

December 24, 2023 ~ Christmas Eve ~ 4:00PM

Gathering Music ~ Karen Danke, guest

Welcome and Announcements ~ Wanda Seymour, liturgist

Prelude and Procession of the Cross and the Elements of Communion

"Light One Candle" (N. Sleeth)

Lighting of the Christ Candle ~ The Barsy Family

Call to Worship ~ *responsive*

Leader: Come, hear the Good News of faith in story and song tonight!

People: For unto us this night a child is born; Christ the Lord!

Leader: See the love God has for us. God is faithful in the promises made to us.

People: For while we were still sinners, Jesus was born for us. To reunite us with God through death and resurrection. Amen.

**you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

***Hymn #134** ~ *"Joy to the World"* with the Celebration Ringers, Cameron Barsy, Karen Danke, and Mark Handford

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15

***Hymn #88** ~ *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

Second Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 ~ Chery Nicholas, reader

***Hymn #145** ~ *"What Child is This"*

Third Lesson: Micah 5:2-5 ~ Bill VanEck, reader

***Hymn #121** ~ *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

Fourth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

***Hymn** ~ *"O, Holy Night"* (v. 1,3)

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7 ~ Allen Nicholas, reader

*Hymn #115 ~ *“Away in a Manger”*

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20 ~ Ric Barsy, reader

*Hymn #113 ~ *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

Seventh Lesson: John 1:14

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

“All Belong Here”~ (L. Rand/H. Rand) as recorded by The Many
*Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.
At this table come as you are, broken and bleeding’s ok.
At this table eat and be filled, come and drink in this grace.
Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.*

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper ~ *responsive*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn #122 ~ *“Silent Night, Holy Night!”* with candle lighting.

*Benediction- Friends as you go forth from this place tonight, tomorrow and in the days to come, always remember these words from John 1:5:

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”

Postlude

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#505455650

St. Paul’s will be closed on December 25, 26, and 27, 2023 and January 1 and 2, 2024.

**Newly elected officers will be installed and reception of a new member on
Sunday, January 14, 2024.**

From Pastor Nate...Announcing the birth of Jude Arnold Achterhof

December 16, 2023 at 9:49AM ~ 8lbs.12oz; 20.25 in.

Katie and I have started a meal train. Link: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/gkk82m>

The **Christmas Eve Offering**, along with the offering at Thanksgiving, supports the ministries of the **Board of Deacons**. A designated envelope was provided in your packet. **PLEASE** make your check payable to **THE BOARD OF DEACONS** as their account is separate from St. Paul's.

Thank you!

ALL offerings and special donations to be credited and deposited for 2023 **must be received no later than December 28.** There is a secure mailbox at the church where donations can be dropped off. **REMINDER: ALL** donations to the Board of Deacons or the Foundation must be made by separate check payable directly to the Deacons or Foundation. **Their accounts are SEPARATE from the St. Paul's accounts.**

THANK YOU to those who have made a 2024 Stewardship commitment. And if you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider making a pledge as soon as possible so that the 2024 budget may be prepared. Goal: \$225,000.00.

To date: General Fund: \$110,958.00; BIF: \$25,725.00

SOUP FOR A CHANGE to support Redford Interfaith Relief has updated their dates and menu. Copies are available on the lobby table.

Mark your calendar - All are invited to a Congregational New Year's Party on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at noon, hosted by the Board of Deacons. Please sign up in the lobby.

Please hold those listed in prayer... and REVIEW and REPORT updates, PLEASE!



Bill Garvey, Mike Graham, Janet Frank, Grace Erwin
August and Faith Kornowicz, Karen Bright, Steve Boyak, Sheldon Davis, Pam Phillips
Suzanne Tabaka, Jim Roye, Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell
Susan Grant, Bruce Phillips, Anna Richardson, Nate Statly (MSU shooting victim) ~ friend of Joey Nicholas
Kris Purdy ~ niece of Grace Erwin; Julie Newell ~ cousin of Pam Phillips
Elizabeth ~ sister-in law of Pat Garvey and Andy ~ nephew of Pat Garvey
Linda Thompson and her sister, Shirley Kircoff
Joan Velis and family; John Branch ~ father of Christie Piastowski
Dave Schulz ~ nephew of Carol and Mike Graham
Cousins of Terry Earnley and Jennifer Speiles ~ friend of Terry Earnley
Lois Wludyka and John Candiloro ~ friends of August Kornowicz
Ray and Mary Clark ~ neighbors of Don and Meta Tulley
Richard Rosenberg and Mike Hyatt ~ friends of Judy McGregor
Sarah and Mason Young ~ family of Judy McGregor
Ben Abela ~ son-in-law of August and Faith Kornowicz
Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie and Marc Whitlock
Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen, Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck
Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean
Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit; Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt

Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright; Joe Duksay ~ friend of Mike and Carol Graham
Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of the late Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Ben; Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook
Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips; Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling and Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron and Janet Frank
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon and Marion Davis