

**CHILDREN'S PAGEANT**  
**'A Very Special Night'**

**Mifflin Avenue and South Avenue United Methodist Churches**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

'Away in a Manger'

Children's Choir

Angel 1... ..Emmelia Gaebel  
Angel 2... ..Eliana Gaebel  
Mary.....Lucy Lordon  
Joseph.....Kevin Lordon  
Inn Keeper.....Alexander Gaebel

**December 29, 2024**



MINISTRY OF MUSIC

'Away in a Manger'

Children's Choir

\*BENEDICTION

Remember:  
God is *with* you,  
God is *for* you,  
God refuses to be God without you.  
And may all of God's people say: **Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'The First Noel'

No. 245 (Refrain only)

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

No. 251 (Refrain Only)

\*POSTLUDE

***WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD***

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

Pastor Russel's contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072

Email: [Shulugarussel@gmail.com](mailto:Shulugarussel@gmail.com)

Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

**ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30AM**

**CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING**

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

CENTERING WORDS

For the joy of God's presence changing and renewing us day by day we offer you our praise.  
For the blessing Jesus brings us and the outpouring of his love day by day we offer you our praise.  
For the gift of the Holy Spirit and the gift of peace beyond understanding day by day we offer our praise

PRELUDE

## CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

### OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Hark! the Herald Angels Sing'

No. 240

### CALL TO WORSHIP

**Pastor:** We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait.

**People:** **We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Pastor:** We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

**People:** **We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Pastor:** We join generations of Simeons and Annas who learned and taught us how to listen, notice, and discern divine love at work in the world.

**People:** **We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Pastor:** Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

### OPENING PRAYER

**Light of life, you came in flesh, born into human pain and joy, and gave us power to be your children. Grant us faith, O Christ, to see your presence among us, so that all of creation may sing new songs of gladness and walk in the way of peace. Amen**

### INTROIT

'Infant Holy, Infant Lowly'

No. 229

### BIBLE PRESENTATION

Alexander Kurt Gaebel

Alexander is the son of Melanie and Kurt Gaebel. He is the grandson of Hope Gaebel and the late Tom Gaebel and Russel Shuluga and the late Nancy Shuluga. Alexander is a third grader in the Baldwin-Whitehall School District. Congratulations Alexander!

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us prepare to enter the New Year with hearts that have been unburdened, and let us make our confession before God and one another.

### GENERAL CONFESSION

**Pastor:** We pause O God to look over the past year - a year in which you were with us - but we were not always with you.

**All:** **Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

### SILENT CONFESSION

**Pastor:** Forgive us Lord and lead us into the New Year in holiness and righteousness.

**People:** **We ask this that we might be a people pleasing unto you, a people who allow your light to shine in the darkness and who bring praise and glory unto your name. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**Pastor:** Rejoice and be glad! You are forgiven. For everyone who asks, receives; and those who seek, find, for the one who was born in Bethlehem and who was crucified in Jerusalem lives and intercedes for us before God.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'O Little Town of Bethlehem'

No. 230 V. 3

***O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.***

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As a sign of our reconciliation to God and to one other, we greet one another with a sign of peace. May the peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### THE LORD'S OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### \*DOXOLOGY

To the Tune "What Child Is This"

No. 219

***"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary."***

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of generosity, may your peace and your love seep into our hearts and our offerings that we might become shining examples of your light in a dark and hurting world. Thank you for your many gifts— this gift of community, the enthusiasm for learning, the power of generosity, and the gift of love. May our gifts and our very lives bring your blessings to the world. Amen.