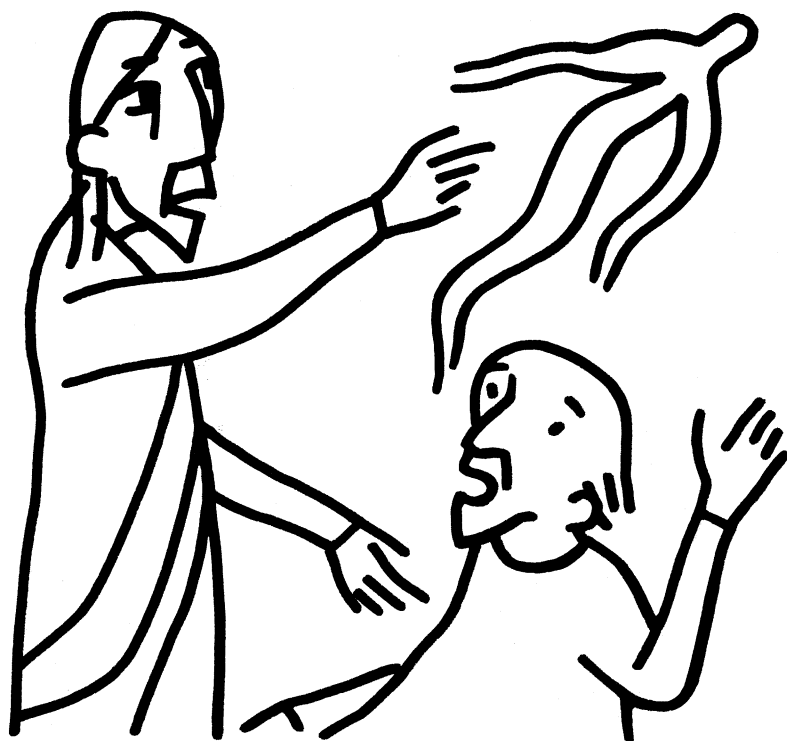


St. Paul Lutheran Church  
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road  
PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: [www.stpaultannersvillepa.org](http://www.stpaultannersvillepa.org)

**Parish Administrator’s Email: [parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org](mailto:parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org)**

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

**Holy Communion: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.***

## Our Church Staff

**Pastor:** Vacant – in Call Process

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline

**Choir Director/Organist:** Mr. Robert Jones

## 2021 Council Members

Grant Allen

Bill Below

Terry Fouts

Chris Kinsley Sr.

Nicole Kresge

Carl Reindl

Deb Storman

Ingrid Unternahrer

Beth Werkheiser

*We welcome the Rev. Bill Thompson this morning.  
Thank you for leading us in worship!*

# Worship Service

## Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

### Sunday, January 31, 2021

*+Late Seating*

*\*Please stand, if able.*

*Words in bold print denote congregational response.*

#### Prelude

#### Chimes (Call to Worship)

#### Announcements

#### \*Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin— our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources -and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

#### \*Absolution

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of ✝ Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**Amen.**

\*+ Opening Hymn

# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.  
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

## \*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.**

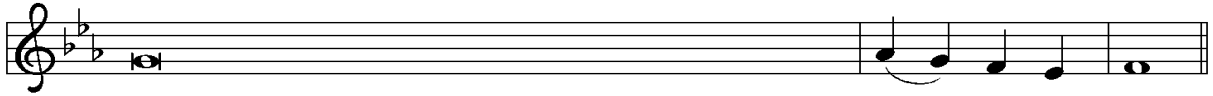
**\*Kyrie**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



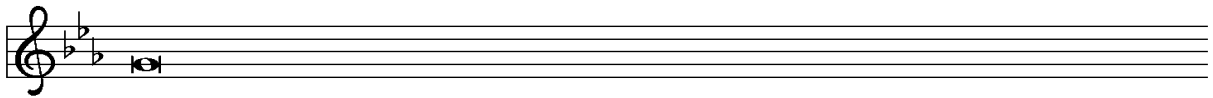
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



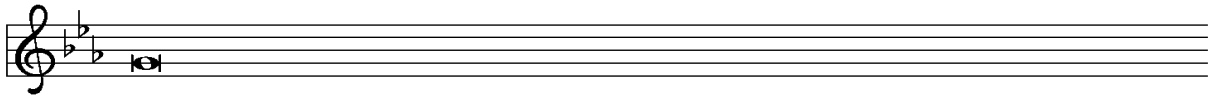
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



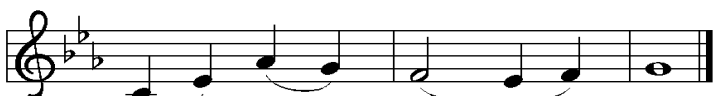
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# \*Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

*Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.*

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 111**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### \*Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**



*Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.*

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.<sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The word of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon – “As One Having Authority” - Rev. William Thompson**

#### **\*Hymn of the Day      God of Love, We've Known Division**

God of love, we've known division and we've seen its awful cost.  
We have struggled as a nation, and there's much that we have lost.  
We have been a house divided — and, divided, we can't stand.  
May our nation be united; give us peace throughout this land.

Turn us, Lord, from what divides us — fear that drives us far apart,  
greed that leads to great injustice, racist ways that break your heart.  
May we seek what brings together — hearts that bear each other's pain,  
care and mercy toward our neighbors, love that welcomes strangers in.

May we all, in conversation, speak the truth and listen well.  
May we hear, across this nation, stories others have to tell.  
May we learn from other cultures and be blessed by their worldview;  
May we serve with one another — loving others, loving you.

You have challenged us to goodness; you have shown a kinder way.  
It's your love that now inspires us as we seek a better day.  
May we end our harsh division; may we stop the hate and fear.  
Make us one, Lord, as a nation; may we be united here.

### **\* The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **\*Pastoral Prayer**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all God's works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those living with HIV/AIDS, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need; for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries; for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

### \*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.**

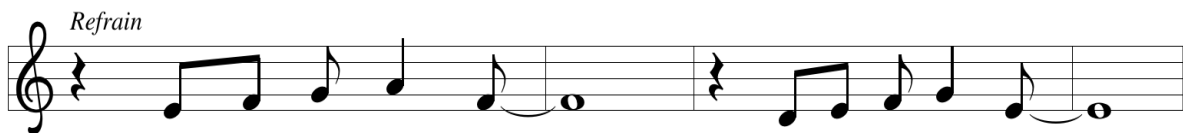
### \*Blessing

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✚ keep you in peace.

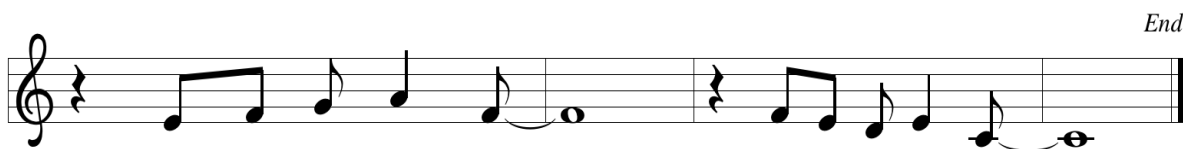
**Amen.**

### \*Closing Hymn

## Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa  
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**\*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. \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of seven staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "May the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ walk be - side us \_\_\_\_\_ as we leave \_\_\_\_\_ this qui - et place, \_\_\_\_\_ for the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ will al - ways guide us \_\_\_\_\_ if we walk in the light of His grace. \_\_\_\_\_ May we feel God's love a - round us \_\_\_\_\_ as it keeps us faith - ful and strong, \_\_\_\_\_ for the peace \_\_\_\_\_ of God sur rounds us, \_\_\_\_\_ and now we must pass it on. \_\_\_\_\_ Go now and pass it on. \_\_\_\_\_".

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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

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***2021 Offering Envelopes are now in. If you have not picked up your envelopes, please call the church office to schedule a time to do so.***

***The Council has decided that it is prudent to continue our virtual services. They will again evaluate the number of COVID-19 cases and the trend in Monroe County to decide if we can return to in-person worship after February 17, 2021.***



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

Ryan Ace, Sr.; Msgt. William F. Allen; Grant Allen; Private William "Blake" Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Dawn Bartron; Wynne Below; Nancy Besecker; Dillon Berenti; Cptn. Matthew Blessing; David Brong; Vicki Burnett; Jack Callahan; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; LilliAnna Daniels; Dee DeAngelo; Don Deibler; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Louis Genset; Lynn Gerber; Jean Gerstlauer; Barbara Grosch; T. J. Imhof; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Mason & Addison Kapun; Richard Kernan; Robbie Kinsley; Eleanor Kreuger; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Ruth Mitchell; Mattie Morales & family; Bev Otten; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Shirley Pensyl; Faye Reiner; Sandy Richards; Joan Rinker; Anna Rivera; Jean Ross; Gloria Russell; Jack Russell; Alice Schambra; Claudette Segear; Lynn Seip; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Gerald Staples; David Stirling (liver transplant); Greg Theadford; Jim Werkheiser; Kelly Wickline; Kyle & Katie Wickline; Charles Zuccarelli; Fran Zuccarelli; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the families of those killed and wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the 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: canned meats like tuna, chicken, beef and other protein sources and cereal.** ***Our Food Pantry remains open, although it is functioning as a curbside 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.***

## **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.



**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.

**[www.stpaultannersvillepa.org](http://www.stpaultannersvillepa.org) [www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa)**