



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

St. Louis, Missouri 63125-5409

314-892-5610 peacelutheranstl.org

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:00, 9:20, & 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Jon C. Furgeson, Senior Pastor, 314-601-1039

Rev. Robert M. Brown, Associate Pastor, 618-580-8817

The Rev. Dr. Dennis A. Kastens, Pastor Emeritus

Burnell L. Hackman, Director of Music Ministry

Christina Stackle, Director of Christian Education

Sue Velten, Director of Early Childhood

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Divine Service, Setting Three

WELCOME TO PEACE! If you are a guest, please fill out the Visitor side of one of the attendance cards found in the pew rack. Let us know if you would like us to contact you. We are happy to have you worshipping with us today!

CHRIST'S BODY AND BLOOD, for the forgiveness of sins, are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine in the Sacrament of the Altar. Due to theological differences among Christians regarding this Supper, only confirmed members of an LCMS church are invited to the Lord's table. Ask a pastor if you have questions! Please register your taking of communion on your attendance card.

P = Pastor

* = Stand

C = Congregation

Opening Voluntary

*Opening Hymn

LSB 389 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
△ 7 Your grace in low - li - ness re - vealed, Lord Je - sus,



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
we a - dore And praise to God the Fa - ther yield And

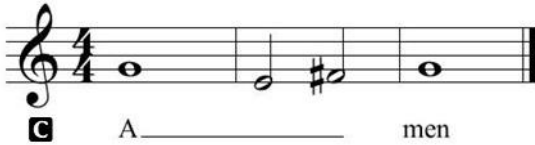


give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
Spir - it ev - er - more; We praise You ev - er - more.

*Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



*Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10

- P** The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- C** **Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**
- P** The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- C** **He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
- P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

*Confession and Absolution

- P** People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned in thought, in word, and in deed. So often we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask for the grace and forgiveness that we know to be ours in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us, heavenly Father, to change what is sinful in our lives so that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P** God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.



*Hymn of Praise

LSB 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
4 A thou-sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,
6 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
Be Thou our guard while trou-bles last And our e - ter - nal home!

*Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray. . .



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. ¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,

crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

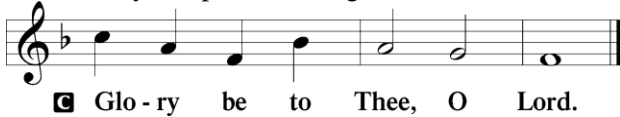
***Alleluia**



***Holy Gospel**

Luke 2:22–40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of The Day

LSB 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord





Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

Sermon

“God, King, Savior, Brother”

(Galatians 4:4-7)

Sermon Notes:

Gathering of the Offering *Please fill out an attendance card and place in the offering plate*

***Offertory**



***Prayer of the Church**

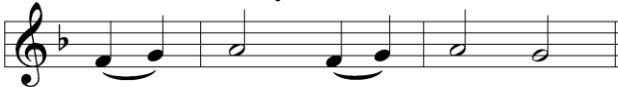
*Lord's Prayer

C 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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*Preface

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

*Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord. You have called us through the waters of Holy Baptism and welcomed us to Your Table of grace. As we rejoice in the salvation won for us by our Savior, strengthen us to heed always the call to share the Gospel message in our times and days with the generations yet to come that Your praise may echo until the end of time and the start of eternity. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore praising you and singing:

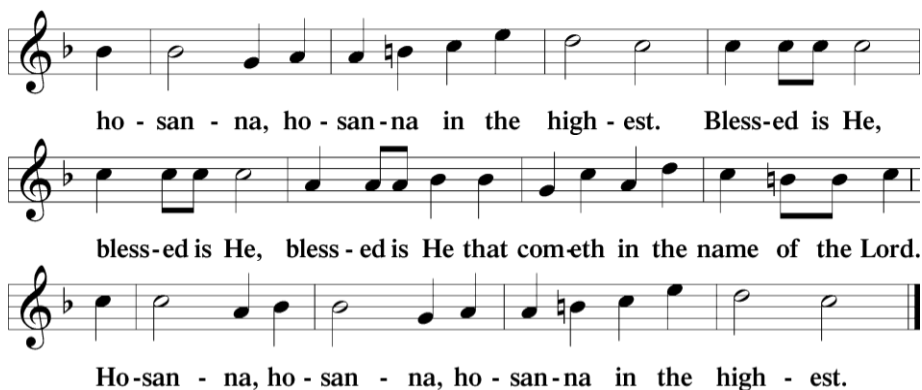
*Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,




ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

*The Words of Our Lord

*Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

*Agnus Dei



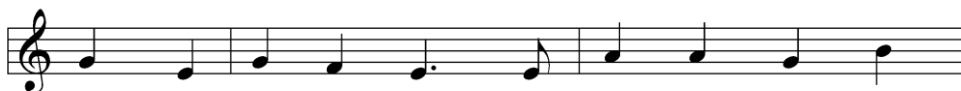
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymn

LSB 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

- 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
 There you will find the infant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

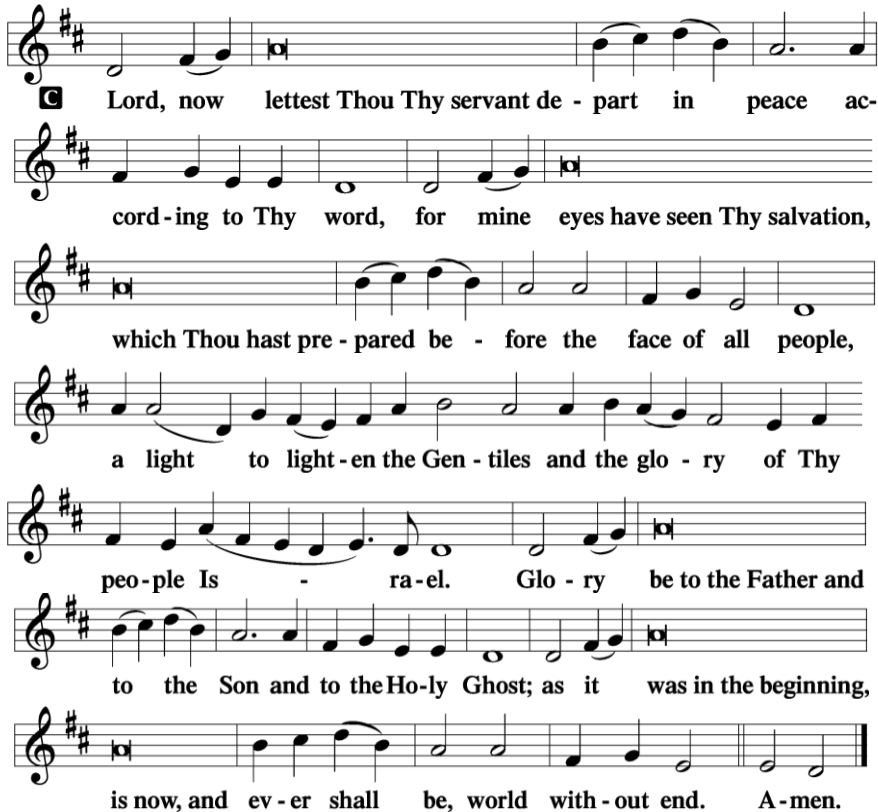
Organ interlude

- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go
 To see what God for us has done In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what in the manger lies.
 Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
 You came to share my misery That You might share Your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though You created all, How weak You are, so poor and small,
 That You should choose to lay Your head Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair And set with gold and jewels rare,
 It would be far too poor and small A cradle for the Lord of all.

Organ interlude

- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great, To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases You to see This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n, Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

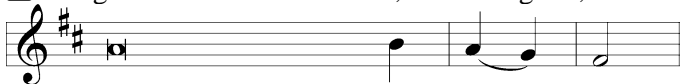
***Nunc Dimittis**



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

*Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. . .



C A - men.

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

*Benedicamus

P Bless we the Lord.



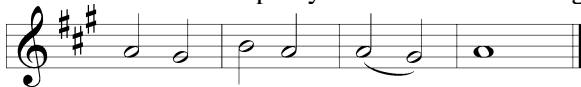
C Thanks be to God.

*Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Hymn to Depart

LSB 390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - jice, His own Son hath giv - en.
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.
There - fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

***Silent Prayer**

Closing Voluntary

Acknowledgments

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP:

Preacher: Pastor Jon Furgeson

Liturgist: Pastor Robert Brown; Communion Assistant: 5:00: Pastor Dennis Kastens

Organist: 5:00 & 8:00: Michelle Sliger; 9:20 & 10:30: Kendra Ruesler

KFUO AM 850 Announcer/Audio Engineer/Video Engineer: M. Thiel/J. Mattingly/B. Hentchel

Elders: 5:00: Steve Kienstra, Greg Wirtel; 8:00: Kyle Hopfer, John Roesch;

9:20: Aaron Baese, Mark Maloy; 10:30: John Rastorfer, Steve Shawcross

Ushers: 5:00: Steve Kienstra, Tim Behnke, Art Conrad, Charles Rolf, Roger Uhlig;

8:00: Barry Hammon, Aidan Furgeson, Ian Furgeson, Alex Jeffcott, Jack Jeffcott, Chuck Neff, Mike Suda; 9:20: John Wiesehan, Mark Dowell, Jim Huettenmeyer, Jim Johnson, Jacob Schweiss; 10:30: Darrell Ewald, Jeremiah Andrews, Dave Carlson, Joseph Kreidler, Mark Maloy, Brett Santiago, Joe Santiago, Mike Yaeger

Acolytes: 8:00: Joey Burgess, Bryce Chitwood; 10:30: Teddy Herold, Keaton Schmitt

Greeters: 8:00: Mary Suda; 9:20: Heather Carlson; 10:30: Kelly Pfund

Altar Committee: Tammy Goodman, Jeanette Mattingly

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS now adorn our Sanctuary. A list of those who purchased poinsettias are displayed in the Commons. Poinsettias will be available for pick up after January 7.

PLEASE NOTE: We will not be having a New Year's Eve evening service this evening.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN MAILBOXES Please note that envelope numbers have been reassigned for 2024. Beginning January 1, please discard all prior year envelopes, and begin using your new 2024 envelopes. If you didn't receive envelopes, and would like to have a box, or if you received envelopes, but do not use physical envelopes for giving, please contact the church office.

SAVE THE DATE – A NIGHT FOR OUR VIKINGS The biennial Dinner Auction for Green Park Lutheran School is Friday, March 8, 2024, at Royale Orleans. For more information about tickets, sponsorships, and more, visit greenparklutheralschool.org/auction/.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME this Wednesday, January 3, continuing the study on the book of Genesis.

THE LIFE MINISTRY TEAM WILL BE TRAINING NEW MEMBERS and would like to invite anyone interested in joining the team. They sponsor various (Life Affirming) activities with the congregation: Sanctity of Life Sunday, Homebound Cards, Life Chain, Book Club, Cards for Confirmands, Movie Nights, and many more. If interested in joining this ministry team, contact Steve Andrews.

FAMILY SKATING PARTY is this Tuesday, January 2, 10:00 a.m. to noon. Join us at Rock Roll-O-Rena in Arnold for a fun morning of skating. The event is FREE and is for all families. Sign up online or at the Commons Counter. See Christina Stackle for more information.

A SIX-WEEK NEW MEMBER CLASS BEGINS Sunday, January 21, noon to 1:30 p.m. in Sanctuary Hall. A light lunch is provided each week. To register, please visit our website or the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board across from the gym. Questions? Contact the church office.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT OUR LIVESTREAM SERVICE Beginning next weekend, our Sunday morning worship service will no longer be livestreamed. Instead, the service will be recorded and available for viewing on our YouTube Channel by noon that day.

PEACE MARRIED COUPLES CLUB FAMILY GAME NIGHT AND POTLUCK is Saturday, January 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the Kitchen Meeting Room. Please bring a main dish, or a salad, or a vegetable, or a dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. RSVP to Gina Werkmeister no later than January 11.

BABY BOY COLLECTION SHOWER begins today for our Deaconess Intern, Abby Reynolds, and her husband, Aaron, who had a baby boy, Ezra John, on December 20. Items will be collected until January 21. If you would like to donate, place gift items in the Pack-n-Play in the Commons. Suggested items include diapers, wipes, blankets, burp cloths, etc. If you would like to visit Abby's baby registry, it can be found at <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/abby-reynolds-january-2024-saintlouis/3O1BSKHJFK8P0%0A>, or if you would prefer to give a monetary donation or gift card, please place those donations in the collection box next to the Pack-n-Play. For more information, contact the church office.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

Sunday, December 31: 4:30pm – Cooper/Schaefer Wedding
NO NEW YEAR’S EVE SERVICE

Monday, January 1: NEW YEAR’S DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, January 2: 9:00am – Quilters
9:00am – Plastic Mat Making
9:00am – Refit Exercise Class
10:00am – Family Roller Skating
6:00pm – Co-Ed Volleyball
7:00pm – Southside Dart Ball League

Wednesday, January 3: 9:30am – Banner Committee
7:00pm – Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Thursday, January 4: 7:00am – Men’s Morning Bible Study
9:00am – Mary Martha Bible Study
6:00pm – Crossfire Volleyball
7:00pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 5: 5:00pm – Couples Club Board Meeting

Sunday, January 7: 11:30am – Life Ministry
6:00pm – Pickleball Open Play