

## The Prayer of the Day

Almighty God our Father,

**Your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Sit*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The First Reading

Joel 2:21-27

- <sup>21</sup> Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the LORD has done great things!
- <sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- <sup>23</sup> O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the LORD your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.
- <sup>24</sup> The threshing floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- <sup>25</sup> I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.
- <sup>26</sup> You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the LORD your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
- <sup>27</sup> You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 126 will be led by the cantor. The congregation joins in on the refrain.**  
Refrain: **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,**  
**Like streams in the Negev.**

1. When the Lord brought the captives to Zion,  
We were like men who dreamed.  
Our mouths were filled with laughter,  
our tongues with songs of joy. **R:**
2. Then it was said among the nations,  
The Lord has done great things for them.  
The Lord has done great things for us,  
And we are filled with joy. **R:**
3. Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.  
He who goes out weeping, carrying seeds to sow,  
Will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him. **R:**

## **The Second Reading**

**1 Timothy 2:1-7**

2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>5</sup> For there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,  
<sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Stand

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

WOV 31

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 6:25-33**

**Gospel Response – C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**The Gospel of the Lord – C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

ASSISTING MINISTER: Marty Goetz

LECTOR: Sylvia Brackbill

GREETER: Phyllis Metz

USHER: Phyllis Metz

BELL RINGER: Jeff Miller

CRY ROOM: Located downstairs in the youth room. Also available are coloring books and crayons located on the last pew in a green basket.

### **CALENDER**

TODAY            8:30 Choir Practice  
                     10:00 Sunday School  
                     11:00 Confirmation  
                     5:00-8:00 Fantastix Dinner and Cabaret Fundraiser  
                     2:00 Thanksgiving Service at Passavant Retirement Center  
MONDAY        10:00 December Newsletter info due in office

### **FOOD CUPBOARD – NOVEMBER**

We will continue to collect canned pumpkin and cranberry, stuffing mixes.

### **TODAY'S WORSHIP**

John Bulger will lead us in worship with Pastor Ralph Kusserow leading us in communion.

### **FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST TODAY**

Join us after worship for a delicious assortment of breakfast food and wonderful fellowship in Strobel Hall.



**NEW PRAYER REQUEST:** Tom Brosenitsch brother of Tim Brosenitsch recovering from an accident, Family of Audrey Sherman, Family of Kim Stolfer on death of his father-in-law, Cynthia sister of Bev Brosenitsch diagnosed with breast cancer, Jenny, Judy Hart, Adrienne Haegg.

[The complete prayer list is in the November newsletter.]

**ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING LAST SUNDAY:** 35 - \$1543.00

### **FANTASTIX SPAGHETTI DINNER AND CABARET**

Will be tonight from 5:00 to 8:00. Cost is \$10 for adult and Children 2 to 5yrs. \$5.00. All proceeds benefit St. Paul Lutheran Church.

### **ORGAN CONCERT – 6:00 PM**

Pastor William Brewer and his former organ teacher, Kathy Miller, will be presenting an organ concert at Oak Grove Lutheran tonight.

### **2019 BUDGET**

The 2019 budget was approved last Sunday and Barbara Bulger was elected to serve a three year term on council. Your 2019 council members are: John Alexander, Tim Brosenitsch, Bev Brosenitsch, Barbara Bulger, Thom Cipro, Linda Flora, Jeff Miller, Janet Silvonc and Nancy Williamson.

## **HARVEST SUNDAY**

Food donations may be brought up before worship or during the gathering hymn. Food items will then be given to the Southwest Butler County Food Cupboard. A basket is also on the table for anyone who would like to make a monetary donation. Please make check payable to St. Paul Lutheran.



## **RINGING THE BELL – DECEMBER 8 – BI-LO'S**

A sign up sheet will be passed around in church today for you to volunteer to ring the bell on Saturday, December 8, at Bi-Lo's. We will need 9 volunteers starting at 10:00 am and ending at 6:00 pm. This requires only one hour of your time so please consider volunteering on

December 8.

## **COOKIE WALK 2018 – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

Sydney McMurray will once again be holding a Cookie Walk Fundraiser for our church. She will need your support in making a specialty Christmas cookie and also help with ingredients as she plans on making a lot of the cookies herself. A sign up sheet will be passed around in church leading up to the Cookie Walk so start thinking of a special cookie you would like to provide.

## **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH – HOLIDAY CONCERT**

Zion Lutheran Church is sponsoring a holiday concert featuring the Ellwood City Civic Chorale. The concert will be held on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:00. Following the concert, there will be a social time with cookies, coffee and punch.



## **DECORATING OF SANCTUARY – MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

We will need help with decorating the church in time for the Historical Society Christmas House Tour on December 1. We plan on decorating November 28, 29 and 30. If you are able to help on any of those days, please let Marty Goetz or Colleen Cipro know. A schedule will be passed around today.

## **THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

A sign up sheet is in the narthex for your family to volunteer in the lighting of the Advent wreath. Advent starts on December 2.

## **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER**

All information is due in the office no later than Wednesday by 9:00 AM. In order to save on paper and stamps, if you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please email the office at [splcofzelie@gmail.com](mailto:splcofzelie@gmail.com)

## **ONE VOICE FOR CHRIST**

Sylvia Brackbill will be singing with the **One Voice for Christ** ensemble this Advent Season. One Voice Christian Vocal Ensemble was founded in September, 1991 by David F. Pressau, Minister of Music for Grace Anglican Church in the Mount Washington neighborhood of Pittsburgh. Through his work at the church and as a music and theatre educator, David had the opportunity to meet a number of Christian vocalists who were seeking new ways of using their talents to glorify the Lord. From those beginnings, David was led to pursue the formation of a permanent multi-denominational ensemble tasked with spreading the word of God's love through a ministry of music. Thus, One Voice was created. Each performance is 1 hour and 15 minutes in length: Schedule of performances are:

Sunday – December 2 – 2:00 PM, The Presbyterian Church of Coraopolis  
Sunday – December 2 – 7:00 PM, St. Peter’s Church – Brentwood

Sunday – December 9 – 2:00 PM, Claysville United Presbyterian Church  
Sunday – December 9 – 7:00 PM, Christ Church, Anglican – New Brighton

Sunday – December 16 – 2:00 PM, Grace Anglican Church – Mt. Washington  
Sunday – December 16 – 7:00 PM, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Sewickley

For more information about One Voice for Christ go to their website at

<http://onevoiceforchrist.com/about.html>

### **VISITORS**

If you are a visitor, please feel free to take a copy of the newsletter in the pamphlet rack in the narthex. We welcome all visitors and invite you to make our church your church.