

Third Sunday of Advent Children's Christmas Pageant



*December 15, 2024
10:00 am
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Children's Christmas Pageant and
Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024*

Musician: Paul Storfer

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful and we cling to false comforts.

P God of might,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P God in our midst,

C we confess that we have sinned. We forget to notice you present with us. We yearn to see you again!

P Friends, a righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Week 3: Joy

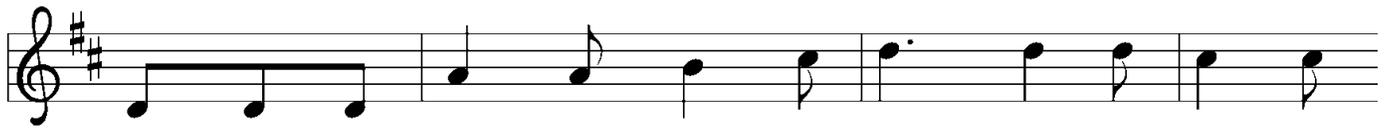
P As forgiven people, we light the candles of Hope and Peace. Today we light the candle of joy. Whether we find ourselves in the dark, cozy realm of nighttime or the blazing brightness of day, God's good message of joy has come to us to cheer our hearts, celebrating the good news of a baby to be born in Bethlehem.



C We light the candle of joy, because joy has come to us. Welcome, joy of Christ.

Opening Hymn: WOV 626

People, Look East



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

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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 Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Time

Sunday School Christmas Pageant



Scene 1:

- Introduction
- Angel Gabriel visits Mary & Joseph
- Caesar Augustus sends out Decree

Scene 2:

- Mary & Joseph travel to Bethlehem



Song Congregation-

Oh Little town of Bethlehem - verse 1

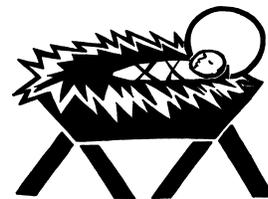
Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight

- The inns are full & stable is offered
- Baby Jesus is born
- Angels appear

ANGELS and CONGREGATION

“AWAY IN A MANGER”

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.



Scene 3:

- Angel Gabriel visits shepherds
- Shepherds go to see the babe

Congregation sings - The First Noel - Verse 1 & Chorus

The first Noel, the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay, they were keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

- Townspeople from near and far come to see baby Jesus
- The Wise men follow the star

Congregation sings -

“WE THREE KINGS” - Verse 1 & Chorus

(Wise men walk down aisle during song)

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar;
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star...

CHORUS

O-o, Star of wonder, Star of night,
Star of royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy perfect light.

- Wise men present gifts to the baby Jesus

Ending:

All children gather on steps to sing “Happy Birthday Baby Jesus!”



Apostle's Creed

A 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 the Church

A As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

- A God who leads, this world cries out for true justice. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. Lord, in your mercy,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
- C **Amen**

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

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:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

QR Code:



Give

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

Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

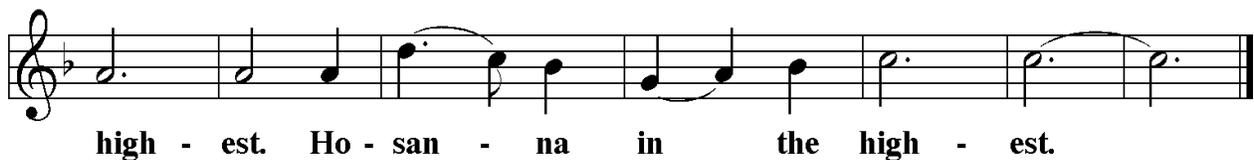
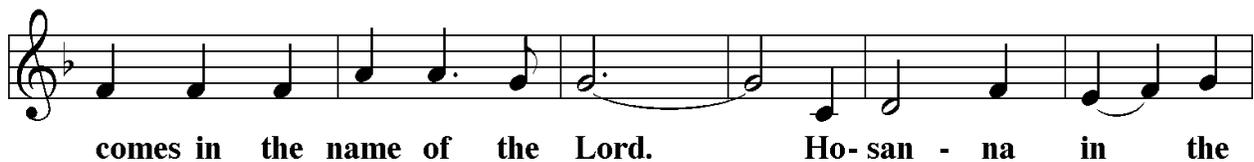
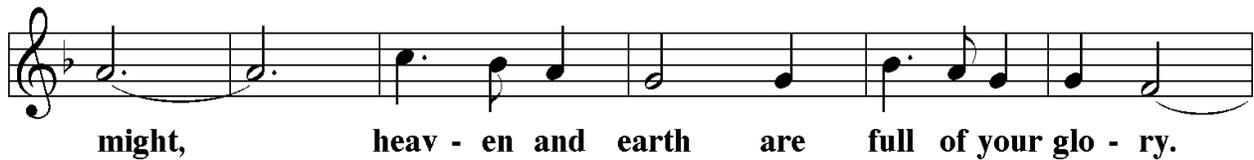
P Lift up your hearts.

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:



Words of Institution

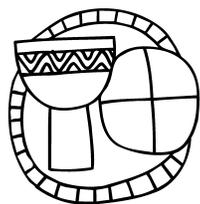
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 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 Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C 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

Closing Hymn: LBW 35 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.



Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: December 15-22, 2024

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus

- Sunday:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at (AC)
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Children's Christmas Pageant, Worship and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:30-5:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
5:30-9:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Group Meeting at AC
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main
6:00 pm: Burrito Project
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday:** 6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
7:00-8:00 pm: God on Tap and Cookie Exchange at AC
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
- Friday:** 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging (formerly Emotional Sobriety II)
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: **Early Christmas Eve Worship and Communion at AC**
- Sunday:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Deacons: 12/15: Sara Gallagher; 12/22: Barbara Walter

Ushers: 12/15: Mimi & Scott Fierle; 12/22: Robin Miano & Sharon Adimey

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Thomas Maier; Charles Herschlag; Kathy Greenawalt; Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson

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

Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031 Jan Isaacs: 6

Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

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

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #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

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

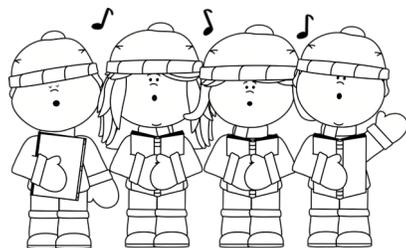
Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Prayer Team Ministry: 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 Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room: Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:30-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com. Come join us this Monday evening (12/16) when Gail Cristantello, one of our Monday night volunteers, and members of the choir at Cornerstone Community Church, will treat us to joyous Christmas caroling beginning at 4:00 pm! If you would like to join the carolers for this joyous gathering, please feel free to come and sing!



Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The pantry hours for December are: Thursday 12/19 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturday 12/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for December: toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues.



Angel Tree

All Angel Tree gifts must be returned- unwrapped today, Sunday Dec 15th. In need of 4 -5 new rolls of wrapping paper also. Thanks to all SP & ALC

"Angels " for your great response again this year.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Cheryl directly. (716)-341-5073

ST. PAUL'S CELEBRATES THE SEASON WITH
Christmas Worship

Dec 21-5 pm-Early Christmas Eve- Amherst Campus
All the Christmas Eve traditions, but a few days earlier
for those who have to work on the days leading up to
Christmas

Dec 24-10 am-Christmas Eve- Eggertsville Campus
Child/Family focus with Children's Time and Kid's
Choirs

Dec 24-7 pm-Christmas Eve- Eggertsville Campus
Traditional Service with choir and soloist

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - stpaulseggertsville.com
Eggertsville Campus- 4007 Main St. 14226
Amherst Campus- 5125 Main St. 14221

All services will have Communion and Candlelighting

Time for the 2025 Adult Retreat at LCLC

Our adult weekend retreat at Lake Chautauqua

Lutheran Center is on the calendar for January 24th-26th 2025. Come join us for a rejuvenating, faith filled , relaxing weekend as we discover how we are anchored in God's love. The days are filled with fun, laughs, smiles and great fellowship. Mark your calendars and reserve your spot now on the sign up sheet in the back narthex of St. Paul's campus.



Reservations must be made by December 31st. All are welcome... Hope you will consider joining us! Bring a friend, or two-the more the merrier!
If you have any questions, chat with Barb Walter (716)-574-8527.

Hope to see you there!
God's Blessings be with you!

Join Us at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center for a

FAMILY RETREAT

FRI JAN 10TH TIL SUN. JAN 12

Explore LCLC in the wintertime and spend some quality faithful time with your loved ones! Snowball fights, sledding, hot chocolate bar, craft and game time will all be a part of this magical weekend where we seek Jesus by following the stars like the wise men!

IF INTERESTED REACH OUT TO KRISTEN OR THE OFFICE. COST WILL VARY DEPENDING ON ROOM CHOICES. RSVP BY 12/20! KRISTEN@STPAULSEGGERTSVILLE.COM



The Lutheran Choral
Of the
Niagara Frontier

Erin Alexander, Director
Presents

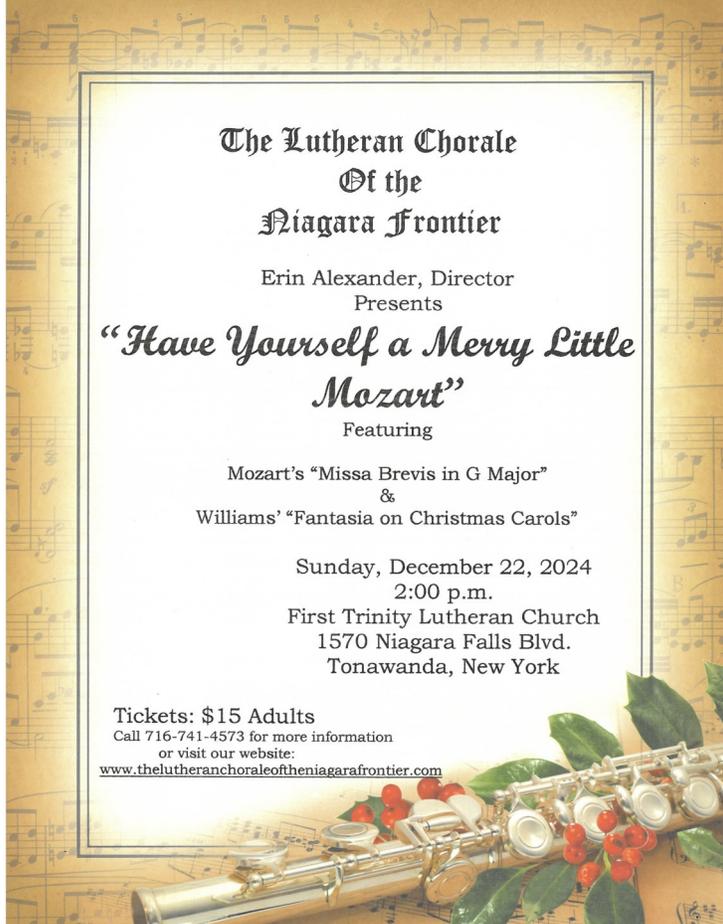
“Have Yourself a Merry Little Mozart”

Featuring

Mozart’s “Missa Brevis in G Major”
&
Williams’ “Fantasia on Christmas Carols”

Sunday, December 22, 2024
2:00 p.m.
First Trinity Lutheran Church
1570 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Tonawanda, New York

Tickets: \$15 Adults
Call 716-741-4573 for more information
or visit our website:
www.thelutheranchoraleoftheniagarafontier.com





*+ 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: Robert Simpson
Vice-President: Tim Johnson
Treasurer: William Niblock
Secretary: Scott Vahue
Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein
Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter*

Pastoral Leaders

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

Directors of Music: *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)*

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette*

Youth Ministry: *Kristen Arends*

Digital Ministry: *Andrew Gruszka*

Facilities Manager: *Jeff Stein*

Church Office Staff

*Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary
E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com
Telephone: (716) 835-0407
Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com*

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus
4007 Main Street
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

*St. Paul's Amherst Campus
5125 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221*

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm