Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500 durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman, Pastor 267-664-3160 / pastor@durhamlutheran.org



January 12, 2025 Baptism of Our Lord

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" – Mark Hayes

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

(Stand if you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

- P: 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.
- P: 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.

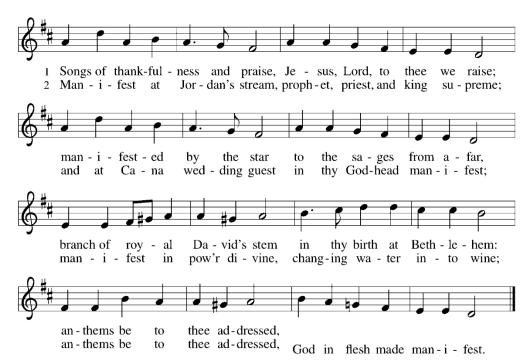
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 310 VERSE 1,2

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



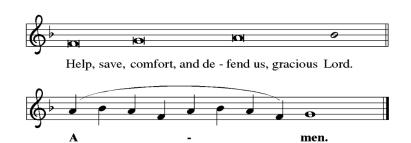
Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the community of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you

Kyrie- Congregation sings response "Lord, have mercy."





CANTICLE OF PRAISE





Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that

we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading-Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

- L: A reading from the forty-third chapter of Isaiah
 - ¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.
 - ³ For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.
 - ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."
- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 29

- L: ¹Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- C: ² Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- L: ³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- C: ⁴The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- L: ⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- C: 6 the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- L: ⁷ The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- C: 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- L: ⁹The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"
- C: 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.
- L: ¹¹ O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading - Acts 10: 34-39a

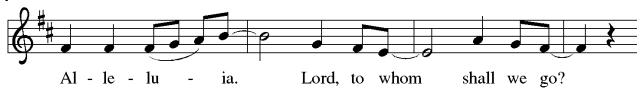
L: A reading from the tenth chapter of Acts.

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:





The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter:

Jesus is God's beloved Son.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily

form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day:ELW 445

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- who bring them long for nur ture; by your milk may we be fed. how deep your ho ly wis dom! Un im ag ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go. us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv-ing bread. your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares, your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light. one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs. By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company, Nashville, TN. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

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Affirmation of Baptism

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith

- P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C: I renounce them.
- P: Do you believe in God the Father?
- C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C: 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.
- P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C: 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.
- P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?
- C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.
- P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery (*especially*). Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.



Sharing of the Peace

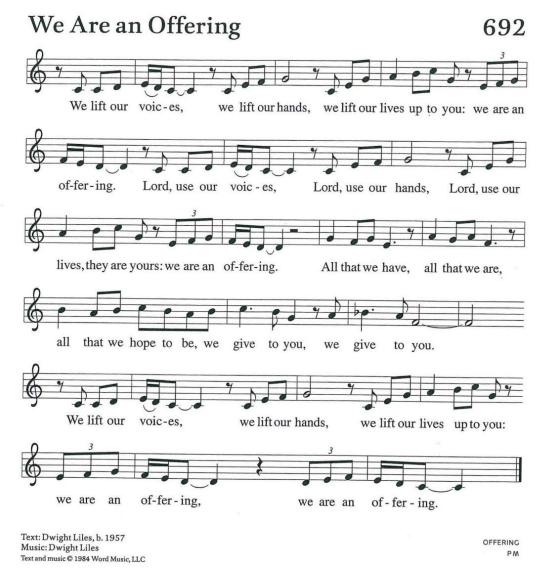
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: "Lovely Comes the Falling Snow" Dale Peterson

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



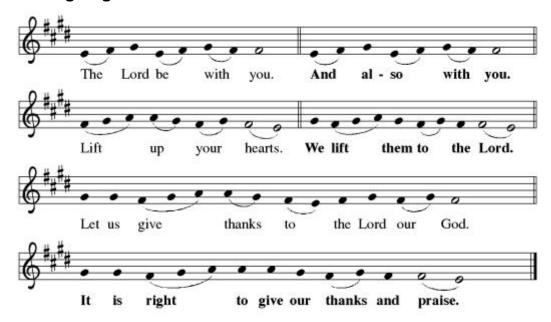
Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

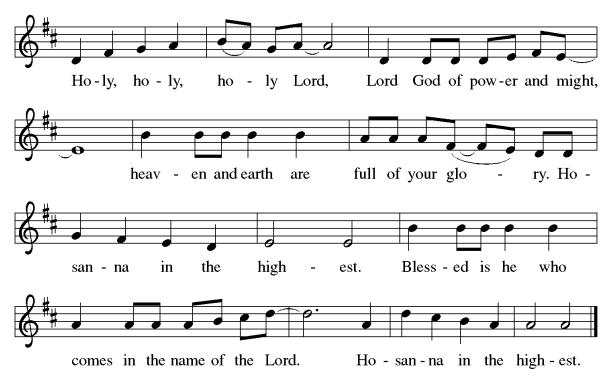
THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (said by Pastor)

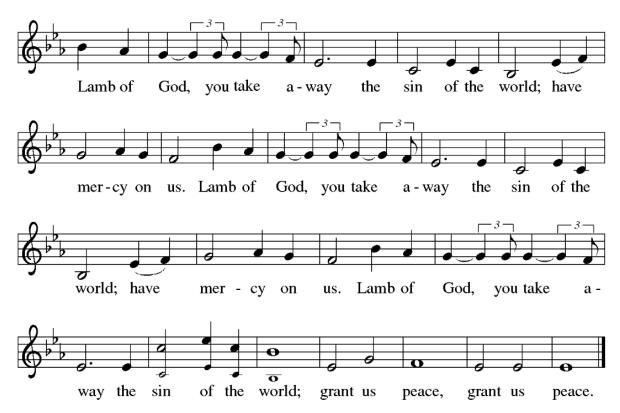
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

- P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
- 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

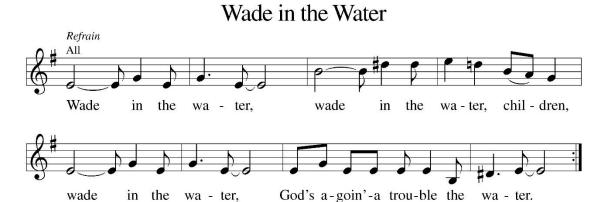
P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.



Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow usher)

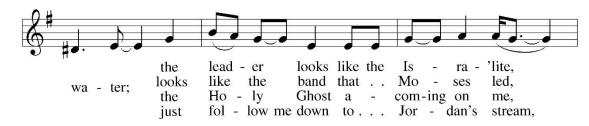


SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 459





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





Text: African American spiritual

Music: WADE IN THE WATER, African American spiritual

Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Announcements

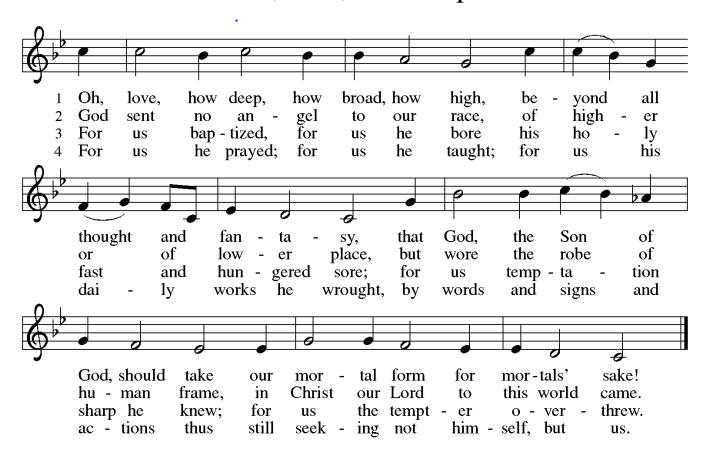
BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God \oplus bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen

Sending Song: ELW322

Oh, Love, How Deep



- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed, for us, in crown of thorns arrayed, he bore the shameful cross and death; for us he gave his dying breath.
- 6 For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign; for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
- 7 All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad: the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

Text: Thomas á Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–1885, alt. Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "I Saw Three Ships"- G. Young

Our Outreach envelopes for January will be given to Samaritan's Purse.

| <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------|--|
| January | BIRTHDAYS | ANNIVERSARIES | BAPTISMS | |
| 12 | Landon Helfrich | | | |
| 15 | Don Crouse, Kathy Hlavaty | | | |
| 16 | Jim Altemose (86 th) | | | |
| 18 | Rachel McAlister | | | |

| THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Sunday, January 12 | 9:15 AM | Adult Sunday school in the library | | | |
| Baptism of Our Lord | 10:00 AM | Communion Worship | | | |
| | After Worship | Christian Education Meeting | | | |
| | 5:00PM-7:00PM | Confirmation Class @ St. Peter's Riegelsville | | | |
| Monday, January 13 | 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM | Admin Office Hours | | | |
| Wednesday, January 15 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Office Hours | | | |
| | 12:30 PM | Care-A-Lot Board Meeting | | | |
| UPCOMING ACTIVITIES | | | | | |
| Sunday, January 19 | 9:15 AM | Adult Sunday School in Library | | | |
| Second Sunday after Epiphany | 10:00 AM | Communion Worship | | | |
| Monday, January 20 | 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM | Messy Church | | | |
| | 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM | Admin Office Hours | | | |
| Wednesday, January 22 | 10:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Office Hours | | | |
| Thursday, January 23 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Office hours | | | |
| | 12:00 PM | Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim | | | |
| | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's | | | |
| Saturday, January 25 | 9:00 AM- 11:30 AM | Communion Education Class St. Lukes | | | |
| | 9:00 AM | Ferndale | | | |
| | 4:00 PM | Soup Preparation at Durham-Help Needed! | | | |
| | | Soup Sale at Durham- Take out Only | | | |
| Sunday, January 26 | 9:15 AM | Adult Sunday school in the library | | | |
| Third Sunday after Epiphany | 10:00 AM | Communion Worship | | | |
| | 5:00PM-7:00PM | Confirmation Class @ Trinity Pleasant Valley | | | |
| Monday, January 27 | 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM | Admin Office Hours | | | |
| Wednesday, January 29 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Office Hours | | | |
| Thursday, January 30 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Office hours | | | |
| | 12:00 PM | Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim | | | |
| | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's | | | |



The Food Basket on the altar is donated in honor of Landon Helfrich's fourteenth Birthday.



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

David Antoni; Joe Hlavaty; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Bethany Michl; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Stephen Bizon; Clay Butler; Doris Calverley; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; David Davis; Nancy Edelen; Carol and Leon Errico; Nora Fallon; Gabriella Froehlich; Barbara

Foster; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Jason Gourley; Rev. Bradley Gow; Penni Griffith; Andrew Hales; Krista Heyer; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tim Koplin; Mary Lily; Jim McAnally; Charleigh McCade; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Patrick McNaulty; Nancy Morris; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Leslie Patience; Jennifer Phelps; Lisa Ridge; Connie Rugen; Tammy Sassman; Paul Sauter; Ruth Sauter; Bart Shaw; Laurel Sheetz; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Joe V.; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Wayne Yeisley; Barbara Yob.

For those who are Homebound:

James Altemose; Cleo Eck; Frank Mammana; Jayne Miller

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Norma Fox ;Kenneth Hager; Silas Rodenbach; Ed Xander

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: joanmammana@icloud.com

Worship Assistants

| Preacher | Rev. James Heckman | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Organist/Choir Director | Carolyn Williams | | |
| Altar Guild | Barbara Naska and Leann Kressman | | |
| Greeter(s) | Miriam Anderson | | |
| Acolyte | | | |
| Lector | Karen Beerer | | |
| Head / Communion Usher | Miriam Anderson | | |
| Council Communion / Counting Team | Pat Zion and Bea vonWatzdorf | | |
| Technology & Livestreaming | Ken Anderson | | |
| Administrative | Kathryn Wagner | | |
| Custodian | Dianna Streletz | | |