

**Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

205 S. Garner St.
State College, PA 6801

**Our Mission
Statement:**

*"Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to **gather, feed, and send** people in the name of Jesus Christ."*

**10:00 a.m.
worship service**

Today's Hymns
#ELW 277
#ELW 270
#ELW 290

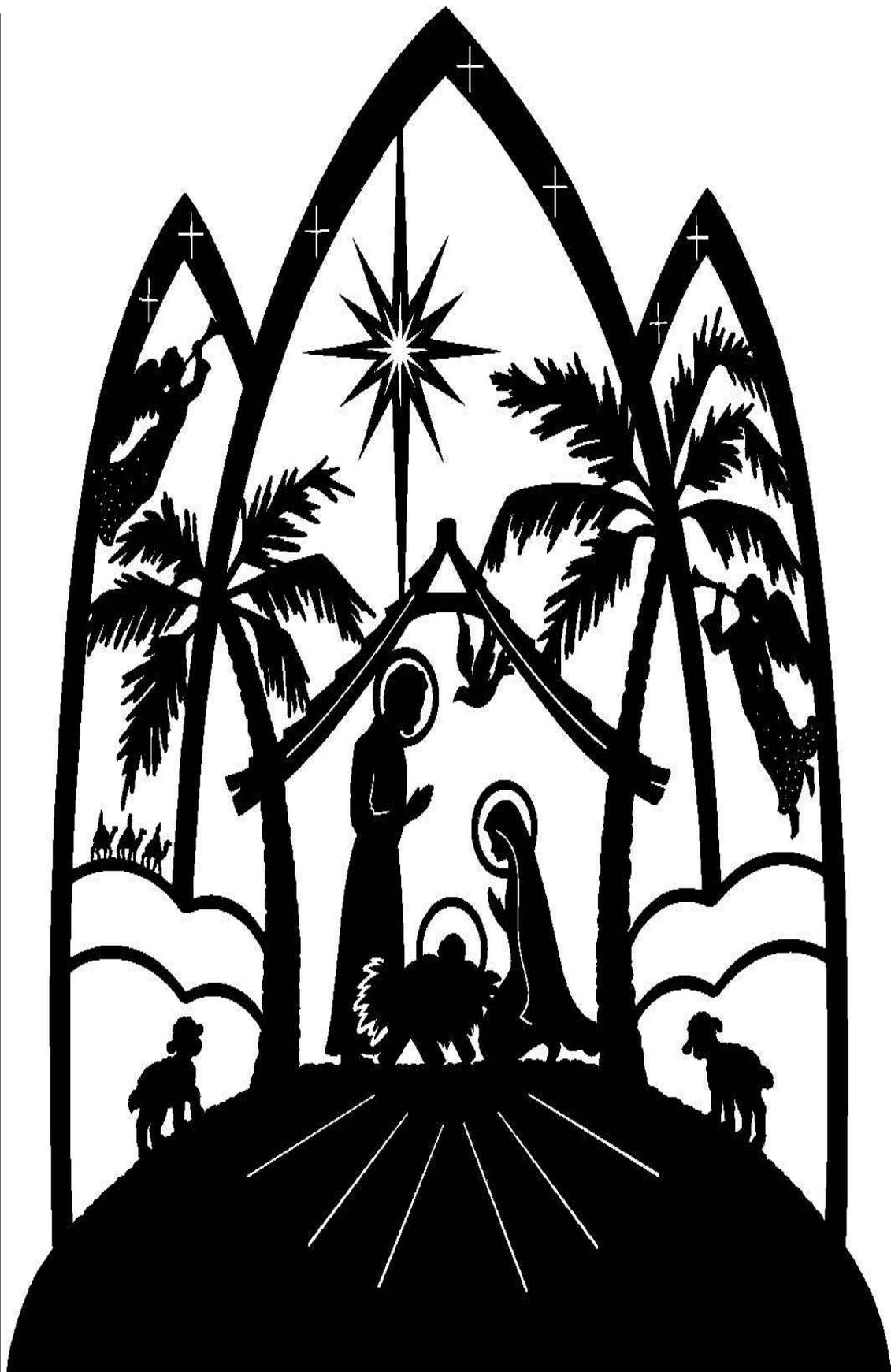


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DECEMBER 25, 2020
Christmas Day

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST...

Today, the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed humans in his own image, and everything else in creation.

Unknown years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME...As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

A WORD ON THE READINGS...**The First Lesson:** Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: "Your God reigns!" Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God. **The Second Lesson:** This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels. **The Gospel Lesson:** The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church - State College, Pennsylvania
Christmas Day -- December 25, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.**

Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to gather, feed, and send people in the name of Jesus Christ.

Gather - Feed - Send

PRELUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*.....arr. Robert Hobby
On This Day Earth Shall Ring.....arr. Robert Hobby

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS GREETING

P: Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time began and you came into the world to save us. Blessed are you, Son of righteousness, you shine with the Father's love and illumine the whole universe. Blessed are you, Son of Mary, born a child, you shared our humanity.

Congregation: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: Blessed are you, Son of David, born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men. Blessed are you, Son of all humanity, baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves. Blessed are you, heavenly king, teaching and preaching, healing and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

C: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Savior.

C: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

C: Praise and honor and glory to you, O Lord most high.

P: To us is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Grace, mercy, and the peace of God be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GATHER

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING HYMN *Away in a Manger*.....ELW #277
Led by Maeve Flanagan and Mara Anderson-Skelley

Away in a Manger

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

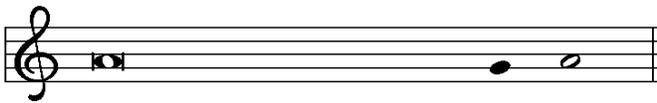
Text: North American, 19th cent.
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

(ELW p. 147)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



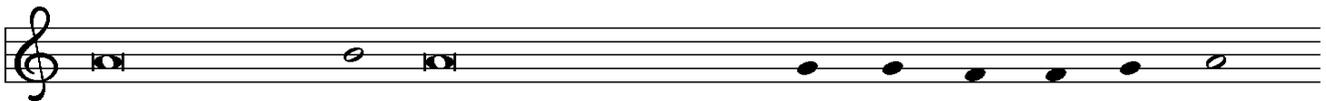
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

P: Let us pray.

C: All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FEED

*God speaks to us through scripture,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 52:7-10

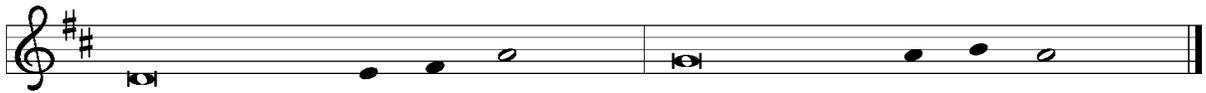
⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Christ the Lord is Born Today, Hallelujah.....trad. / arr. L. Sanders

PSALM 98—*Please sing responsively from the selected verses.*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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P: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

C: **You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to
the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.**

P: Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.

C: **Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.**

P: With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

C: **Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.**

P: Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes
to | judge the earth.

C: **The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.**

SECOND LESSON.....Hebrews 1:1-4

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Christmas Season Gospel Acclamation.....Barbara Bridge
Adult Choir; Nate Glocke, Director

HOLY GOSPEL..... John 1:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Christmas Season Gospel Acclamation.....Barbara Bridge
Adult Choir; Nate Glocke, Director

SERMON.....Pastor Hetrick

HYMN OF THE DAY *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*.....ELW #270
Led by choral ensemble; Adam Hallacher, trumpet

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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 scrip-
tures; 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.**

THE PRAYERS

Response after each petition:

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten.....arr. Wilbur Held

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.....arr. Alfred Fedak

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Generous God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and
salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with
all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in

all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Lo, How a Rose; In dulci jubilo.....trad. / arr. Anne Sullivan

SEND

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN *Go Tell It on the Mountain*.....ELW #290

Led by Crossfire Youth Choir

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;



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

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Go Tell It on the Mountain*.....John Behnke



Bulletin: Sponsored in Don & Deana Coine
dedicated in honor of their children and grandchildren

Radio: Today's *radio broadcast* on WRSC - 1390 AM & 93.3 FM
is sponsored by Michelle Thal
dedicated in memory of grandparents Walter & Phyllis
Jodon and Sonny & Roseann Thal

The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor.....pastorschul@glcpa.org
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Pastor.....pastorhetrick@glcpa.org
Cindy Fritz,& Peter Horn, Faith Formation.....faithformation@glcpa.org
Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator.Isanders@glcpa.org
Nathan Glocke.....Adult Choir Director
Ryan Ditmer, Pat Lloyd, June Miller,
Adam Smith & Chris Wilhelm.....Pianists/Organist
Joan Kovalchik.....Flute
Anna Carol Buffington.....The Bells of Grace Director

The Rev P. Stevens Lynn.....Pastor Emeritus

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Pre-recorded music provided by:

Adult Choir

Kathleen Arrington
Susan Buda
Ann Burke
Deana Coine
Rod Egan
Josh Evert

Ethan Fasnacht
Kevin Honz
Matthew Kidd
Emily Kiver
Natalie Ondrey
Marissa Perri

Phyllis Verderame
Thomas Verderame
Barb Vogler

Choral Ensembles

Susan Buda
Ryan Ditmer
Nathan Glocke
Angie Hardyk
Drew Hardyk
Ethan Hardyk

Spencer Hardyk
Kevin Honz
Jennifer Royse
Graham Sanders
Laurel Sanders
Barb Schroeder

Ken Shafranko
Charlie Vasey
Phyllis Verderame
Megan Widener
Chris Wilhelm

Crossfire Youth Choir

Mara Anderson-Skelly
Mirabella Bills
Sophia Bills
Maeve Flanagan
Sammy Hallacher
Ethan Hardyk

Spencer Hardyk
Lincoln Hockenberry
Ella McDyre
Ireland McDyre
Allie Peters
Joe Peters

Bella Poehner
Emma Proctor
Logan Proctor
Emily Whitney

Instrumentalists

Tony Buda, percussion
Ryan Ditmer, organ
Adam Hallacher, trumpet
Spencer Hardyk, euphonium

June Miller, organ
Graham Sanders, synthesized bells
Laurel Sanders, flutes
Anne Sullivan, harp

Soloists

Mara Anderson-Skelly
Maeve Flanagan
Nate Glocke
Sammy Hallacher
Ethan Hardyk

Other Musicians

Jon Brockopp
Susan Buda (cello)
Paula Droege
Ken Shafranko (dobro)

PRAYER CONCERNS for December 25, 2020

All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries
 Alicia Anderson and family upon the death of her mother, Dorothy
 Madalyn Anderson, godmother of Pastor Schul
 Theresa Alves, friend of Brenda Kim
 Deb Baysinger's cousin
 Sylvia Belanger, mother of Joe Belanger
 Barbara Braun's niece
 Debbie Bolthouse
 Mary & Phil Bucher
 Don Burris and family, upon the death of his mother, Grace
 Andrew Campell, friend of Pastor Schul
 Sandy Cassady
 Denise Centini
 Nancy Chapa
 Scott Cocolin
 Carol Confer
 Cathy Cutter
 William Davies
 Marie Dallery mother of Sharon Shurgalla
 Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer
 Patrick Dugan, grandson of Paul & Kathryn Mackes
 Steve Ellis
 Craig Evanego

Darrell Engelhardt, father of Lisa Wiedemer
 Jane Gamble, sister-in-law of Holly Stoltzfus
 Vicki Garvin
 Alice Griffin
 Mary Ann Hanelly and family, friends of Betsy Will
 Shawn Hintosh
 Dick Houtz
 Bob Igoe
 Cindy Keith
 Kate Kempf, daughter of Pete And Angie Kempf & granddaughter of Merle & Kathy McCalips
 June Krumrine
 Paul & Sandy Larson
 Linda Leslie mother of Brianne Slane
 Paul Lloyd, son of Pat Lloyd
 Shirley Lucas
 Tom Lucas
 Paul Mackes
 Carol Major, friend of Brenda Palmgren
 Dennis McClure
 Danielle McHenry
 Kim Marsh
 ThBob Miller, father of Julie Miller
 Amy Nevling

Dottie Niklos, mother of Bob Igoe
 Allison Peretin, friend of Elaine Ebeling
 Zach Pfeil, brother of Megan Widener
 Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins
 Sophia Reutzell
 Dottie Roberts
 Becky Rogers
 Margaret Schrock, mother of Kathy Weimer
 Nancy Schuchert, mother of Joe Schuchert
 Ken Shultz
 William D. Snape Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite
 Emily & Charlotte Spearly
 Jack Sylves and family and grandparents Tom and Marj Eakin
 Tom & Claudette, friends of Helen and Dick Brenneman
 Karen Tupman, cousin of Phyllis Favorite
 Brenda & Ken Walsh
 Greg Weimer
 Janet Zerbe

Members in the hospital



Prayer is a powerful gift and tool God gives to us. pray for the request each day of the week during your daily prayer time. Just think how powerful it would be if all our members prayed for the same thing each day.

Almighty God, who has poured out upon us the light of your incarnate Word, grant that same light be kindled in our hearts and shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
 Amen