

Christmas Eve



December 24, 2024

7:00 pm

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus



New to St. Paul's? We're so glad you're here!
Fill out this form so we can get to know you better!

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve: 7:00 pm
December 24, 2024*

Guest Soloist: Emily Helenbrook

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.

Choral Introit

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!

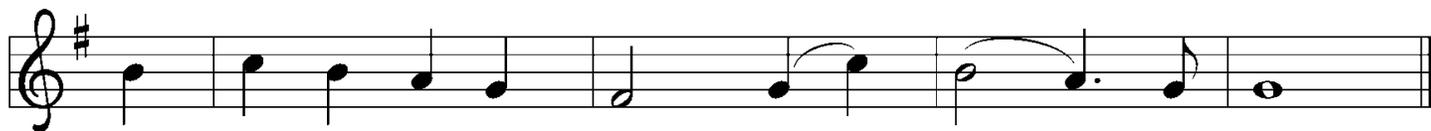


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

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.



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)

A 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.**

A 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.**

A 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.**

A 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.**

A 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."**

A 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.**

A You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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- 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



Hymn of the Day: LBW 71 (on the following page)

Angels We Have Heard on High

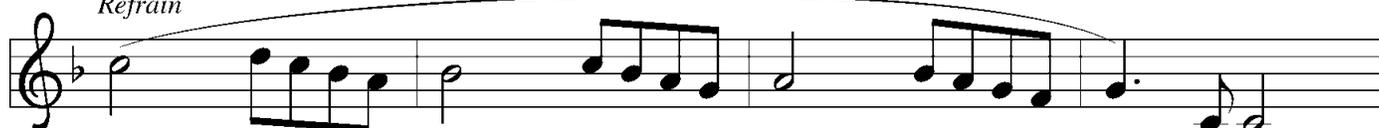


1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



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.

Refrain

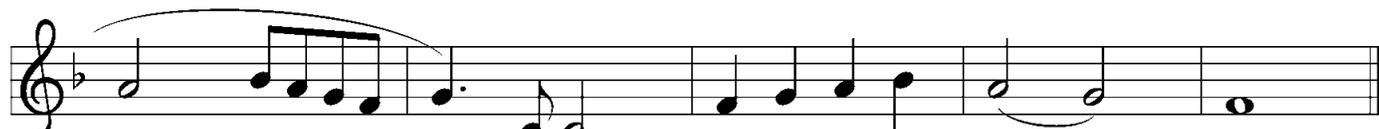


Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



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

Apostle's Creed

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:

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 Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)
- Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 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:



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



Communion Liturgy based on "I Am the Bread of Life" (WOV 702)

P I AM the bread of Life. You who come to me shall not hunger, And who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.

C And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up on the last day.

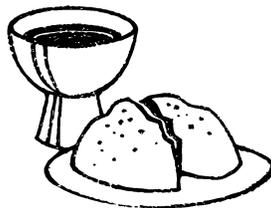
P The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, And if you eat of this bread, You shall live forever, you shall live forever.

C And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up on the last day.

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took a loaf of 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.

C And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up on the last day.

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, Who has come into the world. And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, And I will raise you up on the last day.



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 Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the hurting and share the good news of great joy.

C Amen.

Candlelight Benediction

Introduction/Candle Lighting

P On this long, dark day of winter, we welcome the light of the Christ child. We have watched and waited for a sign of the joy to come. We have lit the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love in anticipation of the birth of Jesus.

C The good news is here. The child has come.

P A child has been born for us, a son given to us; he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace. We light the final candle because the light of the world has come to dwell among us.

C Behold, Christ is born.



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

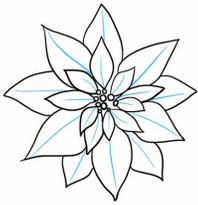
ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

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

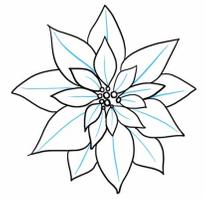
and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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:

Dale & Mary Johnson
Beloved Sisters: Susan Robbins & Linda Wilson
Marilyn L. Striejewski
David H. Striejewski
Bill, Dolores & David Skinner
Jim & Rita Singer
William & Dolores Skinner
Jack Miller
John Pilato, Sr.
Jennifer Glassman
Rich & Helen Heuer
My Jerry
Bob & Louise Lenz
Clophes & Janette Bulleigh
Our Loved Ones
Fred, Helen, Jerry & Elaine Wertz
Arthur, Eleanor & Joan Meyer, Charles Plauman
Jane & Larry Woodward
Rita Zimmer & Ruth Merrill
Eva Carlson
June & Dean Troutman
Grace & Earl Rothenberger
Out Loved Ones
Courtney Brown, My Beloved Husband
Jim & Kathryn Begley
Dear Aunts Jeanette Cleary & Margie Paddock

By:

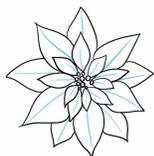
Karen & Bob Brown
Karen Ann
Deb & Dad, Don & Michele
Deb & Dad, Don & Michele
The Wunderlin Family
Gail & Evan Singer
Gail & Evan Singer
Sue Miller
Betty Pilato
Suzanne & James Gustafson
The Adimey Family
Sandy Hoehn
Bill & Dee Dee Bulleigh
Bill & Dee Dee Bulleigh
Wes & Sharon Ries
Jim & Judy Meyer
Jim & Judy Meyer
Steve & Michelle Biegner
Tom & Mary Merrill
Sonja Fernsted & Paul Rokitka
Barbara & Martin Troutman
Barbara & Martin Troutman
Jim & Marsha Glose
Kathryn Brown
Kathryn Brown, their daughter
Kathryn Brown

In Honor of:

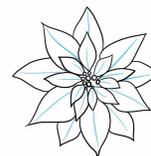
Sue & Jim Gustafson
Rob, Michele & RJ Vishion
All our Service Men & Women
Our Wonderful Grandchildren

By:

Suzanne & James Gustafson
Bill & Dee Dee Bulleigh
Greg & Sandy Spoth
Greg & Sandy Spoth



Poinsettias are given



to the Glory of the Newborn King....

In Celebration of:

*Children and Grandchildren
Family—Children & Grandchildren*

By:

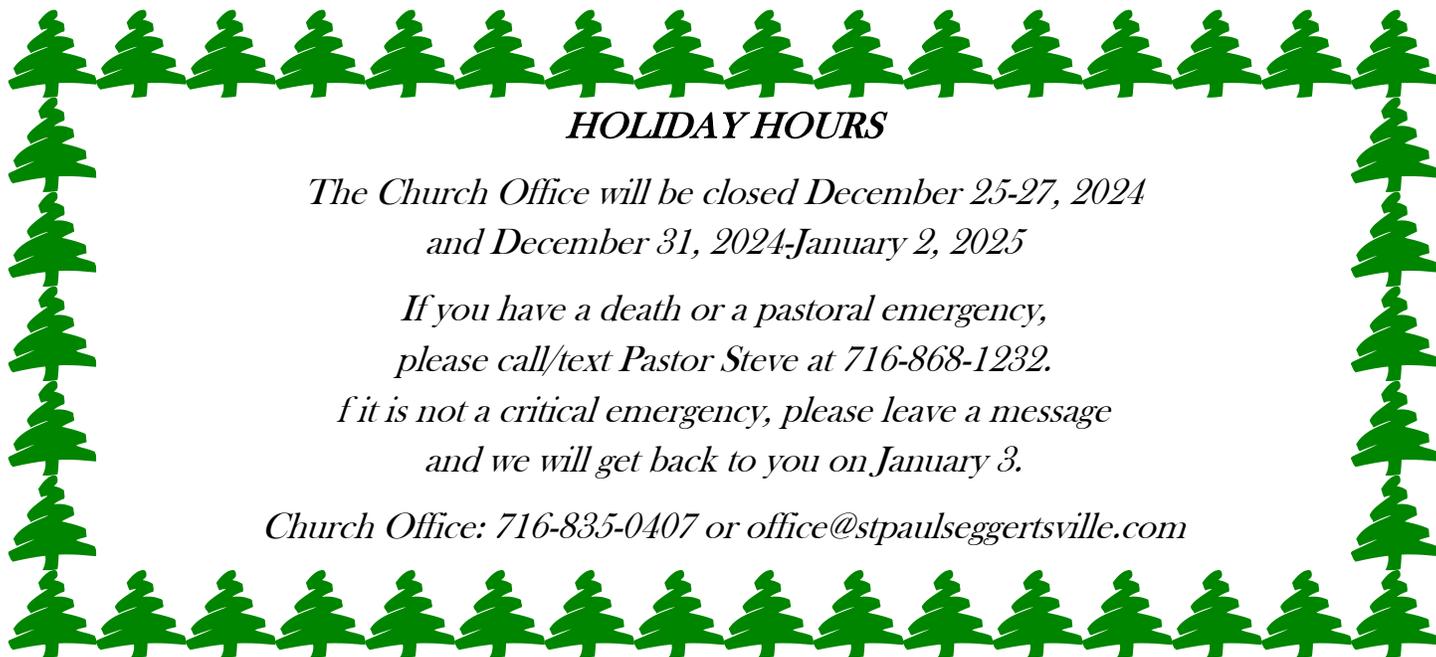
*Karen and Bob Brown
Kathryn Brown*

Other:

*Thankful for blessings
Family Health*

By:

*Heather Hornung & Paul Winkler
Shari & Bob Rembold*



HOLIDAY HOURS

*The Church Office will be closed December 25-27, 2024
and December 31, 2024-January 2, 2025*

*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 3.*

Church Office: 716-835-0407 or office@stpaulseggertsville.com

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Bread Food Truck: *The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. 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, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for December are: Saturday 12/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for December: toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: December 24-29, 2024

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

- Tuesday: Christmas Eve**
10:00 am: Worship and Communion: Child/Family Focus
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main (NA)
7:00 pm: Worship and Communion: Traditional Service with choir & soloist
- Wednesday: Christmas: Office Closed**
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday: Office Closed**
- Friday: Office Closed**
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: **No Saturday Service at Amherst 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: Worship and Communion: Lessons and Carols
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Deacons: 12/29: John Schunak

Ushers: 12/24 (7:00 pm): Lonny Walter, Gerry Keppel, Robin Miano; 12/29: Karen & Bob Brown

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Bob Schumann.

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Richard Elliott; Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); 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



*+ 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