

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24th, 2023

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET

MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059

(717)-436-6213

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THIS MORNING’S 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."*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Samuel Leister
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Marina Holderman
Braedon Walton & Hope Miller
Thea Beward, Zeb Berry & Harrison Mummah
Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist/Pianist
Organist/Pianist
Lector
Acolytes
Communion & Offering Presenters
Altar Guild

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM December 24, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PREPARATION

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

[Please use the prelude as a quiet time to prepare yourself for worship.]

* LIGHTING AND BLESSING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE

P The fourth candle on the Advent wreath represents **PEACE**. Like the first and second candles, it is also purple. Often called the “Bethlehem Candle,” the fourth Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph’s journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this fourth candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace.

C Amen.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C Amen.

P God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Everlasting God,

C you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in

systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING 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 (spoken)

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.**

"IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR" (vs. 1)

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all gracious king."
The world in solemn still-ness lay to hear the angels sing.

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 (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.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

(sing first verse of each Carol)
(narration prior to each Carol)

Carol	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	#41 Green Hymnal
Carol	"What Child Is This"	#40 Green Hymnal
Carol	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	#60 Green Hymnal
Carol	"Away in a Manger"	#67 Green Hymnal
Carol	"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"	#45 Green Hymnal
Carol	"We Three Kings of Orient Are"	#646 (WOV) Blue Hymnal
Carol	"Joy to the World"	#39 Green Hymnal

"Happy Birthday to You, Jesus" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

WORD

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God 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, God's anointed.

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

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.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM.....Luke 1:46b-55 (responsively)

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, ⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name.

⁵⁰You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.

⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm; and scattered the proud in their conceit,

⁵²casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,

⁵⁵the promise made to our forebears,

to Abraham and his children forever.

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

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.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PLACING THE CRECHE FIGURES

* THE VERSE “*Oh, Come, Oh, 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 from little known places. 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 this gospel.

* GOSPEL.....Luke 1:26-38

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

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

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

Pastor Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#415 Green Hymnal

* APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

* PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

(The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord from their pews at whatever level of physical contact with which they are comfortable).

ANTHEM

* OFFERING PRESENTATION

* SUNG OFFERTORY

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

(revised wording)

Let all together praise our God before his glorious throne;

For he will open heav'n above to give us his own Son, to give us his own Son.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.

C 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 (In Unison)

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 In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

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

DISTRIBUTION

["At the Chancel Rail" – come forward by the CENTER aisle; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Approach the altar to partake, then move to the chancel rail to pray. Then, return to your seat using the left or right SIDE aisle]. (Fellowship cups are available for those who wish to remain in your seat for communion)

* 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, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit + remain upon you now and forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN

"What Child Is This"

#40 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Julia Martin & Thea Beward

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Paige Martin, Brea Beward & Braedon Walton

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith (12/11/23 – 1/7/24)

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Barb Geedey

WELCOME TO ALL!

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor. 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.

JUST A THOUGHT – Anthony Bloom, Writer and Broadcaster, Russian Orthodox Church (1914 – 2003): A miracle is not the breaking of the laws of the fallen world, it is the re-establishment of the laws of the kingdom.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Pastor Leister at mlcsleister@gmail.com.

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 mlchurchoffice@gmail.com. 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 mlchurchoffice@gmail.com for any changes or requests.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY NEEDS OR CONCERNS, please contact Pastor Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Pastor Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at mlcsleister@gmail.com.

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.

THE YOUTH OF BOTH MESSIAH AND ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES will be holding fundraisers in the coming months to support both work trips and the 2024 Youth Gathering in late July in New Orleans. Please see Christina Martin for cards to signify that you want to participate in the fundraisers at the Tyson Hill OIP and/or Harshbargers's Subs and Malts. Below are the dates and locations of the upcoming fundraisers:

January 2nd – Harshbarger's Subs & Malts

February 7th – Tyson Hill OIP

March 12th – Harshbarger's Subs & Malts

Thank you for supporting the youth of our churches!!

DECEMBER'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will go towards Shelter Services of Mifflin and Juniata Counties. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Shelter Services so they may continue to serve those whose lives have been turned upside down by these disasters. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This is just one way in which we can continue to extend our mission in Christ's love beyond the walls of our church building.

"THE KNITTERS" WILL NOT BE MEETING for the month of December. They will meet again on Monday January 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jr. Church Room.

BIBLE STUDY WILL CONTINUE on Tuesdays, at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. We will be studying the book of Revelation from Augsburg publishers. Anyone is welcome to attend. Below is the schedule through January 9, 2024:

December 26, NO BIBLE STUDY

January 2, NO BIBLE STUDY

January 9, 10:30 a.m.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2024 is now available in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you wish to place flowers on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart.

THE 2024 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2023 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

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.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES ARE NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2024 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly (date to be announced). If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Leister or the church office. PPC will approve the 2 delegates at their January meeting.

TODAY: Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. Children's Christmas Program during 10:30 a.m. worship service. The *Christmas Eve Music Prelude Service* begins at 7:00 p.m. featuring our in-house musicians, Bob St. Clair and Slone Smith. *The Candlelight/Communion Service* will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will include the singing of Carols and special anthems

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE AS FOLWS:

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.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at msgoss@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS are being collected for Shelter Service, Inc. in Lewistown:

- Laundry Detergent
- Shaving Cream
- Clorox
- Shampoo
- Dryer Sheets
- Deodorant
- Dish Soap
- Body Wash

Please place items in the Adult Sunday School Room in the container provided.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY DECEMBER UPDATE

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES!

WITH YOUR HELP, WE DISTRIBUTED OVER 150 THANKSGIVING MEALS TO OUR JUNIATA COUNTY NEIGHBORS IN NEED! IN DECEMBER, WE WILL ATTEMPT TO DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN FOR CHRISTMAS!

BASIC NEEDS FOR JANUARY:

CANNED BEETS, CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED PINEAPPLE, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, AND OTHER CLEANING SUPPLIES

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY
HOURS: TUESDAY, 9-12 AND 1-5, AND SATURDAY 9-12

*WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -Fourth Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Children’s Christmas Program/Communion/Jr. Church.
-7:00 p.m., Prelude Concert.
-7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Service of Carols, Communion, and Candlelight.

Monday: -MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Saturday: -9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.

Sunday: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church/Service of Healing.

Monday: -January 1, 2024 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

PRAYER LIST

Steve & Linda Bahorik
Jeremy Barnes
Ryan Barr
Donna Barton
Gary Bechtold
Linda Brouse
Andrea Cameron
Terry Coder
Rob Davis
Fred & Dot Dowling
Seth Dowling
Kim Dumais
Freda Durio
Cathy Dysinger
Renee Dzikowski
Kathie Eichenberger
Neil & Pat Fisher
Kevin Fetterhoof
Bentley Fulkroad
Terri Gayer
Deb Geedey
Bob & Eddi Kay Gill
Sheree Goss

Sylva Grimm
Fred Gross
Hannah Hart
Nox Hepburn
Judy Hosler
Nancy Howell
Erin Husler
Terry Imes
Annie Ingle
Guy Kerstetter
Jesse Kint
Carlen McClure
Alice McClure
Andi McDanel
Cecilia Miller
Curt Miller
Ellwood Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Claire Mummah
Carole Nace
Donna Parks

Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks

Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Dave Reed
Diane Rowles
Kelley Rusenko
Ron & Arlene Shearer
Joyce & Todd Spangler
Barry Strawser
Vicki Suoja
Tonya Tabb
Dorothy Towsey
Molly Ulsh
Doug Wagner
Roscoe Warner
Mary Jane Williamson
Jim & Heidi Woltman
Gary Zeiders
Paul Zeiders
George Zimmerman
Linda Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

- Jane Marhefka – Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Rich Smith – Magnolia Personal Care Center, 68 Lexi St., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Ray Bramm – Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- Ruth Cisney – Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 112, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- Edith Nipple – 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Ona Stoner – William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044



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 Worship Service on Christmas Eve.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

In loving memory of faithful servants Ansel and Jean McNaight, our parents, by Jane Shearer and Anne B. McNaight.

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

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

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

In honor of Mark Harvey, many thanks, by Ron and Debbie Meinsler.

In memory of all family members by Ron and Debbie Meinsler.

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

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

In loving memory of my father, Robert St. Clair, Sr. by Bob St. Clair.

In loving honor of my mother, Jeanette St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.

In memory of my grandparents by Kenton Stuck.

In memory of our beloved wife and mother, Kay Stuck, by Ken and Kenton Stuck.

In memory of loved ones by Judy and Herman Armstrong.

In honor of my children, Susan, Carol and Kenneth and their spouses, Reg, John and Tawny, by Ruth Mummah.

In honor of my grandchildren, Harrison, Haley and Olivia, by Ruth Mummah.

In memory of my husband, Kenneth B. Mummah, and parents, Dale H. and Charlotte Henry and Harry and Martha Mummah, by Ruth Mummah.

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

In memory of Butch Pines and Tammy Pines Walton by Sandy Pines and Dan and Michelle Stoner.

In honor of Braedon Walton by Sandy Pines and Dan and Michelle Stoner.

In memory of Dale and Alice Swartz by Thomas and Carol Swartz Wolff.

In memory of Fred and Lillian Houtz and Charles and Hazel Swartz by Thomas and Carol Swartz Wolff.

In memory of Ronald A. Chambers by Deborah Chambers.

In memory of Kenneth E. Geedey by Deborah Chambers.

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

In memory of Dorothy and Karen Swab and Rick Fultz by Nick, Bethanie, Thea and Brea Beward.

In memory of Johnny, Donald, Sr., Margaret, Donald, Jr., and Ronnie Beward by Nick, Bethanie, Thea and Brea Beward.

In honor of our Pappy and Mam-Maw Leister and Nammy Beward by Thea and Brea Beward.

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

In memory of Martin and Ruth Varner by George and Kay Varner and family.

In memory of loved ones by Ray and Jane Miller.

In memory of Kim Kerstetter by Sabrina Shipp.

In honor of our family: Stephanie, Lee, Nathaniel, Valerie, Zeran and Shonna, by Dave and Brenda Duncan.

In memory of loved ones by Don and Barb Geedey.

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

In memory of Al McClure by Kay and Ken Eyler.

In memory of loved ones by Larry Goss.

In honor of my grandchildren by Cynthia Smith.

In memory of my husband, Daniel by Tammy Brackbill.

In honor of my children, Tirzah, Chris and Nick by Tammy Brackbill

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

In honor of our daughters and their families by Ron and Christie Yorks.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. F. Paul Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Kermit L. Witmer by David and Janet Smith.

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

The large variegated Poinsettia was placed in honor of God's people at Messiah by Pastor Sam and Linda Leister

MEMORIALS FOR LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

In loving memory of faithful servants Jean and Ansel McNaight, our parents, by Jane Shearer and Anne B. McNaight.

In memory of Ronald A. Chambers and Kenneth E. Geedey by Deborah Chambers.

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

In memory of loved ones by Ray and Jane Miller.

In memory of Al McClure by Kay and Ken Eyler.

In memory of my husband, Daniel and in honor of my children, Tirzah, Chris and Nick by Tammy Brackbill.

In memory of Kenneth Geedey and Ron Chambers by Barbara Geedey.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. F. Paul Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Kermit L. Witmer by David and Janet Smith.

In memory of my former students: Sam Brown, Kyle Knepp, Susan Hoffman Colyer, Allison McClure Garver, Tammy Pines Walton, Susan Huss Dare, Ryan Hackett, Randy Thompson, Michael Hockenberry, Jeffrey Marks, Antonio Wells, Bill Swartz, Jed Phelan, Zachary Pellman, Kathy Beaston, Jackie Gilliland Swartwood, Chip Jabs, and Sean Boyer by Cindy Van Gavree.