

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24th, 2017

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office / 717-436-6213

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Rev. Paul Kampa
Bob St. Clair
June Bricker
Andrea Cameron
Kate Swailes
Linda Clark & Diana Wise
Harrison Mumma & Braedon Walton

Interim Pastor
Worship Leader
Organist
Pianist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolytes

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING December 24, 2017– 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

Those we want to remember in prayer today—please refer to “Prayers of Intercession.”

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE: “Carols & Carols – A Medley” (Organ/Piano Duet) J. Mansfield
[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C Amen.

P Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P God of all time,

C we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your

mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

P Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In + Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” #30 Green Hymnal

* GREETING

P Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P Christ, have mercy upon us. **C Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (vs. 2)

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P Christ, have mercy upon us. **C Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)

P The Lord be with you **C And also with you.**

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Instead of David building a house (temple) for the Lord, the Lord promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, the Lord's anointed.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

The First Lesson is from the 7th chapter of 2nd Samuel.

THE LESSON READS:

¹Now when David the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

L – Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing. (Ps. 89:1)

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

³I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴**I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.**

¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: "I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

²⁰**I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

²¹My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

²²**No enemy shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked bring him down.**

²³I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

²⁴**My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him, and he shall be victorious through my name.**

²⁵I will set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.

²⁶**He will say to me, 'You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'**

All – Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing.

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

The Second Lesson is from the 16th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

PLACING THE CRECHE FIGURES

* THE VERSE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vs. 4)

Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people (Mary) from little known places (Nazareth). This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in his gospel.

* GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

* HYMN OF THE DAY

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

The Rev. Paul Kampa

#415 Green Hymnal

* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

A brief silence.

P Your eternal reign has come into the world. Give us ears to hear your call to serve your kingdom, and send us out to those who are hurting and in need of good news. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You created the mystery and beauty of the earth. Replenish rivers, lakes, seas, and all bodies of water, so that plants, animals, and humans can have life and be refreshed.
Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You bring down the powerful and raise up the lowly. Where war rages, shatter hatred with forgiveness and peace. Where fear rules, make your all-powerful and eternal presence known. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You remember us with mercy, Lord, as you have done for all generations. Fill us, comfort us, strengthen us, and enlighten us. Make your will known to all in need. Today we pray especially for all of our shut ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Jane Marhefka, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, Betty Karstetter, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Avonel & Rick Waller, Sr., Jim Woltman, Bob & Andrea Cameron, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Randy Clark, Joan Fulkroad, Don Clark, Tom Lyter, Butch & Sandy Pines, Joyce Bradley, Minnie Minick, Dr. Laurie Cox, Pat Forney, Bob Bell, Megan Hart, Austin Parker, Terry Coder, John Towsey, Barbara Wengerd, Audrey Peters, Rich Walters, Jim Gilson, Jane Cleck, and Cynthia Taylor.
Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You called Mary to bear your Son. We pray for pregnant women, for mothers and fathers of infants and small children, and especially for couples who bear the pain of infertility, miscarriage, or stillbirth. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Lord of the Church, we give thanks to you for your death and resurrection, and that you are the Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer for our Call Committee and its work of discernment, and hear our prayer for your sending to us a pastor who will be a strong partner with us in the joy and service of your Gospel for those within your Church and those beyond our walls in this community. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Your kingdom has no end. With your servants throughout time, women and men, old and young, unite us forever in your reign of peace and joy. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

* SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregational sharing: **“Peace be with you.”**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

“Carol Of The Bells” (Organ/Piano Duet)

J. Innes

[Please pass the Friendship Pad down your pew for all to sign and then back to the center aisle so everyone has the opportunity to read the names. We request that our guests also give us their home address. Thank you].

ANTHEM:

Will We Know Him?

Don Besig/Nancy Price

- * SUNG OFFERTORY “Let All Together Praise Our God” (revised wording)

Let all to – geth – er praise our God Be – fore his glo – rious throne;

For he will o-pen heav’n a – bove To give us his own Son, To give us his own Son.

- * OFFERING PRAYER

P Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light.

C Amen.

MEAL

- * ADVENT DIALOG

P We have come with great expectation to meet the coming Messiah.

C All creation waits with longing for the Son of God.

P As John the Baptist cried in the wilderness, “Prepare the way for the Lord.”

C We prepare a place in our hearts and in the world for his coming.

P O come to us, Emmanuel!

C God, be with us and save us from our sins.

- * EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] (all)

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.**

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel).

COMMUNION:

"The Shepherd Of The Flock"

G. M. Martin

DISTRIBUTION

["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

* 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 for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)**

* CLOSING HYMN “What Child Is This” #40 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Next Week’s Lector – Diana Wise

Next Week’s Altar Guild – Linda Clark & Diana Wise

This Evening’s Lay Worship Leader – Sam Leister

Next Week’s Lay Worship Leader – Stephen Rodgers

This Evening’s Acolytes -- Zeb Berry & Julia Martin

Next Week’s Acolytes – Haley Mummah & Hannah Ehrisman

WELCOME

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit not only in the Friendship Pads but also in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor or indicate such in the Friendship Pads being sure to include your contact information. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshipping with us.

VISITORS ARE INVITED TO COMMUNE with us if they are baptized, and if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus’ promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR COMMUNION. Wine and wheat wafers are used and if you so desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel.

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the blue portfolios placed on top of the sound control system. In addition, headsets are available in the Narthex for our sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired.

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshiping with us today to sign the Friendship Pads during the Organ Offertory. If you are a visitor, please be sure to include your address when signing. Please also place a check mark in the box (beside your name) if you are communing today and have not as yet given us a record of your participation in the sacrament during this quarter. (A new quarter begins in January, April, July, and October). The pads are found on the aisle seat of each pew in the nave, and in each section of the Adult Sunday School Room.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by The Rev. Paul Kampa. We welcome him and pray God's blessing on him as he ministers to us this morning.

JUST A THOUGHT – Joseph Addison, English Essayist and Poet (1672 – 1719): There is no virtue so great as justice.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for **one month**. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or messiahlutheran@pa.net. If you have anyone who is a “last minute” addition after the bulletin has been printed on Fridays, please fill out an orange prayer card in the pew and lay it on the stand where the gluten free wafers are placed PRIOR to the morning worship service.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. There are a lot of activities and some coordination is needed so events are not “overbooked” in any specific areas of the church (this also applies to church groups who meet in the church). Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email messiahlutheran@pa.net for any changes or requests.

REQUEST from the Board of Worship & Music: In light of our congregation's recent acceptance of Messiah's Mission Statement (including “...making disciples of Christ through Fellowship...”), we invite more of the congregation to sit in the main sanctuary during the worship service. Unifying everyone into one space will help make us more welcoming to all members and visitors as well as creating a sense of community, sharing and togetherness. Worship Leaders will be able to better “connect” and “communicate” to all worshipers (and you to them) during the service. Other benefits include better sound while singing hymns, listening to the sermons/anthems/special music and an easier time of “Sharing the Peace.” Also, give us your feedback regarding the removal of several rows of pews in the sanctuary and replacing them with soft chairs. Thanks for making this positive transition to your worship experience!

PASTOR CHRIS WILL BE ON VACATION December 26th through January 1st. Pastor Charlie Hershberger will be available for emergencies. He can be reached at Port Royal Lutheran Church at 717-527-4581 or at his home at 717-248-3420.

THE DEADLINE for all items to be included in the Sunday bulletin is **Thursday noon**.

HOME COMMUNION NEEDS HELP – The Compassionate Services Committee is again looking for at least two people who would like to give communion to our shut-ins. A rotating schedule of our shut-ins will be used on a quarterly basis. Training is available. Complete Home Communion kits are also available, including all liturgy needed. If interested in this important ministry, contact Don Geedey at 717-436-6433 or geedey@centurylink.net.

THE 2018 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2017 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

MATTHEW 25 FUND – All loose offering at the Christmas Eve Service will go to the Matthew 25 Fund to help those in need throughout the year. You can also donate to the fund by writing Matthew 25 Fund on your regular offering envelope and the amount you wish to contribute.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART for 2018 is now in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you wish to place flowers on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart.

MESSIAH'S DOORS will be unlocked at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings for Sunday School and Worship.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to press quilt tops for "The Needlers." Tops can be taken home and pressed and brought back to the church. Anyone who is interested, please contact one of "The Needlers."

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 17, 2017

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Other Funds</u>	
Worship Service – 102		Benevolence –	\$ 210.00
Sunday School – 18		Building Fund –	\$ 440.00
		Sunday School –	\$ 91.05
Total Offering	\$5,901.35	Flowers -	\$ 100.80
Other Funds	<u>\$1,416.85</u>	Memorial Fund -	\$ 450.00
General Fund	\$4,484.50	Disaster Relief -	\$ 75.00
		Matthew 25 Fund	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
		Total	\$ 1,416.85

COPIES OF OCTOBER 22, 2017 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year through the end of December to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2018 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1st Sunday of May. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sam Leister or the church office.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael "Doc" Johnston at 436-9209.

WEEKLY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are as follows:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to Messiah Lutheran Church for your support of the 2017 “Christmas Angels” program. Through your generosity, we helped over 180 children from 67 families. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless,
Ted & Nicole Wilson

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

NEW BATH-SIZE BARS OF SOAP (4oz. to 5oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) is continuously collected as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

COMMUNITY

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR JANUARY:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; TISSUES; TOILET PAPER; OTC PAIN; COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, COUGH DROPS, VICKS. WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO PURCHASE THESE SUPPLIES

* * * * *

Messiah’s December Christmas Events

Please invite others to join us as we prepare ourselves in anticipation of the coming of the Christ Child!

December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve:

9:15 AM, Sunday School	7:00 PM, Christmas Eve Music Prelude Service
10:30 AM, Worship Service	7:30 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Candlelight Christmas Eve Services will begin with a **Prelude Service at 7:00 PM** featuring our own Bob St. Clair and June Bricker showcasing their talents with organ, and piano and organ duets. Also performing on the piano will be Samuel Gutierrez Felix, a concert pianist from Spain currently being hosted as an exchange student by John and Kim White. **The Candlelight Service will begin at 7:30 PM** and will include singing of Carols and special anthem music by the Jr. and Sr. Choirs. Andrea Cameron will also be performing “Ave Maria” during the lighting of the candles. We are additionally blessed that Messiah was selected as one of three local church services by our local radio station, Juniata County Radio, for **live broadcast** on Christmas Eve at <https://www.juniatacountyradio.com/jcr-sports-2.html>! Please plan to attend this beautiful service for the whole family in anticipation of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Worship Leader: Rev. Paul Kampa).
-7 p.m., Christmas Eve Prelude Concert.
-7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Worship Service of Song, Communion, and Candlelight (Lay Worship Leader: Sam Leister).
- Monday:** -MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED.
- Sunday:** -FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
-NEW YEAR'S EVE
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers).

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO GAVE POINSETTIAS to decorate the church in honor of Christ's birth. You may pick up your poinsettia(s) after the Christmas Eve Service tonight.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

In memory of Sue Collins by family.

In memory of Nora Ella Singer by Ed singer and family.

In memory of Robert E. 'Hap' Smith, Lloyd and Flossie Showers and Clarence and Beulah Leister by Sam and Linda Leister and family.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knisely by Warren and Claire Mummah.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mummah by Warren and Claire Mummah.

In memory of Harry 'Preach' Fairman by family.

In memory of Lehman and Shirley Imes by Carolyn Bryner.

In memory of my dad, James W. Harvey by Debrann Meinsler.

In honor of my mom, Florence Williams by Debrann Meinsler.

In memory of John and Helen Sieber by George and Kay Varner and family.

In memory of loved ones by Sieber and Ona Stoner.

In memory of loved ones by Don and Barb Geedey and Velma Suloff.

In memory of my grandparents, John and Hulda St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.

In memory of my grandparents, Lester and Grace Parsons, by Bob St. Clair.

In honor of my parents, Robert and Jeanette St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.

In loving memory of our parents, Ansel and Jean McNaight, by Janie Shearer and Anne McNaight.

In memory of family and friends whom we miss by Paul Goss and family.

In memory of George and Evelyn Shirk and Gerald and Evelyn (Nootie) Davis by family.

In memory of Jean, George and Bill Flint and Mary Lorraine Hazard by the George Hazard, Jr. family.

In honor of family and friends by George and Marylou Hazard.

In memory of my husband Barry Lauver, sadly missed by his wife Donna and the Mansfield community.

In memory of Sam Zeiders by the family.

In memory of parents, Harry and Martha Mummah, by Ken and Ruth Mummah

In memory of parents, Dale H. and Charlotte Henry, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.

In memory of Denise and Diane Hower and George and Anna Ruth Dullea by Herman and Judy Armstrong.

In memory of husband and loved ones by Midge Rowell.

In loving memory of Daniel and Thelma Dreibelbis and Abram and Ruth Shoener by the Stephen Dreibelbis family.

In memory of Tammy Pines Walton by the Walton, Pines and Stoner families.

In memory of Carolyn J. Wieseman and Paul F. Wieseman and Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd A. Pines, Sr. by the Pines and Stoner families.

In loving memory of Barry T. Stratford by Betty and family.

In honor and in memory of loved ones by Larry and Diana Wise.

In memory of our parents by Leon and Madeline Kramer.

In memory of our brothers and sister by Leon and Madeline Kramer.

In memory of our parents, Paul and Dorothy Patterson and Richard and Daisy Van Gavree, by Rich and Cindy Van Gavree.

The large Poinsettia on the piano in the front of the sanctuary was placed in memory of Joyce Yetter by Vernon Gunnion and family.

MEMORIALS FOR LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

In memory of John and Helen Sieber by George and Kay Varner and family.

In memory of Richard and Daisy Van Gavree and Paul and Dorothy Patterson by Rich and Cindy Van Gavree.

In memory of my dad, James W. Harvey and in honor of my mom, Florence Williams by Debrann Meinsler.

In memory of Steve and Elizabeth Bahorik and Wilbur and Ruth Wert by Steve and Linda Bahorik.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knisely and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mummah by Warren and Claire Mummah.

In memory of Robert E. 'Hap' Smith, Lloyd and Flossie Showers and Clarence and Beulah Leister by Sam and Linda Leister and family.

