



## ST. PETER'S CHURCH, WEST PENN

*"...where worship and service don't stop with the final hymn."*

**Rev. Virginia M. Heimer, Pastor**  
**Carol Steigerwalt, Director of Music**

**November 28, 2021 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent**

**Worship Service ~ 9:00 a.m.      Sunday School ~ 10:15 a.m.**

*(Please turn off your cell phone.)*

### **Prayer of Preparation**

*Stir up your power, Lord Jesus, and come to us. By your merciful protection awaken us to the damage of our own sin. Keep us faithful until the coming of your new day. We pray in your sacred name. Amen.*

*We Gather Again and Seek God's Presence*

### **Greeting/Announcements/Joys & Concerns**

#### **Prelude**

*"O Lord, You're Beautiful"*

by Keith Green

*(All who are able, please stand.)*

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Call to Worship**      (Based on Psalm 25)

**L:** We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.

**P:** **We trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.**

**L:** Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.

**P:** **Guide us that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.**

**L:** Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.

**P:** **Together, let us worship God!**

### **The Lighting of the Advent Candle ~ We Light the Candle of Hope**

#### **Opening Hymn**

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

#244

*We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek God's Forgiveness*

### **Call to Confession**

*(Silence for reflection.)*

**Prayer of Confession** *(in unison)*

**God of all time, we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Song of Praise**

**Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.**

**I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.**

**You came from heaven to earth to show the way;**

**From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.**

**From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;**

**Lord I lift your name on high.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

*We Listen for God's Word to Us*

**The Reading of Scripture**

Psalm Reading

First Reading

Gospel

*Psalm 25: 1-10*

*Jeremiah 33: 14-16*

*Luke 21: 25-36*

*(The First Reading and Gospel are printed on the back of the bulletin.)*

*(After the Gospel is announced, all who are able stand and sing:)*



**Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

*(After the Gospel is read, sing: )*



**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

## **The Sermon**

**Special Music**                    *“A Star Will Soon Shine”* by Nancy Price & Dan Besig  
  ~ Offered by The Senior Choir

*(All who are able, please stand.)*

**The Affirmation of Faith** *(in unison)*    Apostle’s Creed

**We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We 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. We 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. Amen.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

## **Invitation to the Offering**

### **The Offering of Our Gifts**

**The Offertory**                    *“When I Look Into Your Holiness”* by Wayne & Cathy Perrin

*(All who are able, please stand.)*

**The Offertory Response** *(sung)*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**Offertory Prayer** *(in unison)*

**Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to live among us. Come among us now as we offer these gifts and ourselves. Strengthen us to be your servants through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

## **Pastoral Prayer**

*(After the Leader says: “Come, Lord Jesus” ~ please respond “Hear our Prayers.”)*

## **The Lord's Prayer** *(in unison)*

*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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

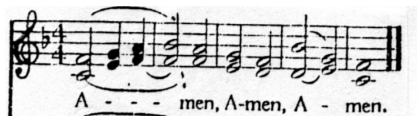
*(All who are able, please stand.)*

## **Hymn**

*"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

#215

## **The Benediction with Three-fold "Amen"**



## **Extinguishing of Candles/Silent Meditation**

### **Choral Blessing**

*"Go Now in Peace"*

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know he will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.*

## **Postlude** *"The Greatest Thing Is Knowing You, Jesus"*

by Mark Pendergrass



**God made the Sabbath holy and gave it to all as a gift. He invites us to lay aside our work and worries, to trust that because he is in control, we are free to rest and worship.**

**TODAY'S LECTOR:** *Merk Hunsicker.*

**PSALM READER:** *Abbey Rex.*

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** *Kailee Thomas*

**BELL RINGER:** *TJ Hartman.*

**ACOLYTES:** *Morgan Myers and Abbey Rex.*

**ANGEL USHERS:** *Madison Greene, Zane Zeigenfuss, and  
Chase & Colby Moyer.*

**SOUND SYSTEM:** *Anthony Thomas.*

**VIDEOGRAPHER:** *Michael Kistler.*

**LAST WEEK'S BIRTHDAY OFFERING:** *received from Elaine Parsons.*

**NOVEMBER VISITATION LIST BIRTHDAY:** *June Williams (11/29).*

The White Gifts for Bethany Children's Home (UCC) and St. Luke's (Lutheran) will be received today ***Sunday, November 28th.*** Two baskets will be set up in front of the sanctuary containing plain envelopes for your gifts.

Today is the last day to order poinsettias. Forms can be found on the table in the church parlor. The cost is \$8:00 each. Forms can be given to Lori Hoppes.

### **Calendar Fundraiser**

The Church Board is holding a Calendar Raffle for the month of December. Each raffle ticket is \$10 and contains two three-digit numbers. There will be one winner every day for the month of December, which will be determined from the nightly Pick 3 PA Lottery number. Prizes will be sent directly to the winner. Please contact a Church Board member for more information or to purchase your tickets.



### **BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!**

Hopefully you enjoy hearing our Bell Choir ~ BUT, we could sure use some more ringers! We have lots of extra bells that, if played, would make the sound even better. If you'd like to come to a practice and see if you might enjoy playing, please contact Carol Steigerwalt at 570-768-5165, or just come to a practice ~ Thursdays at 6:30 PM. and, we have lots of fun!

## ***Say a Prayer for:***

*Loved Ones of*

*Russell "Rusty" Ahner*

*Linda Agosti*

*Tom Campbell*

*Terry Abrachinsky*

*Shannon Moyer*

*Jeffrey Kistler, Sr.*

*Walter Szymanski*

*Rev. Christian Creyer*

*Warren Steigerwalt*

*Matt Brickler*

*Cindy Shipwash*

*Logan Pribila*

*Bruce Wolfe*

*Dan Myers*

*Paul Myers*

*Mary Faye Levandusky*

*Mike Leggett*

*Debbie Sweeney*

*Lori Fairchild*

*Betty Clark*

*Dorothy Miller*

*Franklin Mackes*

*Slayton Altenburg*

*Lamar Gerber*

*Sally Mateyak*

*Melissa Haydt*

*Neal Shipwash*

*Lorraine Fritz*

*Thomas Miller*

*Carol Barron*

*Keith Bitler*

*Helen Christman*

*Lois Faust*

*Olga Faust*

*Shelly Babinchak*

*MaryAnne Mitrisin*

*Chris Conway*

*Thomas Highland*

*Donna Laub*

*Mark Abrachinsky*

*Greg Blackall*

*Lana Kuehner*

*Amanda Donohue*

*Lucas Milot*

*Dawn Laedas*

*Eldora Rex*

*Travis Flannigan*

*Mrs. Demage*

*Herman Snyder*

*Lucas Nelson*

*Paul David*

*Zayden Mabey*

*Betty Breiner*

*Gary Zehner*

*John Kowlewski*

*Tammy Kemery*

*Doris Wolfe*

*Matthew Fox*

*Jessica Nehm*

*Allison Steigerwalt*

*Aiden Kreimendahl*

*Rose Pitts*

*Mike & Bernice Delp*

*Carol Tynan*

*Kim Cope*

*Lisa Serfass*

*Robert Coombe*

*Danika Tworowski*

*Ben Fink*

*Diane Middlecamp*

*Gino Lorady*

*Bernie Matyascik*

*Jamie Phelan*

*Kim & Dave Carson*

*Marion Kupres*

*Louise Billman*

*Tony Masor*

*Sherry Walz*

*Shari Yediny*

*Richard Kistler*

*Darlene Kunkel*

*Erla Biasi*

*Carolyn Kunkle*

*Aspen Murphy*

*Jillian Datchko*

*Pastor Nathan Kennedy*

*Russel Stull, Jr.*

*Veronica Steigerwalt*

*Sharon Roth*

*McCoy Rapa*

*Donna Roderick*

*Jaden Leiby*

*Justin Klotz*

*Gene McCormik*

*Mike Rascho*

*William Shirar*

*Amy Meixsall*

*Richard Frey*

*JoAnn Pagonis*

*Jo Kunkle*

*Jackson Delebar*

*Vicki Pratt*

*Austin Klein*

*Melissa Drake*

*Lorna Hart*

*Carson Barron*

*Caroline Lantz*

*Nancy Barkus*

*Howard Morana*



## **PRAYERS FOR OUR ARMED FORCES AT HOME AND ABROAD**



**Deployed to Japan:**

**John McGuire**

**Deployed to Africa:**

**Jonathan Liggitt**

**Michelle Liggitt**



**Active Duty,  
Not Deployed:**

**Jacob Coombe**

**Amber Gulick**

**Patrick Donohue, II**

**Mark Habel**

**Dustin Hoppes**

**LeRoy E. Kromer II**

**Timothy Kromer**

**Ezekiel Kuneck**

**Sean Kurtz**

**Antonio Lorenzo**

**Dominic Lorenzo**

**Amanda Miller**

**Lisa Miller**

**Austin Resch**

**Tyler Resch**

**Trevor Schilling**

**Andy Snyder**

**Chad Wehr**

**Mark West**

**Scott West**

**Michael Zeigenfuss**

### **PRAYERS FOR THOSE ON OUR VISITATION LIST**

**Gracedale Nursing Home: Lynn Gerber**

**St. Luke's Miners: Arlene Breiner**

**Maple Shade Meadows: June Williams, Dorothy Miller**

**Heritage Hill Senior Community: Rev. David Knoebel;  
Beverly Knoebel; Eldora Rex**

**Scenic View: Olga Faust**

**At Home:**

**Buddy Arner**

**Velma Schaeffer**

**Edith Coombe**

**Doris Wolfe**

**Larry Miller**

### **PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES**

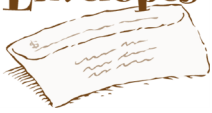
**Michael, Kay, Mikayla, Leilani, & Michael Killar in Thailand  
Maude, Valera, Zarina, Alexander, & Nicolas Motovilov in the  
Czech Republic**

## 2022 FLOWER/BULLETIN CHART

Please note that the 2022 chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Make sure you have the Sundays you want by filling in the date(s) now. Altar flower Sponsors: \$25.00 per altar arrangement, Piano Bowl: \$15.00 and \$20.00 for an extra arrangement placed on the organ. Contact Susan Hunsicker or the Church Office to reserve your Sunday date. Bulletins can also be sponsored for



### **Offering Envelopes**



**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES** will be available in the church parlor in December. And, if you can, while you're getting yours maybe you could deliver envelopes to those who might not be able to pick them up themselves ~ this helps us to keep down mailing costs. Thank you!

## DRIVE BY MEMORIAL TREE TRIBUTE

Many who have lost a loved one experience mixed emotions about the forthcoming holidays. On Thursday December 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM at E. Franklin Griffiths Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc, 655 East Broad Street Tamaqua, PA we will remember and honor family members. Luminaries will light our garden - you can pick one up to personalize for your beloved family members or we will make one for you. Please drop off completed luminaries or an ornament of your choice by Monday, December 6, 2021 to adorn our outdoor garden tree and if you joined us last year, we have your family's ornament on hand which you can choose to use again, or bring something new. You need not be affiliated with our funeral home to participate. Your safety is our main priority so... Please drive by to see our beautiful memorials or visit our website: [www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com) where we will place photos and a list of participating families under Events.

To sign up or ask for more details, you can reach us at 570-668-2550, 9:00-4:00 Monday- Friday. Looking forward to hearing from you!

***God hears what is not spoken and understands what is not explained, for His love doesn't work in the lips or in the mind, but in the heart.***

*~ Author Unknown*



## **THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S**

### **Today, Sunday, November 28:**

9:00 AM Worship Service ~ WASP White Gifts  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Board Meeting  
NO Confirmation Class

### **Thursday, December 2:**

6:00 PM Cherub Choir rehearsal  
6:30 PM Bell Choir rehearsal  
7:30 PM Senior Choir rehearsal

### **Next Sunday, December 5:**

9:00 AM Worship Service ~ Celebration of Holy Communion  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
12:00 PM WASP Christmas Party  
2:00 PM Worship Service at St. Luke's Coaldale 5th Floor  
4:00 PM Confirmation Class

**NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be away and unavailable from November 29th ~ December 3rd. Please contact Pastor Russ Campbell for any pastoral emergencies: 610-737-2634, or Denise Moyer, Board President at 484-695-1887 for general concerns.**

WASP will hold it's Annual Family Christmas Party NEXT ***Sunday, December 5th*** at 12:00 Noon in the fellowship hall. Refreshments and beverages will be provided, but please bring a covered dish to share and your own place settings. A signup sheet is posted on the table in the church parlor. We will also have our Secret Santa exchange.

***In case of inclement weather, please listen to WMGH/WLSH Radio Station, watch TV Channel 13 or Channel 69 for any change in the time or cancellation of St. Peter's Church worship schedule.***

**November 21, 2021**

**Attendance: 88**

**Total Current Offering: \$ 2,351.50**

**Building Maintenance Fund of: \$ 214.00**

**Plate Offering: \$ 97.00**

**Year-to-date Fuel: \$ 2,249.50**

**Year-to-date Elevator: \$ 1,955.00**

*~~~~~*

**Benevolence:**

**Total YTD: \$ 13,134.00**

**(2021 combined benevolence goal is \$15,000.00)**

**St. Peter's Church, West Penn**

**184 St. Peter's Road Tamaqua PA 18252      570-386-4388**

**Rev. Virginia M. Heimer, Pastor**

**For Pastoral Care or Emergency:**

**Pastor Heimer's Cell: 610-762-3840**

**Pastor Heimer will be in her office on:**

**Tuesdays and Wednesday from 10:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM;**

**Thursdays from 9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM**

**Friday ~ OFF; Saturday ~ SABBATH DAY**

**(Contact for emergencies only, please. If you have a prayer request, please email)**

**NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be away and unavailable from November 29th ~**

**December 3rd. Please contact Pastor Russ Campbell for any pastoral emergencies: 610-737-2634, or Denise Moyer, Board President at 484-695-1887 for general concerns.**

**Contact our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:**

**Please call Pastor Heimer OR the Church Office**

**Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt**

**Sexton: Lou Ann Algard**

**Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless      Church Office: Elaine Koons**

**Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388**

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday ~ Friday 10:00 AM~2:00 PM**

**E-mail addresses:      Pastor Heimer: [pastor@stpwp.com](mailto:pastor@stpwp.com)**

**Church Office: [info@stpwp.com](mailto:info@stpwp.com)**

**Financial Secretary: [financials@stpwp.com](mailto:financials@stpwp.com)**

**Sunday School: [spwpsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:spwpsundayschool@gmail.com)**

**Web Site Address: <https://www.stpeterschurchwestpenn.com>**

**Web Master email: [info@stpwp.com](mailto:info@stpwp.com)**

**Facebook:      St Peter's Church of West Penn**