

St. Paul Lutheran Church
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road

PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Parish Administrator’s Email: parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month & Festivals

Christian Education: Sunday’s at 10:15 A.M.

Air Conditioned & Handicapped Accessible

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Grounded in faith and growing in grace, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed in our local community and throughout the world.



Are you visiting St. Paul? Are you interested in membership or just looking to see if St. Paul is a good fit for you and/or your family??

Please call (570-629-1992) or stop by our office during regular business hours (Mon – Thurs 9:00am – 1:00pm) and speak to our Parish

Administrator, Leanna Wickline, who will be happy to guide you through

the membership process and help you find information on all of the great programs at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

SILENT MEDITATION. . . Please note – the silent meditation is a part of the morning worship service. This is a time for individual reflection; a time for communicating with God, as well as a time of preparation for the service of worship. We encourage you to use it in a meaningful way.

Please respect the prayerful atmosphere of this holy place. We ask that you turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

Pastor: Reverend Rashion “Woody” Santiago

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline

Choir Director/Organist: Mr. Robert Jones

2022-23 Council Members

Grant Allen

Dawn Bartron

Bill Below

Chris Kinsley Sr.

Nicole Kresge

Carl Reindl

Deb Storman

Beth Werkheiser

Leanna Wickline

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsvvR6FI09zcaiDPY174k5A>

Worship Service

First Sunday of Christmas

Celebration of Epiphany

Sunday, January 1, 2023

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the “holy innocents” of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

+Late Seating

**Please stand, if able.*

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes

Announcements

Prelude

*Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers.

We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

*Absolution

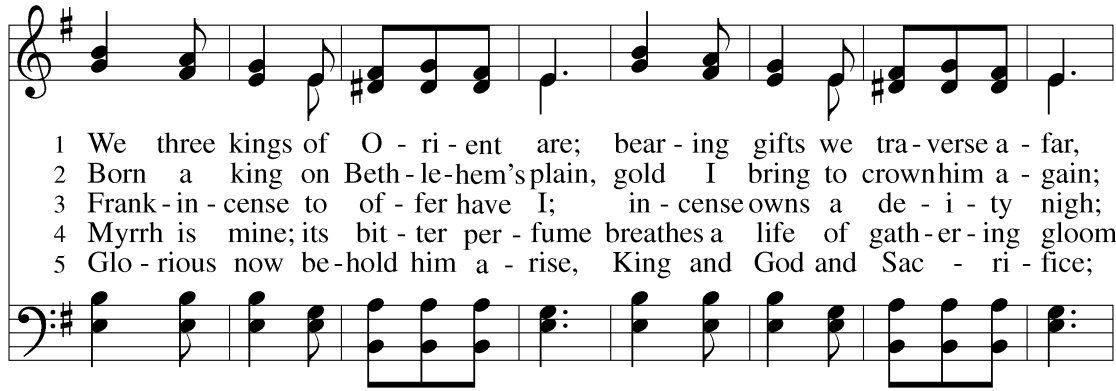
Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises

through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✙ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

We Three Kings of Orient Are

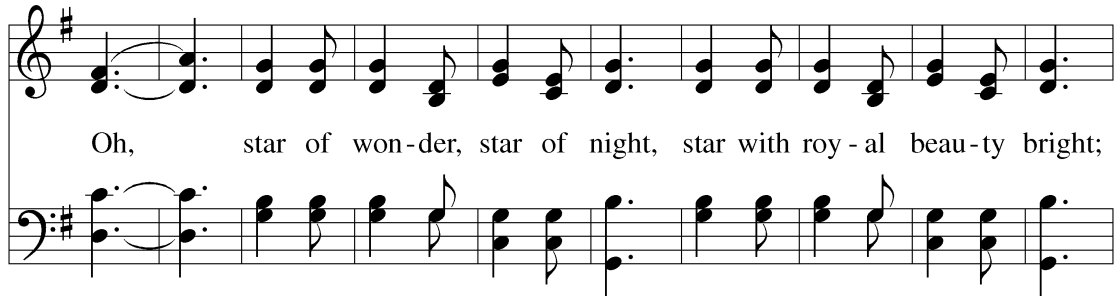


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

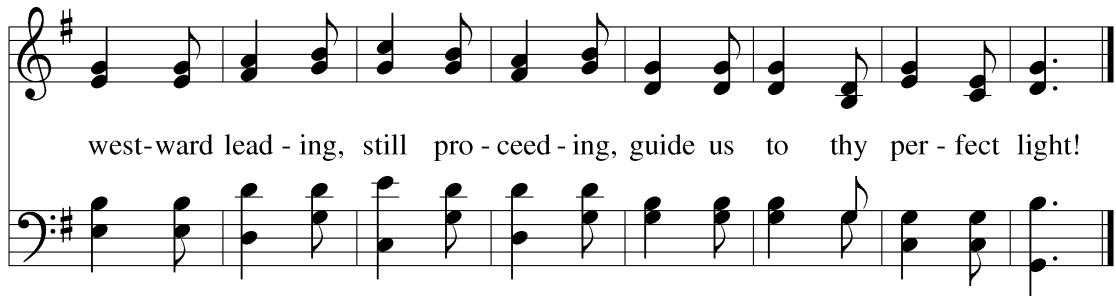


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

***Greeting**

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

And also with you.

*Kyrie

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the

u-ni-ty of all; for

hun-gry and the poor; that

friends and fam-i-ly; for

wa-ter and the word; that you

this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

*Hymn of Praise

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and

peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain

for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***Prayer of the Day (Lector)**

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

⁷ I will make known the Lord's faithful love and the Lord's praiseworthy acts, because of all the Lord has done for us — even the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, which he did for them based on his compassion and the abundance of his faithful love. ⁸ He said, "They are indeed my people, children who will not be disloyal," and he became their Savior. ⁹ In all their suffering, he suffered, and the angel of his presence saved them. He redeemed them because of his love and compassion; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of the past.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly armies.

³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴ Praise him, highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

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

⁶ He set them in position forever and ever; he gave an order that will never pass away.

⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, all sea monsters and ocean depths,

⁸ lightning and hail, snow and cloud, stormy wind that executes his command,

⁹ mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

¹⁰ wild animals and all cattle, creatures that crawl and flying birds,

¹¹ kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth,

¹² young men as well as young women, old and young together.

¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted. His majesty covers heaven and earth.

¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, resulting in praise to all his faithful ones, to the Israelites, the people close to him. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

¹⁰ For in bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was entirely appropriate that God — for whom and through whom all things exist — should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying: I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; I will sing hymns to you in the congregation. ¹³ Again, I will trust in him. And again, Here I am with the children God gave me. ¹⁴ Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death — that is, the devil — ¹⁵ and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he does not reach out to help angels, but to help Abraham's offspring. ¹⁷ Therefore, he had to be like his brothers and sisters in every way, so that he could become a merciful and faithful high priest in matters pertaining to God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For since he himself has suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ After they were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Get up! Take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. For Herod is about to search for the child to kill him.” ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and escaped to Egypt. ¹⁵ He stayed there until Herod’s death, so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: Out of Egypt I called my Son.

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he realized that he had been outwitted by the wise men, flew into a rage. He gave orders to massacre all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, in keeping with the time he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: ¹⁸ A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children; and she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, because those who intended to kill the child are dead.” ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother, and entered the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned in a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. ²³ Then he went and settled in a town called Nazareth to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day

As with Gladness Men of Old

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

***The Nicene Creed**

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

***Prayers of the People** *(Lector)*

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty. Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastor and all who minister in your name. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

At this time, you are invited to share your joys and concerns, either silently or aloud. Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

Offering Prayer

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. Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***The Lord's Prayer**

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

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

***Table Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***Blessing**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

***Choral Benediction**

“Go Now and Pass It On”



May the Lord _____ walk be - side us _____ as we

6



leave _____ this qui - et place, _____ for the Lord _____ will al - ways

12



guide us _____ if we walk in the light of His grace. _____

17
 — May we feel God's love a - round us. — as it

22
 keeps us faith - ful and strong. — for the peace —

27
 — of God sur rounds us, — and now we must pass it

32
 on. — Go now and pass it on. —

***Dismissal**

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"The worship ends. . .the service begins."

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Next week's scriptures: Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17



Prayers have been requested for the following brothers and sisters in Christ who have concerns needing God's help...

Sr. Msgt. William F. Allen; Specialist William "Blake" Allen; Sr. Master Sargent William F. Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Diane Berner; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; Captain Katy Blessings; David Brong; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; Sue Felker; Jamie Fisher; Todd & Anna Geil; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Louis Genset; Lynn Gerber; Tim Grover; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; Harrison Herzberg; Matt Herzberg; Charlie Hemple; T. J. Imhof; Carol

Jones; Ian Juica; Robbie Kinsley; Nikolaos Kotretsos; Eleanor Kreuger; Joeann Lance; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Steven Moore; Ada Morales; Nelson Morales; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Anna Rivera; Jean Ross; Gina Santiago; Claudette Segear; Vaughn Sensinger; Phyllis Sensinger; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; Brenda Van Why; Steve Widgett; Alice Weaver; Harry Weaver; Jacob Wilson; John Woodling; Carolyn Zacharias; for the people of Ukraine; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the families and victims of the mass shootings, for all those around the world and here at home suffering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Have your prayers been answered? Or do you still need God's help? Please let us know. Thank you to everyone who prays with us for those in need.



Thank you to all who have helped to support St. Paul's Strunk Food Pantry! Your commitment to help is a true blessing to those who are struggling to feed their families. The pantry is always in need of basic food supplies, and we need your continued support to keep this program going strong. **Items of particular need are: boxed cereal, peanut butter, canned fruit, canned potatoes, and canned meats like tuna, chicken, beef and other protein sources.** *Our Food Pantry remains open, although it is functioning as a curb-side service. This limits the*

contact to others and protects our food pantry staff and our building while still serving the needs of those in need

January 8, 2023 will be the last day to have your 2022 contributions in by. Thank you!!

The Mitten Tree

We are collecting children's hats, mittens, and scarves through January for distribution to Monroe County Children & Youth Services.

Grocery Tapes

If you shop at Kinsley's Shoprite or Weis markets we get a percentage of your purchase. Just bring your receipts in and put them in the box on the table in the Narthex. In order for us to receive credit, the receipts must include the date and store number. On a Weis receipt it is below the Weis Club Savings and above the Weis Reward Points. It looks like this: "1/06/2020 12:12 166 306 10 229" Your numbers will be different. If in doubt, don't tear off the bottom of the receipts.



Don't forget to put St. Paul Lutheran Church Tannersville as your charity before checking out on Amazon. They will send us 1% of your purchase.