

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HANGING OF THE GREENS

December 8th, 2024



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET

MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059

(717)-436-6213

PASTOR EMAIL: mlcsleister@gmail.com

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

*Teach God's Grace through Fellowship,
Study, Service & Witness*

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION: *Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Samuel Leister
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Andrea Cameron
Brea Beward & Nick Reed
Ella Harris, Sofia & Stella Reed
Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Hanging of the Greens Service (Chrismons) December 8, 2024– 10:00 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 ADVENT WREATH

P The second candle of Advent represents LOVE, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the “Andel’s Candle,” the second candle of Advent is lit today, and it is the color purple, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth. This Advent, we light the second candle today, Sunday, December 8, 2024

C Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN “*On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry*” (vss. 1-3) #36 Green Hymnal

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Chrismons

HEART

HYMN - “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (vs. 1)

Of the Fa – ther’s love be – got – ten
ere the worlds be – gan to be,

he is Al – pha and O – me – ga,
he the source, the end – ing he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that fu – ture years shall see,
ev – er – more and ev – er – more.

Reader: Sofia Reed

The heart is a universal symbol of love. Our hearts beat within us each with its own rhythm, sometimes fickle and uneven. God’s love, however, is steadfast and always faithful to his word.

C: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

Prayer Leader – Hannah Ehrisman – Eternal Father, you have held us and all of creation in your constant love. You feed us with the product of the field and vine, clothe us and shelter us against the elements and deliver us by your grace, may your Holy Spirit dwell in us that our hearts may be one with yours. Amen

NINE POINT STAR

HYMN – “The First Noel” (vss. 1 & 2)

The first No – el the an – gel did say
was to cer – tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keep – ing their sheep,
on a cold win – ter’s night that was so deep.

They look – ed up and saw a star
shin – ing in the east be – yond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it con – tin – ued both day and night.

Refrain

No – el, No – el, No – el, No – el!
Born is the King of Is – ra – el.

Reader: Olivia Mummah

Known as, ‘The Fruit of the Spirit Star,’ each of the points represent one of the nine attributes of the fruit of the Spirit found in St. Paul’s letter to the Galatians. For those who live guided by and within the love of God these fruits grow as naturally as grapes on a vine. These fruits build up the community of faith and our relationship with our neighbor. The Christmas story gathers divergent people together, Mary and Joseph, shepherds and Wisemen, beast and angels into the story of His love and the heavenly light of a star.

C: “The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22-23)

Prayer Leader – Grace Miller – Gracious Father as you have held us in the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ, may we, filled with your Spirit, learn to live in love and community with each other. May we constantly bear your gifts in our lives, caring for neighbor and creation. Amen

ANGEL

HYMN – “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (vs. 1)

An – gels, from the realms of glo – ry.
wing your flight o’er all the earth;
once you sang cre – a – tion’s sto – ry;
now pro – claim Mes – si – ah’s birth.

Refrain

Come and wor – ship, come and wor – ship,
wor – ship Christ, the new – born king.

Reader: Paige Martin

Angels are the messengers of God. Each time we read of angels in scripture they are involved in the story of salvation history. Their work is revealing or guiding some new way in which the story of God’s love and grace moves us towards the cross of Christ and God’s ultimate act of love. The angels in the Christmas story announce to us the arrival of our Savior in the child of Bethlehem.

C: “Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?” (Hebrews 1:14)

Prayer Leader – Hannah Ehrisman – Almighty God, Lord of all creation and to who even the angels bow, lead us by your light into the darkness of the world that we like the angels may be messengers of your Holy Word. Send us bearing the light of the Gospel to those who need to hear the promise of your love. Amen

SHEPHERD’S CROOK

HYMN – “Silent Night, Holy Night!” (vss. 1 & 2)

Si – lent night, ho – ly night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon vir – gin moth – er and child,
Ho – ly in – fant, so ten – der and mild,
sleep in heav – en – ly peace,
sleep in heav – en – ly peace.

Si – lent night, ho – ly night!
Shep-herds quake at the sight;
glo – ries stream from heav – en a – far,
heav’n – ly hosts sing, Al – le – lu – ia!
Christ, the Sav – ior is born!
Christ, the Sav – ior is born!

Reader: Gabby Reed

The Shepherds crook is a symbol of the care of God for his people. At times the crook could be used to prod the sheep along and at others it could be used to help pull a sheep or lamb to safety. God continues to guide us with his Word both Law and Gospel, sometimes prodding us to repentance and in others proclaiming to us the life changing grace of the Gospel.

C: “The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep....I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.” (John 10:2, 11, 14)

Prayer Leader – Grace Miller – Holy shepherd, reveal to us the ways in which we wander from your will and in steadfast love for us rescue us from ourselves, our sin and the world. Amen

DOVE OF PEACE

HYMN – “Away in a Manger” (vss. 1 & 3)
A – way in a man – ger, no crib for his bed,
the lit – tle Lord Je – sus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the lit – tle Lord Je – sus a – sleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Je – sus; I ask you to stay
close by me for – ev – er and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear chil – dren in your ten – der care
and fit us for heav – en, to live with you there.

Reader: Silas Smith

Traditionally the dove represents peace, and is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. All four gospels report this presence of the Holy Spirit in a dove at the baptism of Jesus.

C: “...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. (John 14:26-27)

Prayer Leader – Hannah Ehrisman – Holy Spirit of God fill our hearts with your eternal peace in this season. When life is filled with strife and struggle guide us into peace and reconciliation with those we have been in conflict, in our lives, in our community and in the world. Amen

FISH

HYMN – “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (vs. 1)
Good Chris-tian friends, re – joice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say;
Je – sus Christ is born to – day;
ox and ass be – fore him bow,
and he is in the man – ger now.
Christ is born to – day!
Christ is born to – day!

Reader: Hope Miller

ICHTHUS is the Greek acrostic for, “Jesus Christ Son of God, Savior,” and was also the Greek word for fish. Persecuted Christians of the early church used the fish symbol as a secret sign to identify one another. A person would draw half the fish in the sand, and another would complete the drawing to identify him or herself as a fellow believer.

C: “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.” (Matthew 4:19-20)

Prayer Leader – Grace Miller – Gracious and merciful God, we remember those who are persecuted and for whom faith is still dangerous around the world. Keep us and all your children faithful in the struggles

of life and when we are weak and fearful strengthen us by your Holy Spirit that we may not fall away from your gifts of faith and hope. Amen

CROSS HYMN – “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (vs. 1)

Lo, how a rose e’er bloom – ing
from ten – der stem hath sprung!
Of Jes – se’s lin – eage com – ing
as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow’r so bright,
a – mid the cold of win – ter,
when half – spent was the night.

Reader: Brea Beward

The ever-present reminder of the price that Jesus paid for our sins is the Cross. Jesus paid the debt that we owe to the Father. He in turn gives us the free gift of new life.

The Latin Cross is the most widely used cross design.

C: “Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross...” (Hebrews 12:2)

Prayer Leader – Hannah Ehrisman – Eternal Father, strong to save, the cross of Christ is ever before us, even in the birth of the Christ child we remember that he leads us to the cross. Forgive us our sins and keep us ever mindful of the sacrifice that you have paid for us in the birth, death and resurrection of your Son, our Savior. Amen

CROWN HYMN – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (vs. 1)

Hark! The her – ald an – gels sing,
“Glo – ry to the new – born king;
peace on earth, and mer – cy mild,
God and sin – ners rec – on – ciled.”
Joy – full, all you na – tions rise;
join the tri – umph of the skies;
with an – gel – ic hosts pro-claim,
“Christ is born in Beth – le – hem!”

Refrain

Hark! The her – ald an – gels sing,
“Glo – ry to the new – born king!”

Reader: Evan Miller

The crown represents the majesty and royalty of Christ. God is the sovereign ruler of the universe. This crown is composed of three triangles representing the Trinity.

The three circles represent the eternal nature of the Trinity.

C: “...They lay their crowns before the throne and say: “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power.” (Revelation 4:10)

Prayer Leader – Grace Miller – Lord of all creation, you are the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end, you entered into your creation as a vulnerable child and accepted dependence on Mary and Joseph, may you rule in our hearts and lead us to protect every child, securing for them all that is necessary for life; food, shelter, health and above all the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Amen.

* BLESSING OF THE ORNAMENTS

P God, we ask you to bless these ornaments. Each one of these represents a thread in the tapestry of our family's lives together. We gather today to be mindful of how you have been present with us through all our days. We know that you are present with us now as our family story continues to unfold.

Christ who calls us to joy, as we prepare our homes, churches, and communities for the Advent and Christmas season, make us ready to meet you in our daily lives. May we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of grace you freely offer.

Holy Spirit, help us focus on the most important thing about Christmas: the Birth of your Son, Jesus. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

C Amen.

PLACING OF THE CRECHE FIGURES (Shepherd and Sheep)

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 2)
Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes
on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud,
and majesty, and awe.

Refrain

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

* 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 Lord, in your mercy,

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).

* 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 Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the Advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

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 God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to 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, 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.

SENDING

* **BLESSING**

P God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.
C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* **SENDING HYMN** *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”* #50 Green Hymnal

* **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
C Thanks be to God.

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB154530

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Tawny Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Olivia Mummah & Zeb Berry

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Braedon, Thea Beward & Julia Martin

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith (11/25/24 – 12/22/24)

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Tammy Brackbill

DECEMBER COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Today: Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

15: Cynthia Smith & Larry Goss

22: Tammy Brackbill & Nick Beward

24: Slone Smith & Clint Miller

29: Slone Smith & Mary Grimm

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Diane Hower by family.

JUST A THOUGHT – Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens (6th century): The simple, absolute and immutable mysteries of the divine truth are hidden in secret. For this darkness, though of deepest obscurity, is yet radiantly clear; and, though beyond touch and sight, it more than fills our unseeing minds with splendors of transcendent beauty.

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.

DECEMBER'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will go to 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 in need. 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.

REMINDER: **Please have all information to be placed in the newsletter** to Bob at stclairb@embarqmail.com or the church office at mlchurchoffice@gmail.com by the deadlines which are listed monthly in the newsletter.

COPIES OF THE REVERSE ADVENT CALENDARS are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

"THE KNITTERS" WILL NOT BE MEETING for the month of December. They will meet again on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Junior Church Room.

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES on Tuesday, December 10th at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. We will be studying the "Life of David." **NOTE:** We will not be meeting on December 17, 24 or 31. We will resume on January 7th.

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

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.

DECEMBER ADVENT SEASON & CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Today: Second Sunday of Advent. Hanging of the Greens program will be held during the morning worship service. The topic of this year's program will be "Chrismons."

December 12th: "The Needlers" luncheon and WELCA Christmas Program at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall

December 15th: Third Sunday of Advent. Community Christmas Cantata "A New and Glorious Morn!" at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

December 22nd: Fourth Sunday of Advent. Children's Christmas program will be held during the morning worship service. Poinsettias will be in the church.

Tuesday, December 24th: Christmas Eve. 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 by both soloists and the senior choir.

NEW ADDRESS – If anyone would like to send Cheryl Pinkerton a Christmas card, her new address is:
245 Greenfield Estates
Elizabethville, PA 17023

THE 2025 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2024 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2025 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.

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 donate to the fund by writing Matthew 25 Fund on your regular offering envelope and the amount you wish to contribute.

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

HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS THAT ARE STILL NEEDED

TURKEYS (AROUND 12 LBS.), TURKEY BREASTS, WHOLE CHICKENS, HAMS (3-5 LBS.),
INSTANT POTATOES, BOXED STUFFING, TURKEY GRAVY, CANNED SWEET POTatoes.
BOXED BROWNIE OR COOKIE MIX,
OR A \$20 DONATION WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!

Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Phone #: 717-436-9718

Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 1-5, Saturday 9-12

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

THE 2024 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "A New and Glorious Morn!" (celebrating the Light and Life of Christmas) by Lloyd Larson, will be held on Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the Juniata County Food Pant

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Second Sunday of Advent.
-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion/Hanging of the Greens Service.
- Monday:** -7:00 p.m. AA in Youth Area.
- Tuesday:** -10:30 a.m., Bible Study in the Library.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
-12:00 noon, “The Needlers” luncheon and WELCA Christmas Program.
-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal in sanctuary.
- Saturday:** -7:00 p.m., Local Jazz Concert at Messiah.
- Sunday:** -Third Sunday in Advent.
-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.
-2:00 p.m., Community Christmas Cantata at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church.

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold
Linda Bahorik
Melissa Bargo
Jeremy Barnes
Ryan Barr
Donna Barton
Tony Beward
Bill Book
Linda Brouse
Jim Burdge
Andrea Cameron
Evitt Campbell
Terry Coder
Kenton Cohenour
Heather Compton
Fred & Dot Dowling
Seth Dowling
Kim Dumais
Freda Durio
Cathy Dysinger
Renee Dzikowski
Family of Kim Eby
Rev. Jodi Ellis
Kevin Fetterhoof
Neil & Pat Fisher
Bentley Fulkroad
Terri Gayer

Deb Geedey
Sheree Goss
Amanda Gregg
Fred Gross
Hannah Hart
Mark Harvey
Bill Heck
John (Pat) Henry
Nox Hepburn
Nancy Howell
Terry Imes
Annie Ingle
Guy Kerstetter
Jesse Kint
Carlen McClure
Family of Alice McClure
Andi McDanel
Cecilia Miller
Curt Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Claire Mummah
Carole Nace
Linda (Kerchner)Parks
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Cheryl Pinkerton
Betty Ranck

Keith Ranck
Dave Reed
Jan Reisinger
Diane Rowles
Greysley Rowles
Kelley Rusenko
Arlene Shearer
Jennifer Smith
Joyce & Todd Spangler
Donna Stoner
Barry Strawser
Vicki Suoja
Molly Ulsh
Tom Ulsh
George Varner
Kristy Wagner & family
Heather Walton
Roscoe Warner
Kathy Whitesel
Mary Jane Williamson
Jim & Heidi Woltman
Gary Zeiders
Paul Zeiders
George Zimmerman
Jean Zimmerman
Linda Zimmerman

Victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

- Jane Marhefka – Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Room 221, 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
- Ona Stoner – William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044

Messiah Lutheran Church Poinsettia and/or Lutheran Disaster Response Order Form



In keeping with Messiah Lutheran Church tradition, poinsettias may now be purchased for our services this holiday season in honor or memory of loved ones. They will be used to beautify our altar area to help us celebrate the holiday season. We are again including this year another way to honor or to remember loved ones by making a donation in their name to the Lutheran Disaster Response effort. In the wake of this year's many weather and wild fire disasters and because of those still suffering, we are again adding this worthwhile opportunity for those who may not usually consider purchasing a poinsettia.

Please complete the order form below and attach **a check for either type (payment or donation)**, made payable to **“Messiah Lutheran Church”** and print **Poinsettias or Lutheran Disaster Response** in the memo line. Attach the check to the order form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by **December 13, 2024. PAYMENT OR DONATION MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER!!**

Thank you for helping to beautify our space, and/or supporting Lutheran Disaster Response!

Please note, that if you are making a donation for the disaster response effort, our Treasurer will keep track of all money received for that cause and write one check at the end of the Christmas season from our church to the Lutheran Disaster Response and also enclose a listing of those who were honored or remembered. As in the past, a full listing of either a Poinsettia or a Donation (will not include the amount of the donation) with those persons honored or remembered will be listed in the bulletin for Sunday, December 22nd and on Christmas Eve.

Flowers may be picked up anytime following our Christmas Eve Service.

Poinsettia/Lutheran Disaster Response Order Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

LIST THE DEDICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please check one: In Honor Of () or In Memory Of ()

I would like to order and/or donate as follows:

6" Poinsettia (4 to 5 blooms) \$9.00 each: # of plants _____ x \$9.00 = \$ _____
Donation to Lutheran Disaster Response in the amount of _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____