



UNITED PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL:

Light of Christ
St. John's Windish
St. Peter's

'Till We Meet Again!

Week of December 18 & 19, 2021

weekend worship

Worship on **Saturday, December 18 at 5:00 PM** will be held at **St. Peter's**. Worship on **Sunday, December 19 at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM** will be held at **Light of Christ**, with Sunday School at **9:15 AM**. Facemasks are required!

WORSHIP MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mike

December 18:

Assisting Minister: Elizabeth Elterich

December 19:

8:00 AM

Assisting Minister: Matthew Bleier

Communion Assistant: TBD

Lector: Rosalie Adducie

Greeter: TBD

Usher 1: Joan Erb

Usher 2: Nancy Kostas

Acolyte: Douglas Bleier

10:30 AM

Assisting Minister: Pastor Suzanne

Communion Assistant: Josh Gulotta

Lector: Karen Schoch

Usher: 1 Cliff Bengston

Usher 2: Brynn Anderson

Acolyte: Josh Gulotta

This Week

JOIN OUR SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP!

Our Saturday worship at St. Peter's (5 PM) is now open for all congregants! Our new

livestream equipment allows us to worship both with our siblings online and our siblings in the pews. We'd love to see you there!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Our **Christmas Eve services** are around the corner! There will be 3 separate services that night. There will be a **3 pm service at Light of Christ with prelude music beginning at 2:30 pm**, a **6 pm service at St. Peter's**, and a **8 pm service at St. John's Windish**. The **6pm service at St. Peter's will be livestreamed**. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

LONGEST NIGHT/BLUE CHRISTMAS

Please join members of the Bethlehem Inter-faith Group for a worship service that allows for a meditative worship acknowledging that not everyone feels particularly jolly and festive this time of year. Perhaps you have lost a loved one or a job. Perhaps you are worried and struggling and there is much on your heart and mind. Perhaps you are dealing with troubling health or family issues. Whatever is on your heart you can join us as we celebrate the season acknowledging the multitude of feelings and emotions that are a part of our lives. Through a worship of readings, meditation, song, and prayer may you find joy and peace in the coming of our Lord Jesus. It will be held on **December 21st at 6:30 pm**. The service will be at **Epworth United Methodist Church at 3245 Oakland Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020**.

ADVENT DAILY PRAYER

Starting **November 29th** we will be hosting a morning prayers service at St. Peter's. This service will be held **Monday-Fridays** during the 4

weeks of Advent starting at **9 am**. The service will last about 20 minutes and will be available in person as well as livestreamed. If you have any questions, please contact Brynn or Josh

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PARTY

Come join us **December 18th** for the Sunday School holiday party! Kids of all ages (and their families) are invited to build gingerbread houses from 5:30-6:30 and enjoy a lasagna dinner from 6:30-7:00. Children in grades 7-12 will then participate in an overnight lock-in! We will work on our candle making project, watch a Christmas movie, and join together in a midnight worship service. Sunday School teachers from past and present will join in on the fun! **Please RSVP by December 12th** so we can bring enough lasagna!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

All tags for 60 HeadStart children have been sponsored; these children will receive hats, mittens and a book. Decorating the tree are the knitted hats and scarves created by Ingrid Eberle, daughter of Cliff Bengston. They will be delivered to local agencies in January. **Thank you,** Ingrid, for keeping people warm this winter.



NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP MINISTERS

The worship ministers for December 26th are listed here. Contact Josh Gulotta if you have any questions: **December 26th:** Assisting Minister: Rosalie Adducie; Communion Assistant: Brynn Anderson; Lector: Marilyn Musgnung; Greeter: Josh Gulotta; Usher: Cliff Bengston; Acolyte: Rosalie Adducie.

DECEMBER 26TH AND JANUARY 2ND

There will one service at 10:30 am on December 26th. This service will be at Light of Christ. There will also be one 10:30 am service on January 2nd. That service will be at St. John's Windish. There will not be Sunday School either of those days.

BOOK CLUB

Join us for our next book club reading discussion. It will be on January 2nd after the 10:30 worship service at St. John's Windish The book we chose to read is The Pull of The Stars by Emma Donoghue. It's the story of a nurse in Ireland struggling with war and disease during the first world war. Light amidst the darkness and hope against all odds threads throughout the story.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Mark your calendars! Once again, we would like to start of the new year by showing our generous thanks to all the first responders who work hard in our community year-round.

To that end, we will host a First Responders Appreciation Breakfast & Luncheon on **Saturday, January 15, 2022** (with a snow date of the following Saturday, January 22) at St. John's Windish. Since our event spans breakfast and lunch, we need lots of volunteers and food. You can volunteer for the breakfast shift or for the lunch shift, or stay the whole day! We ask that **breakfast shift volunteers** arrive at St. John's by **7:00 a.m. and remain until 11:00 a.m.** For the **lunch shift**, we ask that volunteers arrive at St. John's by **11:00 a.m. and remain until clean up is complete around 3:00 p.m.** If you would like to help with this awesome event, please let Gina Brockway know (ginbrockway86@gmail.com or call or text 610-703-8249).

We also need volunteers to donate food (breakfast & lunch foods plus desserts) and paper products.

We hope you can help us show our thanks & appreciation to our community's First Responders!

GWOH/SAM Card and Gift Activity -

It's true - "many hands make light work." In a matter of 90 minutes after worship this past Sunday, volunteers signed 670 Christmas cards and wrapped 117 gifts. The luncheon prepared by members of the GWOH/SAM committee gave all of us the energy we needed to complete the projects. We hope our cards and gifts will bring Christmas joy to the residents of the nursing homes who will receive them. **Thank you** to members of all three congregations for providing cards for this outreach activity. We have met our quota of 1768 cards for 14 nursing homes so **we will not need more cards** this year.



Visitation: If you or a loved one are in the hospital and would like a visit, please let the church office know. We will find someone to come and visit you or give you a call.

Dr. Irene Todd Scholarship: Dr. Irene Todd was a member of Rosemont Lutheran Church from the 1940's until she died in 2004. Upon her death, she bequeathed funds to Rosemont Lutheran where they established a scholarship in her name. The scholarship is for students who achieved academic competency as well as serve compassionately in their church community. If selected, the student would received \$1500 to go toward undergraduate, Bachelor's, Associate's or Trade School degree from an accredited institution. If you have any questions or are interested in applying, contact Rosemont Lu-

theran Church at (610) 867-3705 or by email at secretaryatrosemont@yahoo.com.

Bethlehem No Home For Hate: The "Bethlehem No Home for Hate" campaign, has just been launched by the Mayor's office, the Bethlehem Community Advisory Board, and the local NAACP. In a time of increasing polarization and intolerance, we want to encourage our constituent organizations to stand together in expressing our solidarity as beloved children of God. A copy of the petition will be available to sign Sundays at worship.

Bethlehem Emergency Shelter: The Bethlehem Emergency Shelter opened it's doors on Monday, November 15 for the start of the 2021-2022 Sheltering Season. The UPG and St John's have partnered with Star of Bethlehem to prepare and serve meals and to provide volunteers to register guests and monitor the showers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. There are many other opportunities to serve such as providing desserts or breakfast items or even to apply for a Thrivent Action team to help purchase food items if you cannot be present at the shelter to help out. Please prayerfully consider becoming a member of this outreach team that provides a warm meal and shelter in addition to caring fellowship for our brothers and sisters...and we have fun doing it! You can sign up using the following link <https://signup.com/go/RMoFYeL> or contact Michel Lloyd at 484-695-3921 or michellloyd@gmail.com. Peace and blessings!

Donated Christmas Tree: Are you in need of a Christmas Tree this season? A member of the community is looking to donate an artificial tree to a family in need. It is about 6 ft tall and

comes with lights and ornaments. Call your church office if you are interested.

Utility Assistance this Winter: Do you need help with utility bills this winter? There are government programs which can help. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides \$200-\$1000 to utilities companies as credit on the customers bill. There is also the Emergency Rental Assistance Program which can help those who struggled to pay for their utilities due to the pandemic. If you want more information, contact the County Public Assistance Office weekdays at 866-857-7095 or go to dhs.pa.gov.

Enter the Bible: Luther Seminary has created a resource called "Enter the Bible" to help people understand scripture better. It breaks down each book in the Bible and gives an overview of its background and context. It is free to use and can be found at <https://enterthebible.org/free-account-registration/>.

WEEKLY MAILINGS

If you have returned to in-person Worship and are no longer in need of the weekly mailing packet, please contact the church office.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Mike:

Phone: 832-561-0697

Email: mikebutton1952@gmail.com

Pastor Suzanne:

Phone: 610-217-1375

Email: strump@ptd.net

COUNCIL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION:

Light of Christ:

- Tom Seifert—president 610-442-2750
- Sandra Butch—vice president 610-865-6204
- Bonnie Harper—secretary 610-691-6647
- Nancy Kostas— 610-865-7953

- Donna Mackaravitz – 610-762-4213
- Buzz Heidecker – 610-866-3808
- Jon Terry - 484-633-4448
- Ron Dalla Piazza – 610-691-2694
- Lou Dravec – 610-258-7679
- Mike Truchan – 610-882-1129
- Tina Piscatello – 610-865-0401

St. John's Windish:

- Sharon Lintner – president 610-703-7904
- Gina Brockway – vice president 610-691-3732
- Migdalia DeJesus – 610-570-1237
- Kathy Remaly – 610-807-0126
- Ron Leposa – secretary 610-865-3523
- Maria Skrilec – treasurer 610-849-2519
- Linda Toltesi – 610-751-7915

St. Peter's:

- Rich Hawk – president – 610-838-2759
- Donna Musselman – secretary – 610-791-1820
- Matt Bleier – 610-865-2057
- Steve Granlund – 610-391-1638
- Susan DeAngelis – 610-838-8156
- Harmony Gubich – 610-974-9487
- Tracy Heberling – 484-601-2414
- David Kolman
- James Ritchie – 610-533-0342
- Kenda Riley
- Tom Sarver
- Michel Lloyd – 484-695-3921

Pictures from GWOH/SAM Event



THIS WEEK IN THE UPG: DECEMBER 18— DECEMBER 26

Saturday December 18

- 5:00 PM Worship at St. Peter's with Live Stream
- 5:30 PM Sunday School Christmas Party at Light of Christ
- 7:00 PM Youth Lock-In at Light of Christ

Sunday December 19

Worship available on YouTube and the UPG website (upgbethlehem.org)

- 8:00 AM Worship at Light of Christ
- 9:15 AM Sunday School at Light of Christ
- 10:30 AM Worship at Light of Christ
- 1:00 PM Sunday Evening Fellowship

Monday December 20

- 9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)
- 12:00 PM Ladies Luncheon at Perkins
- 7:00 PM Dart Baseball (Christ UCC at LOC)

Tuesday December 21

- 9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)
- 6:30 PM Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service at Epworth United Methodist Church

Wednesday December 22

- 7:00 AM Fellowship Ministry
- 9:00 AM Christian Service
- 9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

Thursday December 23

- 9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)

Friday December 24

- 9:00 AM Daily Prayer at St. Peter's (and live streamed)
- 3:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship at Light of Christ
- 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship at St. Peter's (and live streamed)
- 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship at St. John's

Saturday December 25

- 8:00 AM Christmas Eve live stream available on YouTube and the UPG website

Sunday December 26

- 10:30 AM Worship at Light of Christ