

## Jeremiah 33:14-16

<sup>14</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

## Psalm 25

**Refrain: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
In you I trust, O my God.**

1. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame,  
But they will be put to shame  
Who are treacherous without excuse. R:
2. Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths;  
Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
For you are my God and Savior,  
And my hope is in you all day long. R.
3. Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love,  
For they are from of old.  
Remember not the sins of my youth, O my God,  
And my rebellious ways, according to your love you remember me,  
For you are good, O Lord. R:
4. Good and upright is the Lord; he instructs sinners in his way.  
He guides the humble in what is right  
And teaches them his way. R:

# 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

<sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

# Luke 21:25-36

<sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

ASSISTING MINISTER: Linda Flora

LECTOR: John Bulger

USHERS:

GREETERS: John and Barbara Bulger

BELL RINGER: John Bulger

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

### CALENDER

TODAY 10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Confirmation  
6:30 Christmas Music Festival  
WEDNESDAY 7:00 Bible Study  
SATURDAY 10:00-6:00 Ring Bell for Salvation Army



**NEW PRAYER REQUEST:** Shonna Ash friend of Sylvia Brackbill, Tom Brosenitsch brother of Tim Brosenitsch recovering from an accident, Cynthia sister of Bev Brosenitsch diagnosed with breast cancer, Jenny, Judy Hart, Adrienne Haegg.

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

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Are Given to the Glory of God by Janet Mertz in honor of her sister, Susan Dietrich.

**ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING LAST SUNDAY:** 36 - \$1765.00

### FOOD CUPBOARD – DECEMBER

We will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly.

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC FESTIVAL – TONIGHT

Join us on tonight at 6:30 PM as we host a Christmas Music Festival. Enjoy a night of holiday music with a band from Hope Lutheran, a group of youth from Oak Grove and surrounding churches are going to sing, and a Girls Chorus from Seneca Valley plans to attend! Our very own St. Paul Choir will sing and lead us in carols, and our own talented youth will perform!

### THANK YOU

To everyone who helped get the sanctuary ready for the Zelenople Historical Society Christmas Home Tour.



### **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 still need volunteers for 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00.** This requires only one hour of your time so please consider volunteering on December 8.



## **COOKIE WALK 2018 – NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 10:30 TO 1:30**

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. Delicious cookies for only \$10 (large box) or \$5 (small box).

## **FOOD CUPBOARD GIFT TAGS**

Please see Phyllis Metz if you would like to provide a gift for a needy child of the Food Cupboard.

## **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 today.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Join us for Bible Study Wednesday evening, December 5, at 7:00 PM.

## **POINSETTIAS**

Last Sunday to order your poinsettia for our Christmas Eve Service.

## **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.

## **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 fill out one of the welcome cards in the pew racks. Also, please feel free to take home a monthly newsletter. We welcome all