Adimey Family
Karen Brown
Kathryn Brown
Heidi Ginal
Jim and Marsha Glose
Charles Herschlag
Tim, Stacy, and Alice Johnson
Sue Miller
Betty Pilato
Wes and Sharon Ries
Sandra Simet
Gail and Evan Singer
Gail and Evan Singer
Hattie Slater
The Woodward Family
The Wunderlin Family

By:

Mom and Grandma (Kathryn Brown)
James and Suzanne Gustafson

By:

Mom and Dad Brown
Grandpa and Nonnie Brown
Mom (Kathryn Brown)
Greg and Sandy Spoth
Edward and Margene Weiss

By:

Hattie Slater
The Winkler Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: December 24-31, 2023

TODAY: Christmas Eve

9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship and Communion at SPEC

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

7:00 pm: Worship and Communion at SPEC

Monday: Christmas

Tuesday: Church Office Closed

5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main Meeting (NA)

Wednesday: Church Office Closed

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: Church Office Closed

6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II

Friday: Church Office Closed

Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC

5:00 pm: Fierle Wedding Rehearsal

5:00 pm: Family Blessing Worship and Communion at ALC

Sunday: 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Family Blessing Worship and Communion

11:00 am-2:00 pm: Private Party in Parish Hall

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

5:00 pm: Fierle Wedding

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Ruth Blank: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 374, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Bristol Village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Marilyn Emerson: 33 Northfield Drive, Snyder, NY 14226

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580

Dave Lampe: Ashley Woods, Room 8, 400 YMCA Way, Penfield, NY 14526

Elaine Masman: Doseberg Campus, Room 120, 2700 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068

Ralph Mast: 150 Bissel Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14211

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Rd., #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

Ron Wolfe: 324 Village Park Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Lorry Goldhawk (Tiger's Den volunteer); Jennifer Hoehn (Sandy Hoehn's daughter); Thomas Maier

Bulletin Prayer List : Names will appear in the printed Bulletin for three weeks and then be moved to the Prayer Team list for continuing prayers. In this way, we will be able to continue praying for each person and provide specific requests for each one. If you are interested in becoming part of the Prayer Team, please see below.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Lutheran Campus, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

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

ALC Book Club: Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024. The book will be *The Humans* by Matt Haig. At the January meeting we'll replenish the "reading box" with new titles to provoke interesting discussions. In January and February, stormy weather months, please be sure to check your email late on the day of the meeting in case of cancellation, or call me if you have any questions (716-689-6365 or karinej@roadrunner.com.) Thanks for your enthusiastic participation in book club which always enriches, enlightens and broadens my reading horizons. Karin

Prayer Team Ministry: The Prayer Team Ministry is up and running. Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Heidi at: Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2023-2024 Monday Meal Share is underway. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The pantry hours for January are: Thursdays 1/4 and 1/18 from 3:00 pm-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 1/13 and 1/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for January: spaghetti sauce, canned peaches, and canned pineapple.

Angel Tree: A BIG thank you to all who participated in the 2023 Angel Tree. This was by far the biggest Angel Tree. We were able to provide all the gifts on the wish lists for 45 kids in 20 families along with grocery gift cards to help make their Christmas dinners special. Your participation helped make their Christmas brighter. Peace to all.

FAMILY Blessing



Saturday, December 30: 5:00 pm: Family Blessing Service, Worship, and Communion at Amherst Lutheran Campus

Sunday, December 31: 10:00 am: Family Blessing Service, Worship, and Communion at Eggertsville Campus

CHRISTMAS WEEK

The office will be closed Dec. 25 - 29

**IF YOU HAVE A DEATH OR A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,
PLEASE CALL/TEXT PASTOR STEVE AT: 716-868-1232.
IF IT IS NOT A CRITICAL EMERGENCY, PLEASE LEAVE A
MESSAGE AND WE WILL GET BACK TO YOU ON
JANUARY 2.**

Email: office@stpaulseggertsville.com
or call: 716-835-0407





*+ St. Paul's Mission +
To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.
We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: Robert Simpson

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Scott Vahue

*Bob Brown Karlen Chase David Dahlberg Susan Epstein
Sara Hannon Gerri Horton Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon*

Pastors

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com
Kristen Arends: Cell: 716-481-8728; Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com*

Directors of Music

Paul H. Storfer (SPEC)

Adam Schmidt (ALC)

Christian Education Coordinator

June Piette

Youth Ministry

Adam Weber

Digital Ministry

Andrew Gruszka

Church Office Staff

Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Polowy

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Telephone: (716) 835-0407

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