

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

2023 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

Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2023

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

+Late Seating

**Please stand, if able.*

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes (Call to Worship)

Announcements

Prelude

***Confession**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Absolution**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

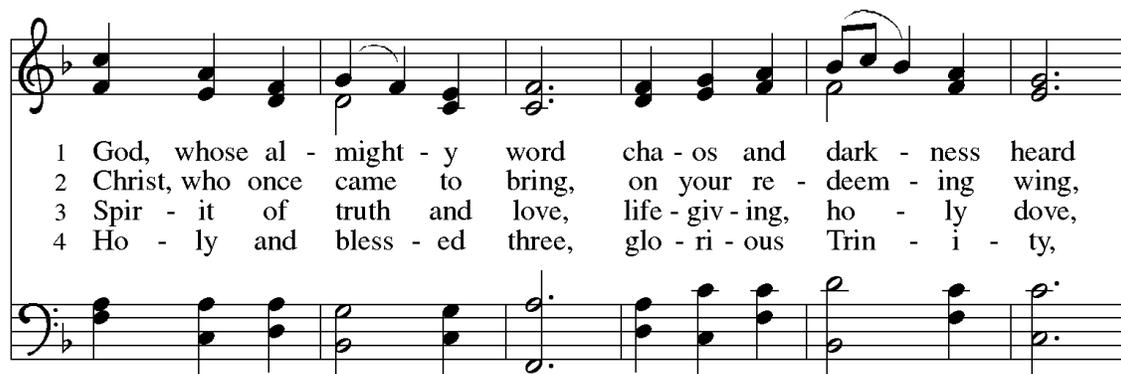
***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

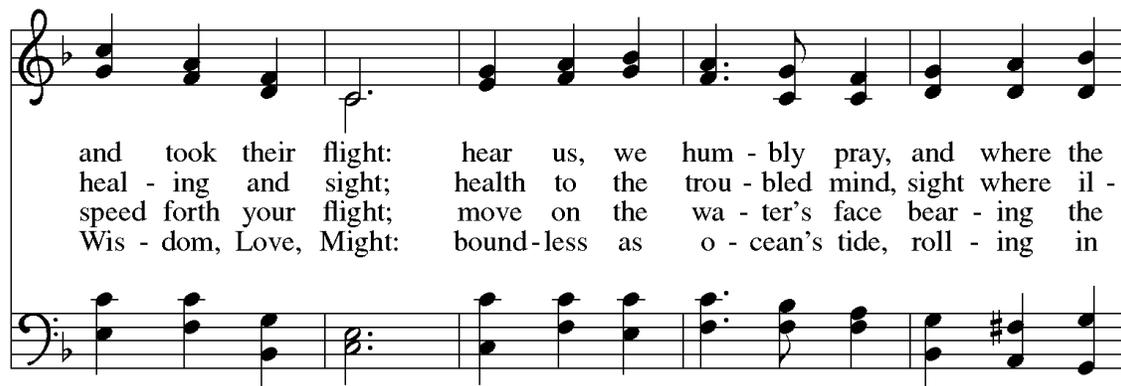
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

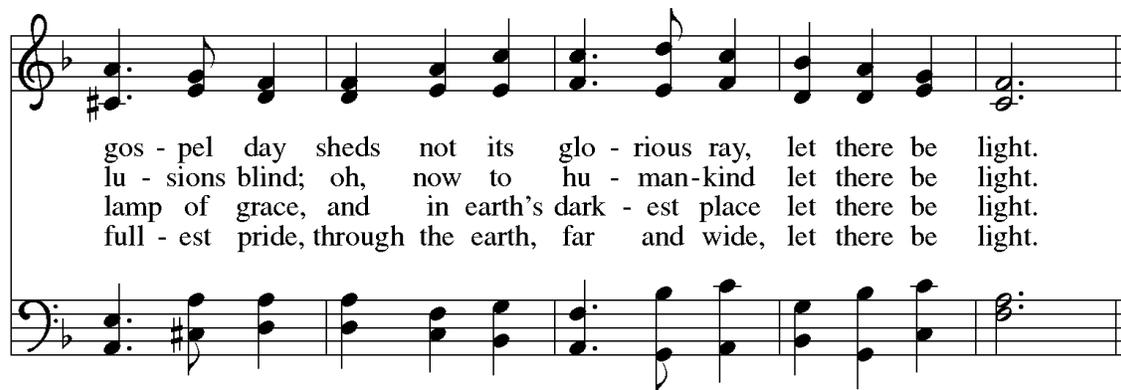
***+ Opening Hymn** **God, Whose Almighty Word**



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



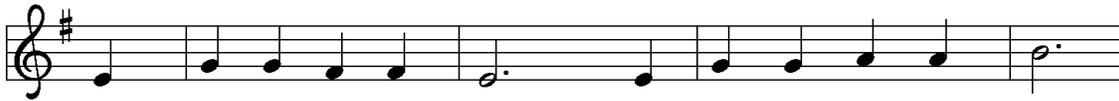
gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

*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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*Prayer of the Day (Lector)

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through 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 42:1-9

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹“This is my servant; I strengthen him, this is my chosen one; I delight in him. I have put my Spirit on him; he will bring justice to the nations. ² He will not cry out or shout or make his voice heard in the streets. ³ He will not break a bruised reed, and he will not put out a smoldering wick; he will faithfully bring justice. ⁴ He will not grow weak or be discouraged until he has established justice on earth. The coasts and islands will wait for his instruction.” ⁵ This is what God, the Lord, says — who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk on it — ⁶ “I am the Lord. I have called you for a righteous purpose, and I will hold you by your hand. I will watch over you, and I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people and a light to the nations, ⁷ in order to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the dungeon, and those sitting in darkness from the prison house. ⁸ I am the Lord. That is my name, and I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols. ⁹ The past events have indeed happened. Now I declare new events; I announce them to you before they occur.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.**

³ The voice of the Lord is above the waters. The God of glory thunders — the Lord, above the vast water,

⁴ **the voice of the Lord in power, the voice of the Lord in splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ **He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion, like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the Lord flashes flames of fire.

⁸ **The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the woodlands bare. In his temple all cry, “Glory!”

¹⁰ **The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned, King forever.**

¹¹ The Lord gives his people strength; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Peter began to speak: "Now I truly understand that God doesn't show favoritism, ³⁵ but in every nation the person who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ He sent the message to the Israelites, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know the events that took place throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John preached: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how he went about doing good and healing all who were under the tyranny of the devil, because God was with him. ³⁹ We ourselves are witnesses of everything he did in both the Judean country and in Jerusalem, and yet they killed him by hanging him on a tree. ⁴⁰ God raised up this man on the third day and caused him to be seen, ⁴¹ not by all the people, but by us whom God appointed as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be the judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that through his name everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?" ¹⁵ Jesus answered him, "Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him to be baptized. ¹⁶ When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit

of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

The word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Installation of Council

Dear Christian friends:

Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called to offer ourselves to the Lord of the Church in Thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those in the Congregational Council. The following persons, having been elected by the congregation to the positions of leadership are asked to come forward as their names are read: Grant Allen, Dawn Bartron, Bill Below, Chris Kinsley, Sr., Nicole Kresge, Carl Reindl, Deb Storman, Beth Werkheiser and Leanna Wickline.

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his church. Through Word and Sacrament, you have been nurtured in faith. I ask you, together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized:

***The Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, 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. (Congregation may sit)

St Paul writes: There are different spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all (1 Corinthians 12:47). You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect him in whose name we gather. You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world. You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation. On behalf of your sisters

and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and to faithfully perform the duties of the office to which you have been elected?

Yes, by the help of God.

(congregation stand)

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? If so answer in unison:

Yes, by the help of God.

(to Council) I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation. God bless you with his Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

Let us pray.

For all who offer themselves I your name, we give thanks, O God. Give them the joy of service, and constant care and guidance. Help us all to be both willing servants and thankful recipients of ministry, that your name be glorified, your people live in peace, and your will be done; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***Hymn of the Day**

Wade in the Water

Refrain
All

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,

wade in the wa - ter, God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the wa - ter.

Leader All

- 1 See that host all dressed in white,
- 2 See that band all dressed in red, God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the
- 3 Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?
- 4 If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,

Leader

wa - ter. the lead - er looks like the Is - rael - ite.
looks like the band that . . . Mo - ses led.
the Ho - ly Ghost a - com - ing on me.
just fol - low me down to . . . Jor - dan's stream.

All *Refrain*

God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Calling God, you speak with power to your church. Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring. Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith. Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Renewing God, you provide the waters of the earth and in Jesus' baptism you reveal the waters of life. Cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds. Bring relief to parched lands and to communities without access to safe water. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice. Increase cooperation and constructive dialogue between nations. Guide local, national, and international authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast. Give sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain health care workers, caregivers, first responders, counselors, and all who help and heal. Comfort those who are grieving or experiencing crisis. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Blessing God, in Christ you gather the beloved community. Kindle the gifts of your Spirit in your people. Accompany the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry. Inspire synodical leaders and congregational councils to serve with imagination and wisdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout all generations. We give thanks for those who have died in Christ, trusting that we will be united with them and all the saints in Christ's resurrection life. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

At this time, you are invited to share your joys and concerns, either silently or aloud.

(Pause.) We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

Offering Prayer

Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*Blessing

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✝ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain



Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing



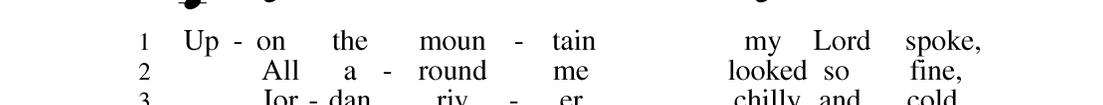
in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the



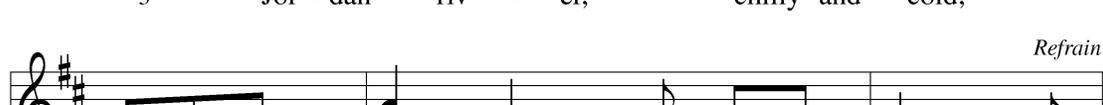
spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.



1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,



2 All a - round me looked so fine,

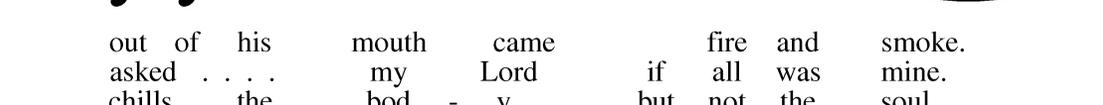


3 Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

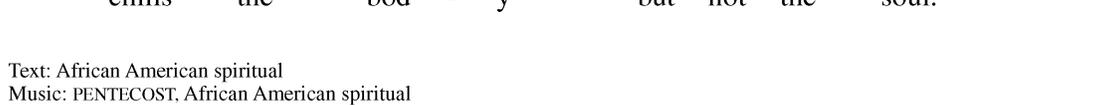
Refrain



out of his mouth came fire and smoke.



asked . . . my Lord if all was mine.



chills the bod - y but not the soul.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: PENTECOST, 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**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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

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Prayer Requests

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 Blessing; David Brong; Dennis Bushkowsky; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; Sue Felker; Jamie Fisher; Paul Frantz; 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 Widdgett; 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.**

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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.

Today is the last day to have your 2022 contributions in by.

Thank you!!

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, please don't tear off the bottom of the receipts.

The Mitten Tree

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

Christ's Café

There will be a brief meeting of the Christ's Café workers in the Parlor after worship today. Our Christ's Café meal will be served on Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School today due to the death and services for Pastor's Aunt.

Emergency Preparedness Team

The Emergency Preparedness team will be meeting Thursday, January 12th at 7:00pm.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Calling all Souper Bowl of Caring fans, it is that time of year again to help fill the Strunk Food Pantry. Starting today, January 8th and running until February 12th. We will be collecting non-perishable items for the Strunk Food Pantry. This year's goal is 400 items. Once again, we will be serving soup after the service on February 12th to say thank you for all your generosity. Anyone interested in making soup please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.