St. Peter's Lutheran Church – Christ Lutheran, Manchester **1st Sunday of Christmas** Joint Worship Service

December 31, 2023 – 10:30 AM

+ Gathering +

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the Name of the Father, and of the \oplus Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

As we gather at the manger of our Savior, Jesus Christ, let us purify our souls by confessing our sins.

Silence for self-examination

Lord Jesus, you have come from heaven to save us. Lord, have mercy.

C: Forgive us when we try to save ourselves. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are God's Word made flesh who dwells with us. Christ, have mercy. **C:** Forgive us when we fail to share your grace and truth. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Emmanuel, God with us. Lord, have mercy.

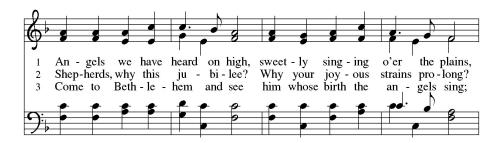
C: Forgive us when we do not seek your presence daily. Lord, have mercy.

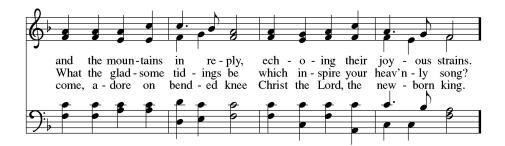
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to each of you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

Apostolic Greeting

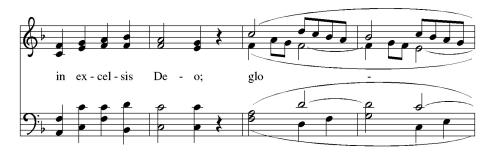
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Canticle Of Praise #71 Green Angels We Have Heard on High











Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

The assembly is seated

+ Word +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Kids in Christ

First Reading – Isaiah 61:10–62:3

A reading from Isaiah

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all

the nations. ⁶²¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ⁸You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD ' from the heavens; praise him ' in the heights.

[°]Praise him, all you an-¹gels of his; praise him, ¹ all his host.

^aPraise him, ' sun and moon; praise him, all you ' shining stars.

⁴Praise him, heav-¹ en of heavens, and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name ¹ of the LORD; for he commanded, and they ¹ were created.

[•]He made them stand fast forev-¹er and ever;

he gave them a law which shall not ' pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD ' from the earth, you sea monsters ' and all deeps;

[°]fire and hail, ' snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do- ' ing his will;

[°]mountains ' and all hills, fruit trees ' and all cedars;

¹⁰wild beasts ' and all cattle, creeping things and ' winged birds;

"kings of the earth ' and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²young ¹ men and maidens, old and ¹ young together.

¹³Let them praise the name ¹ of the LORD,

for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over 'earth and heaven.

¹⁴He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his ¹ loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. ¹ Hallelujah!

Second Reading – Galatians 4:4-7

on as children. [®] And because you are chil-
ren, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into
ur hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are
o longer a slave but a child, and if a child
hen also an heir, through God.
r L

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (sung to the tune of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)

The cantor will sing first, then the cantor and congregation sing together. The cantor will sing the verse, and the congregation repeats the Alleluia.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Allelu!

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule 'in your hearts,* and let the word of Christ dwell 'in you richly. *Alleluia.* (Col. 3:15, 16)

Holy Gospel – Luke 2:22-40

The Gospel according to St. Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

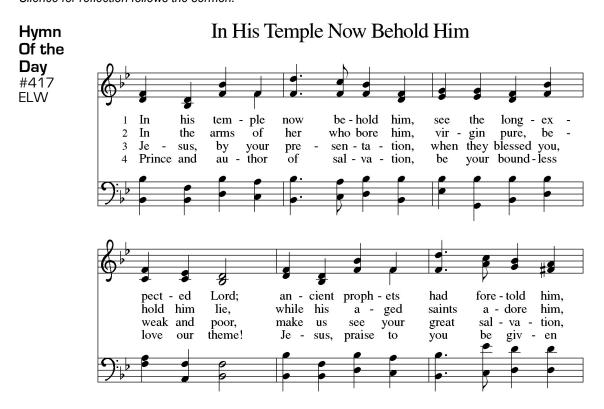
²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁶Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹Which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eightyfour. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁹At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord.

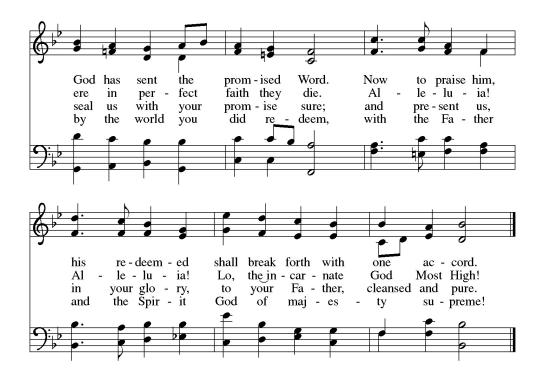
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.



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Text: Henry J. Pye, 1825–1903, alt. Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Nicene Creed

Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith:

- C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 - We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
- For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
- On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
- With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Installation of Officers and Council Members

The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

The following people have been elected to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read.

President — Fred Botterbusch Vice President — Peggy Kling Secretary — Jan Botterbusch Treasurer — Matthew Malehorn Additional Council Members — Judy Altland, Gail Bentzel, Joan Geisler, Jack Goodwin, Tom Wachter

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

The specific duties of those being installed as outlined in the constitution may be read, or the following or similar words may be said.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation. The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

The service continues with the prayers. Prayers are included for the newly installed leaders. After the greeting of peace, the newly installed leaders return to their places.

Prayer of the Church

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, let us pray to the Father for the church, the world, and all people, according to their needs.

A brief silence.

Lord of love, give life to your church and inspire faith in the hearts of your people, that we might rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our congregations places of belonging for all people. Raise up the gifts and the witness of people who are neurodivergent, living with disability, or bearing invisible illness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Make our communities of faith to be joyful and welcome places for all ages and generations. Teach us to honor the insight of children, the inquisitiveness of youth, the thoughtfulness of adults, and the wisdom of elders. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Open our hearts and voices to sing Your praise in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to the rhythms of the cosmos and inspire us to live in harmony with your creation. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great**.

Give hope and stamina to leaders who work tirelessly for the sake of the most vulnerable. Sustain organizations working on behalf of children to provide basic needs, protect from abuse and neglect, address trauma, and rescue from trafficking. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Give hope and patience to all people who, like Simeon and Anna, have been waiting for salvation and wholeness. We pray especially for anyone living with cancer or chronic illness, all people who are in physical rehabilitation or addiction recovery, and those experiencing complications from long COVID, and all those we name now......(*pause*) Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.** Accept our thanks for all those who lived with expectation and departed this life in peace. Sustain us in joy until we join them around your throne. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Pondering the mystery of your eternal love made flesh in Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray into your hands, Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

Peace

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, God does not hold our sins against us. This is true peace. Like Jesus with his disciples, the pastor shares the word of reconciliation from God to us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

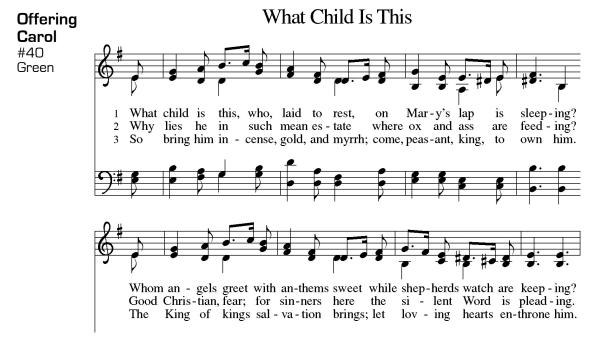
We share Christ's forgiving and reconciling love with one another, binding ourselves to one another as community. As we are at peace with God, so we are also at peace with one another.

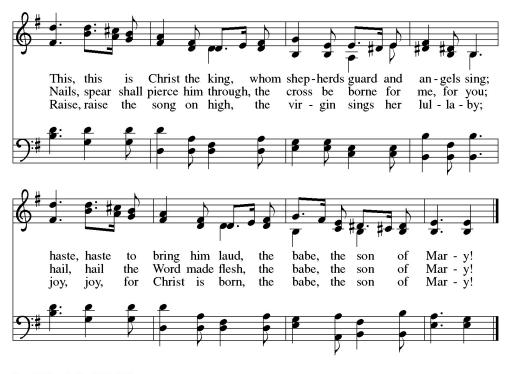
OFFERING - WE RETURN THANKS TO GOD AND SUPPORT GOSPEL MINISTRY



TIME Please prepare your offering in an envelope to place in the offering plate when you are dismissed for Communion **Or** use the QR code or download the Vanco Mobile app on your phone. You may also mail your offering to the church office or give through our website www.stpeterslutheranyork.com Also be sure you have filled out the attendance card.

Everything we are and have belongs to God and is entrusted to us for God's glory. We are committed to sharing God's resources so that we can be a vital center for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and help others locally and around the world.





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

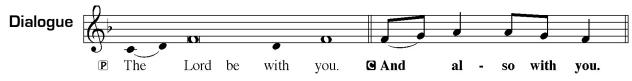
The Great Thanksgiving - The Eucharistic Meal

As the baptized children of God, we are invited by God to share the heavenly banquet. Jesus seats us at his table where we are delivered from sin, death, and evil by his body and blood from his death on the cross. In this meal, Jesus forgives our sins, granting us life and salvation. He is truly present here and reveals himself to us in the breaking of bread. When we share Jesus' meal, we receive the Holy Spirit to live in hope and joy.

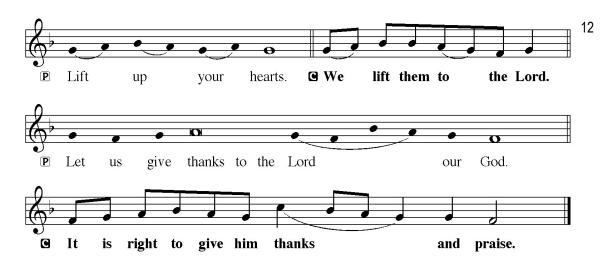
Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **C: Amen.**

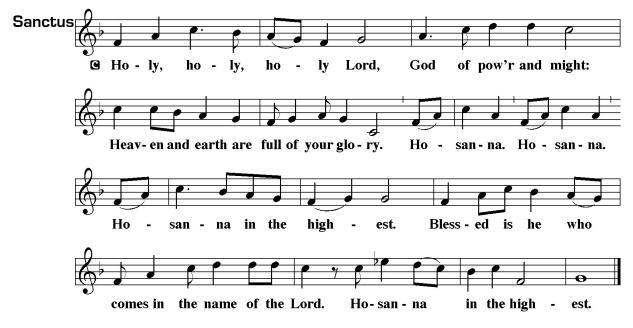


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Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

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:

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

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.**

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.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Fraction — The Breaking of the Bread

The Body of Christ is broken as he was broken for us in the Passover, in the loaves, and on the cross. He gives himself to us as he fed the multitudes. Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb who gave himself to deliver all people from slavery to sin.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the true bread that has come down from heaven; he is our Emmanuel, God with us. **C: Lord, feed us with your love**.

Distribution

The pastor will commune. Then she will commune those with infirmities in the pew. Then the congregation. Place your offering in the offering box. Receive the Body of Christ in your open palm from the pastor and hold onto it. Then proceed to the assisting minister to carefully dip the host into the Blood of Christ. BE SURE NOT TO GET YOUR FINGERS WET. Return to your seat by the side aisle. Give thanks to God for such grace!

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

C: Amen.

Please join in singing during the distribution of the sacrament.

Communion



#45 Green





Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Post Communion Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. What happened here today is just the beginning. We have been given life, the Holy Spirit, and purpose. Now, God sends us out to tell others of the great things we have experienced here. God sends us into the world as the living Body of Christ. We are blessed to be a blessing.

Benediction

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day through the Word made flesh. **C: Amen.**

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. **C: Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, 🕂 Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

Sending Song #56 Green





Text: English traditional Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

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Dismissal

Glory to God in the highest! C: Peace to God's people on earth! Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Christmas Candles were given to the glory of God

In memory of the Callahan & Shettel families, by Susan Shettel.

Announcements

The 2024 Offering Envelopes are available to pick up in the narthex.



Helen Louise Everhart July 30, 1927 – December 22, 2023

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life, *Helen Louse Everhart* will be commended to the Lord at a tribute service on January 5, 11:00 am, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Helen was the wife of the late Martin L. Everhart, Jr. for 57 years; she was the daughter of the late Sara M. Porter Hall & George A. Miller; the mother of Wendy Voorheis & Jolie Brown; the grandmother of Justin & Kyle Voorheis, Kristy Kochenhour, Derek, and the late Stacey Jo Brown; the great grandmother of Aidan, Madden & Addison Kochenhour & Andrew Brown.

Troop 57 Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, JANUARY 27, 3:00-7:00 PM at Christ Lutheran Manchester Tickets are \$10 (adults) \$5 [children] Please see the Aldinger family if you would like to purchase tickets in advance.

DECEMBER 24, 2023

OFFERING General \$ 1,973.00

HVAC \$ 125.00

Christmas \$3,832.00

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The Christmas Poinsettias are given to the Glory of God . . .



In memory of Altoona family, by Gail Bentzel.

In memory of our parents, *Charlie & Mary Innerst, and Richard & Millie Geisler* by Rick and Joan Geisler & family

In memory of my sister, Sharon Blankenship, by Rick and Joan Geisler & family

In memory of our precious parents Mary Innerst & Charlie Innerst and Pat & John Miller our grandon's dad, Brent Amspacher & brother, Wyatt Amspacher our sweet sister & brother, Joleen Brown and Jim Miller. by Chuck & Johnna Innerst & family.

In memory of *my husband, Dennis O. Nace,* by Carolyn A. Nace.

In memory of Helen & Sam Quickel and Jean & John Yates, Quickel, by their loving family

In memory of *Mr. & Mrs. Clinton H. 'Whitie' Roderick,* by their daughter, Annette Roderick **In memory of** *Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rohrbaugh,* by their granddaughter, Annette Roderick **In memory of** Mr. & Mrs. *Clinton Roderick, Sr,* by their granddaughter, Annette Roderick

In memory of *Brent Schlegel*, by Pastor Schlegel In memory of *Bill & Betty Schlegel*, by Pastor Schlegel In honor of *David Stoverschlegel*, by Pastor Schlegel In honor of *Brad Schlegel*, by Pastor Schlegel

In memory of *Samuel & Ruth Shettel*, by Susan Shettel In memory of *departed family and friends*, by Sandy & Mearl Williams

MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Susan Becker—Tom Brusan—Janice Cromer—Rich Davis—Don Gise—Shelva Gise—Bruce Harget—Cheryl Hibner—Samantha Hilker—Ken Humphreys—Marsha Humphreys—Lori Joseph—Shirley Lutz—Ron Malehorn—Michele McFarland—Philip Michael—Brenda Croumer Miller—Pr Judy McKee—Charlie Neff— Rowan Neff—Scott Neff—Kathy Pugh—Dolores Rehmeyer—Betty Roach—Donna Roach—Bill & Rachel Sanders—Nancy Stough Miller—James Thompson—Vickie Toomey—Matthew Walters—Zach Weiland—Margaret Wiley—Dave Yates—Lois Yates—Stephen Young—family & friends of Dot Barnett—the family & friends of Helen Everhart.

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Donna Arnold—Norma Buck—Evelin Burgos—Stu & Linda Eisenhart—Bill Everhart—Don Everhart—Doris Hoffacker—Ken & Joyce Innerst—Carla & Mike Lehr—Jean Leiphart—John Lehr Joanne V. Martin—Marguerite Ness—Betty Roach—Lois Smith—Lois Snyder—Joyce Topper

Christmas Events

POTLUCK BRUNCH PARTY AFTER SERVICE

1st Sunday of Christmas TODAY, 10:30 AM St. Peter's Lutheran Carol singing following to follow.

EPIPHANY WORSHIP

Sundays, JANUARY 7 thru FEBRUARY 11 At St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York 8:00 AM — Early Service [No 8:45 AM service at St. Peter's] 10:30 AM — At Christ Lutheran, Manchester

*ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – FEBRUARY 14, 3:30 PM – at St. Peter's * *Sunday, FEBRUARY 18 – Worship will resume at St. Peter's Lutheran

St. Peter's Lutheran Church 947 North George Street, York PA 17404 8:45 AM—Worship Service

Church Staff

The Reverend Beth A. Schlegel, *STS* Terri Schroll Kristen Hartman–Susan Hartman Pastor Secretary Sextons

Our phone number is: 717-854-0589 Our Website is: http://www.stpeterslutheranyork.org Our Email Address is: stpeterslutheran@verizon.net Pastor Beth Schlegel: Phone #: 717-495-8894 Email: pastorschlegel@live.com

This Week CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday Holiday–Office Closed

Tuesday thru Thursday 8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

> Friday OFFICE CLOSED