Christ Lutheran Church 1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519 Telephone 301-729-1010

Website: CLCLaVale.org

E-Mail: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

WELCOME

Announcements

Prelude "Freedom Is Coming"

Chancel Choir

* A Call to Worship

P: A voice crying in the wilderness,

C: A word needing to be heard:

P: Prepare the way.

C: Get ready all hearts,

P Create a quiet place.

C: Listen. Listen deep.

P: A voice shouting in the desert:

C: Feed the hungry, shelter the homeless,

P: Make ready the world.

C: To receive the Good News that

P: Christ is coming.

C: Rejoice!

P: Today we light the second candle on our Advent wreath. May we continue to prepare to receive Jesus this Christmas.

C: May our hearts be open to the peace and joy that Jesus brings!

* Lighting of the second Advent Candle

Hymn 257 (Verses 3-4)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Refrain

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Long-expected God,

C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.

Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. 4 You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

* Gathering Hymn 701

"Let Streams of Living Justice"

* Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Ky-ri - e

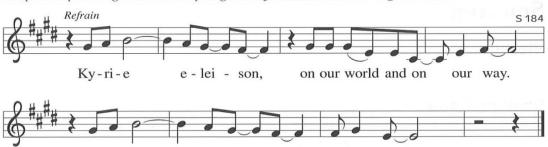
* Kyrie

(Setting 8 – Page 184)

ev-'ry

day.

A Kyrie may be sung. The assembly sings the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.



e - lei - son,

PAGE 4

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. Refrain

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. Refrain

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. Refrain

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

* Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see

or decide by what his ears hear,

- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God, and your righteousness to | the king's son;
- ² that he may rule your | people righteously and the | poor with justice;

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people, and the | hills, in righteousness.

PAGE 6

- ⁴ Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people, rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure, from one generation | to another.
- ⁶ Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field, like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
- ⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
- ¹⁸ Blessed are you, LORD God, the | God of Israel; you alone do | wondrous deeds!
- ¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious | name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen.

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might

glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,
"Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name";
PAGE 7

¹⁰ and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

¹¹ and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

12 and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles;

in him the gentiles shall hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 3:1-12*

PAGE 8

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight."

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Anthem: "Come Be Baptized" Chancel Choir

PAGE 9

The Order of Holy Baptism

The Rite of Holy Baptism

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

The presiding minister addresses candidates.

Trent & John, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support **Trent & John** and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptisms. The assembly joins in the responses. I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? Response: I renounce them.

PAGE 10

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I 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.

Thanksgiving at the Font The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PAGE 11

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Trent, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

John, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

After baptism, the assembly responds.

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays: Sustain *Trent* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

PAGE 12

Sustain *John* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. *Trent*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

John, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen**.

Welcome

Presentation of a Baptismal Candles

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Hymn 451

"We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus"

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord

Organ Voluntary

Anthem Chancel Choir

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

(During Anthem)

PAGE 13

* Offertory Prayer

L: Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

C: Amen.

* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

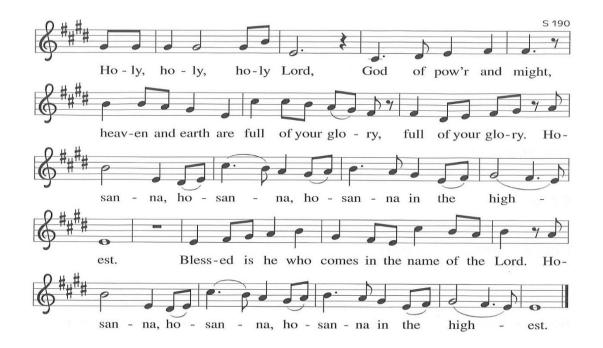
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

* (Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 8 – Page 190)



PAGE 14

* The Words of Institution

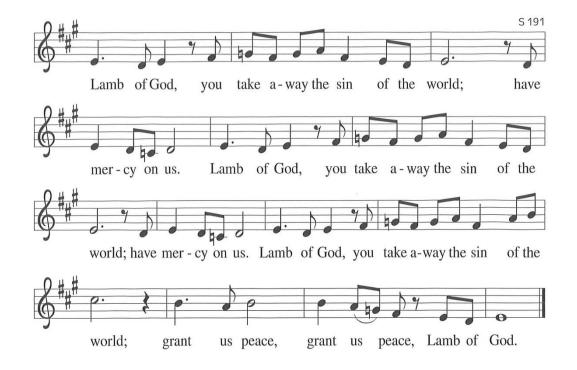
* The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

* P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised. C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

(Setting 8 – Page 191)



PAGE 15

Distribution of the Sacrament

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: May God who comes among us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

* Sending Hymn 249

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

The December Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in memory of Terry's birthday and in honor of Sofia Rose's 2^{nd} birthday by Sherry Tedrow.

Noisy Offering – We received \$284.35. We thank everyone for their generosity. The funds will be sent to the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and earmarked for flood disaster relief in Allegany and Garrett Counties.

Bible Studies - The God and Suffering on **Thursday mornings at 10:30am**. This is also on Zoom! Please come join us! *No Sunday morning Bible studies for the next two weeks due to other events*.

Please pick-up your Advent devotionals on the table in the main narthex.

Please support our Christmas Bazaar Reach Meal fundraiser. It will be held in our fellowship hall on Saturday December 13, 2025 from 10 AM-3PM. There will be small business vendors here with their handmade items for sale. Laura Crabtree is coordinating this event for us.

We will also have a food vendor here and an auction table with many items. If you would like to donate a food, craft, or service for the auction please contact Diane Klinetob (240-580-0431) by calling or texting. If you plan to donate, please notify me by Dec. 8th. Your item(s) need to be at church by December 12th. (See poster in bulletin)

Joy Group will be going to Oscar's Restaurant on Wednesday, December 10th for 12Noon for a Christmas get together. Please call Diane Klinetob (240-580-0431)

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, December 7 – Anne DeVaughn Wednesday, December 10 –Jeff Smith Next Sunday, December 14 – Gary Llewellyn Next Wednesday, December 17 – Paul Chiarenza

Dec. Ushers: Ed & Lita Havens Organist: Rae Ann Smith A/V –Kathy, Dave, Mark, Joyce

Today Sunday, December 7th immediately following the service you are invited to stay for a light lunch in honor of our new baptized members followed by Hanging of the Greens. We will be decorating the Christmas tree, the sanctuary and the narthex. During lunch you will be invited to participate in some Christmas trivia and as we decorate the building will be filled with the music of the season. Please join your fellow congregation members as we celebrate the season.

This week -

This Sunday – Worship at 10:00am followed light lunch and Hanging of the Greens.

Monday – Executive – 5:30pm, Full Council – 6:30pm

Wednesday – Joy Group 12Noon at Oscar's

Advent Service – 6:30pm

Chancel Choir rehearsal – 7:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30pm

Friday – Diane's Music Class – 11:00am

Saturday – Reach Meal Fundraising – Vendor Sale by Laura Crabtree 10:00am-3:00pm Next Sunday – Worship at 10:00am followed light lunch and play – 12:30pm.

END OF THE YEAR CHANGE: You have previously been notified that the CLC reimbursement policy is that receipts for committee expenses <u>must be submitted by the 15th of the month following the date of the receipt in order to be reimbursed.</u> As the end of the year approaches, our financial team needs to close out our books in a timely manner. To that end, we are asking that <u>any expenses made in December 2025 MUST</u>

be submitted by January 5, 2026 (NOT the 15th). Please make note of and adhere to this request for a shortened timeline. If you know of someone who has made purchases for your committee, please forward this information to the respective individual(s). We appreciate your cooperation and compliance. Thank you, Sally Buser, CLC Council Secretary

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – November 30, 2025

A 1 1 CCC 16

(\$ 10.878.06)

Attendance In-Person	10:00am = 58	Adult SCS – 16		
Zoom 1	10:00am = 11	Thurs. Bible Study – None		
Wed. Dec 3 In-Person	6:30 pm = 16			
Zoom 6:	30pm = 6			
BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025		BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-NOV 2025		
Received $= 2$,	,567.00	Actual Income = \$185,750.87		
Needed weekly = $\frac{4}{9}$,044.04	Actual Expenses = $(196,628.93)$		

Braddock Middle School Student Gift Ideas

Comfort & Cozy Items

Blankets, robes, slippers, fun socks

(1,477.04)

• Cozy wear (beanies, gloves, etc.)

Au 1 I D 10.00 50

Crocs & similar styles

Toys, Activities & Creative Items

- Fidget toys (quiet only; Needoh preferred brand)
- Board & card games
- Lego sets
- Coloring books with colored pencils
- Journals with color pens
- Crafting kits

Body Care & Personal Items

- Body care sets:
 - o **Boys:** Old Spice, Dove Men, Axe
 - o Girls: Dove Crumbl, Tree Hut, Bodycology
- Hair claws
- Water bottles
- Headphones

Room & Decor

- Light-up décor such as string/rope lights or signs
- Bluetooth speakers
- Projector lights/lamps

Snacks & Treats

- Candy: Nerd Gummy Clusters, Fun Dip, Ring Pops, gummy candies, Airheads
- Snacks: Takis, chips, Goldfish
- But truly all snacks are popular!

Thank you sincerely for supporting our students!

The Christ Lutheran Players present....

Operation: Whispering Pines

Sunday, December 14th at 12:30pm in the Christ Lutheran Fellowship Hall

We'll enjoy a light lunch after church, and then the show.

Whispering Pines is a small, homey assisted living facility, but for how long? Upon the death of the owner, the facility has passed to his daughter who is determined to unload this "albatross." She has lined up buyers but there's only one problem – or really, six problems – the current residents.

Together they agree they are not going out without a fight! Knowing the new owner must find another facility to take them in, they come up with an elaborate scheme to ensure not one else will accept them. Can they pull off a Christmas miracle, or will it backfire? Will they lose their "family of friends?"

Bring a friend to church and share lunch and a fun holiday story with them!

CHRISTMAS Poinsettias

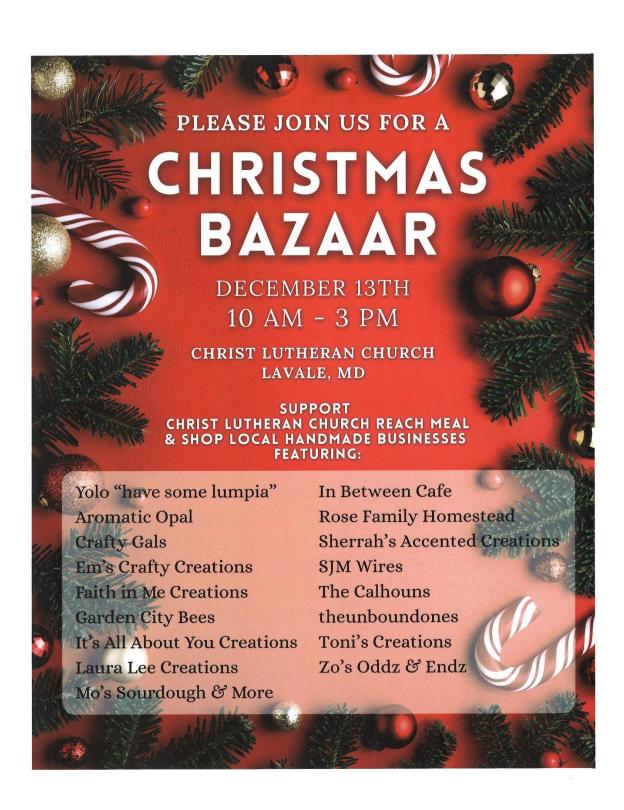
6 INCH POT - \$13.00

Orders must be received by Dec. 18th.

Please print names exactly as you wish them to appear in bulletin. Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Place payment in the white envelope along with this form and mark it "Poinsettia". You may place the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church office.

Flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve. You may pick up your flowers to take home after the service Christmas Eve.

IN HONOR	 	 	
IN MEMORY	 	 	
ВҮ			



PRAYER LIST FOR DECEMBER 7, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS
Laura Murray
Anna Bruck
Jane Miller
Jack Zealand
Ed Havens

Bill & MarySue Crawford

Gail Dawson

Mitzie & Jerry Robinette

Patty Wilson Clem Dawson Dave & Lisa Ahern Kim Shoemaker Fay Crawford David LaBuda

Rosey & Becky McIntyre Jonathan and Danielle Ahern

Tammy Faulkner Pam & Dave Judy David Tibbetts Joyce DeMonbrun Kathy Powell Sharon McKenzie Mary Lou Rowles PRAYER RECIPIENT Requested by

Christina Puffinburger Elwood & Janet Glass
Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom Gail Dawson
Barbara Williams Sharon M

Barbara Williams Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters Dianne Short

Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons. Amy, Jacie Fairall Barb Simmons

Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert
Elise & Henry Jack Balber
Cheryl Trusler
Cheri Bielen
Jane Miller

Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose Diane

Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford Diane K

Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson Antoinette Royster

Bob Aman, Susie Spiker, Joan Beal
Gretchen Burke
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets
Andy Cocco
Shirley & Jim Smith
Val & Gary Llewellyn
Dave Tibbetts
John Cocco

Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann Lita Havens

Dan Carr, Matt Doman Steven Hansrote
Michele Jones, Lois Shunk Sherry T

Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane Kristan Fazenbaker

Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane
Mary Lou Dorsey
Vic Werner
Belinda Keller
Barbara Blough
Kristan Fazenbaker
Trina Firey
Barbara Martin
Linda McCagh
Janice & Dave LaBuda

Galen Dean Krepps Lisa Ahern

Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg
Breanna Brown
Kamryn Rice
Patty Wilson and Rosey
Debbie Fornwalt
Corinna Hilderbrand

Candy Heverly Charlotte Luy

Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu L. Marchini

Please keep us updated

- -the family of Suszie Defibaugh (sister of Mitzie Robinette)
- -all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- -all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- -all elected officials
- -those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025