

## Those for Whom We Pray

Kalfas Family	Sarah Pruszynski	Terry Fyock
Tommy Osman	Ed Figura	Colleen Figura
Tom Eschmann	Linda Greathouse	Betty Hoagland
Jaden Brown	Sue Weyant	AdaLee Knisely
Dawn Ickes	Ben Greathouse	Unspoken
Ed & Carol Shields	Denise Fleck	Shari Pavic
JB Whisker	Jennifer Nunamaker	
Kathleen Ickes	Jill Campitell	Sara Holtzman
Louis Monti	Bill & Sara Ford	Barb Fetter
Joe Beegle	Pat & Joan Buck	Diana Rodriguez
Steve & Diane Feather	Todd Deremer	Zeke Corle
Lori Ann Fyock	Don Lough	Helge Rasmussen
Jim Harclerode	Joanne Bender	Melissa Baker
Danelle Blough	Linda Frazier	Jim Chamberlain
Mindy Lewis	Don Wigglesworth	Rachael

### **Serving in the Military:**

Nathan Custer	Jason Browne	Lela Browne
David Custer	Kristin Custer	Scott R. Barefoot
Sean Danowski	Eric Mannion	Steve B. Domonkos Jr.
Steven Faul	Troy Hershberger	Dustin Bingham
Kevin Dively	Jacoby Brady	Tina Masters
Michael Tenley II	Jake Metzger	Nikolas Sell
Caleb Sell		

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Office email is [sclpoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:sclpoffice@yahoo.com)

The office email will only be checked Thursday morning.



St. Clairsville Lutheran Parish

Messiah, Bedford – 10:30 a.m.

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We're glad to have you worship with us today.

December 17, 2017

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Rev. Donna J. Wolfinger  
Pastor's Office (parsonage)  
8414 Wm Penn Road  
Osterburg, PA 16667  
276-3036 Call at Any Time  
[dugsma@gmail.com](mailto:dugsma@gmail.com)

Office Hours Vary  
Please leave message  
on Office Phone 276-3070  
[sclpoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:sclpoffice@yahoo.com)

[www.stclairsville-lutheranparish.net](http://www.stclairsville-lutheranparish.net)

## **Prelude**

**+Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness:**

Page 94

**+Opening Hymn:**

**+Greeting:** page 98

**+Kyrie:** page 98

**+Prayer of the Day:**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

1 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. 4 They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

8 For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. 9 Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. 10 I 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. 11 For 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.

## **PSALM: Psalm 126**

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
    **we were like those who dream.**

2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our  
tongue with shouts of joy;  
    **then it was said among the nations, "The  
    Lord has done great things for them."**

3 The Lord has done great things for us,  
    **and we rejoiced.**

4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
    **like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

5 May those who sow in tears  
    **reap with shouts of joy.**

6 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for  
sowing,  
    **shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying  
    their sheaves.**

## **Lighting of Advent Candle**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give  
thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God  
in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit.  
20 Do not despise the words of prophets, 21 but test  
everything; hold fast to what is good; 22 abstain from  
every form of evil. 23 May the God of peace himself  
sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and  
body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of  
our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is  
faithful, and he will do this.

**+Gospel Acclamation:** page 102

### **+GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was  
John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so  
that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was  
not the light, but he came to testify to the light.  
19 This is the testimony given by John when the Jews  
sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,  
"Who are you?" 20 He confessed and did not deny it,  
but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." 21 And they  
asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I  
am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No."  
22 Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have  
an answer for those who sent us. What do you say  
about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am the voice of one  
crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of  
the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. 24 Now they  
had been sent from the Pharisees. 25 They asked him,  
"Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the  
Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" 26 John  
answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you  
stands one whom you do not know, 27 the one who is  
coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong  
of his sandal." 28 This took place in Bethany across  
the Jordan where John was baptizing.

## **Children's Sermon**

### **Sermon**

## +Hymn of the Day

+Nicene Creed page 104

### +Prayers:

A Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

*A brief silence.*

A Guiding Lord, bless church leaders, volunteers, teachers, musicians, acolytes, deacons, pastors, seminarians, and those discerning a call to ministry.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Creating God, protect Earth's wilderness, especially where the lands are isolated and unexplored. Watch over all living creatures who remain free from human exploitation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Prince of Peace, send us your Spirit of unity, so that justice may spring up among the nations. Give us the will to repair the broken systems that perpetuate injustice. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Merciful God, comfort your children who are mourning, bind up the brokenhearted, and heal our wounds. We pray for those homeless or imprisoned, refugees, those who struggle with addiction or mental illness, and all in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Lord of justice, strengthen and increase the ministry of food pantries, meal service deliveries, employment training programs, and advocacy for equity among all classes and races. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered*

A Eternal God, clothe us in your garments of salvation, so that together we may rejoice in your presence with the saints who have died and with those unable to be with us today. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

+Peace: page 106

## OFFERING

+Offertory: hymn #182 (Let the Vineyards Be  
Fruitful Lord)

+Offertory Prayer page 107

+Great Thanksgiving pages 107-108

+Lord's Prayer: page 112

## Communion

+Post Communion Canticle:  
#313 O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

+Post Communion Prayer: page 114

+Benediction: page 114

## Announcements and Blessings

+Sending Hymn

+Dismissal: page 115

## Postlude

+Please stand as you are able

## Announcements:

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:46b-55,  
Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

Worship with Holy Communion Schedule: Sundays at St. Peter's at 9:00am, at Messiah at 10:30am. Sunday School classes meet at Messiah at 9:00am and at St. Peter's at 10:15am. If you want Communion contact Pastor Donna.

- Messiah will hold its election of 2018 Church Council Members **TODAY**.
- Christmas Eve Services  
Messiah – 6:00  
St. Peter's – 7:30
- 40,000 can challenge Synod current total 1,956
- Happy Birthday to Jennifer Custer, Chelsea Dawson, Yvette Hahn, Ken Corle, Donna Miller, Simon Montgomery Osman, Collin James Osman, Pat Clemson and Magaly Ickes.
- Happy Anniversary to Galen & Tina Henderson and Dean & Kathy Claycomb.

Corn hole signup sheets are in back of churches. It will be held on Thursdays at 6:30, and exercise will be Mon. & Wed. at 6:30. Starting 2018, a \$1 donation is requested when attending either.

## Monthly Schedule

Every Tuesday “Quiet Hour” service of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the sanctuary of St. Peter’s at approximately 3:45 p.m. Contact Pastor Donna if you want Communion that afternoon 276-3036.

Outreach Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

St. Peter’s WELCA meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday  
after the service

Parish Council meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 7:00  
(odd months only 3,5,7...)

St. Peter’s Council meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 6:00

Messiah Council Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 6:00

Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 1-2:30 at St. Peter’s

Exercise Group Mondays & Thursdays, 6:30 at St. Peter’s

Corn Hole Tournaments Wednesdays, 6:00 at St. Peter’s

Comforting Friends – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 at Trinity Reformed Church, Osterburg

Messiah WELCA – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

- **NOTICE:**

Anyone who works with children, representing Messiah, needs to have copies of clearances on file with the council. This is required by the Allegheny Synod of the ELCA and Pennsylvania State Law. Please have copies of your clearances turned in by January 1, 2018. If you would like a copy of the details and instructions for obtaining the needed documents, they are available from Pastor Donna. The clearances for volunteers are simpler than those needed for employment.