

## **Bendersville Lutheran Parish**

**St. James**  
Wenksville  
8:25 am

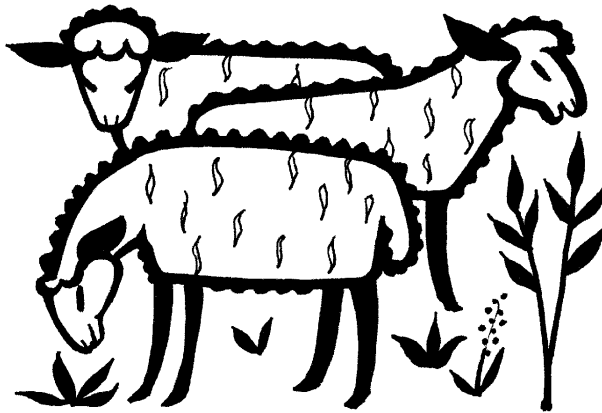
**Christ**  
Aspers  
9:45 am

**Bethlehem**  
Bendersville  
11:00 am

*"We are rooted in scripture, watered in baptism and fed by communion. Our mission is to connect with God in community as we care for one another. Our vision is to bear fruit in the Upper Adams community by showing Jesus' love to our neighbors, planting seeds of kindness, service and hope, trusting the Holy Spirit to grow this fruit in surprising ways."*

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

• May 11, 2025 •



### **Parish Office:**

126 Church St. • P.O. Box 449  
Bendersville, PA 17306-0449  
Office Phone: (717) 677-9880  
Office email:  
3churches@bendersvillelutheranparish.com

### **The Rev. Susan E. Scott:**

Phone: (717) 497-1013  
Email:  
pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com

**[www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com](http://www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com)**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN: “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” LBW 535**

**\*GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE: “This Is the Feast”**



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



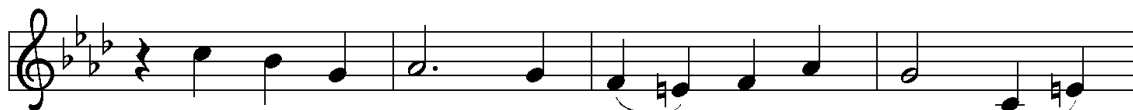
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



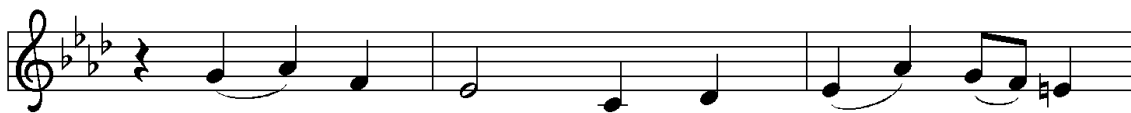
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** **O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## **FIRST READING:**

**Acts 9:36-43**

*The First Reading is from Acts, the ninth chapter.*

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM:

## Psalm 23

L: The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**C: The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

L: You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**C: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## SECOND READING:

## Revelation 7:9-17

*The Second Reading is from Revelation, the seventh chapter.*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand.)*

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**\*GOSPEL:**

**John 10:22-30**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the tenth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**SERMON**

Pastor Susan E. Scott

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “The Lord’s My Shepherd”**

**LBW 451**

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**



**God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer  
for the church, the world, and all who are in need.**

*A brief silence.*

- P: You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- P: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- P: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- P: You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially those on our prayer list and those we silently name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- P: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- P: You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, especially Sally Gardner, Alice Hair, James Taylor, and Robert Wetzels, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

## PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN: *"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"*

ELW 860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le-lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.



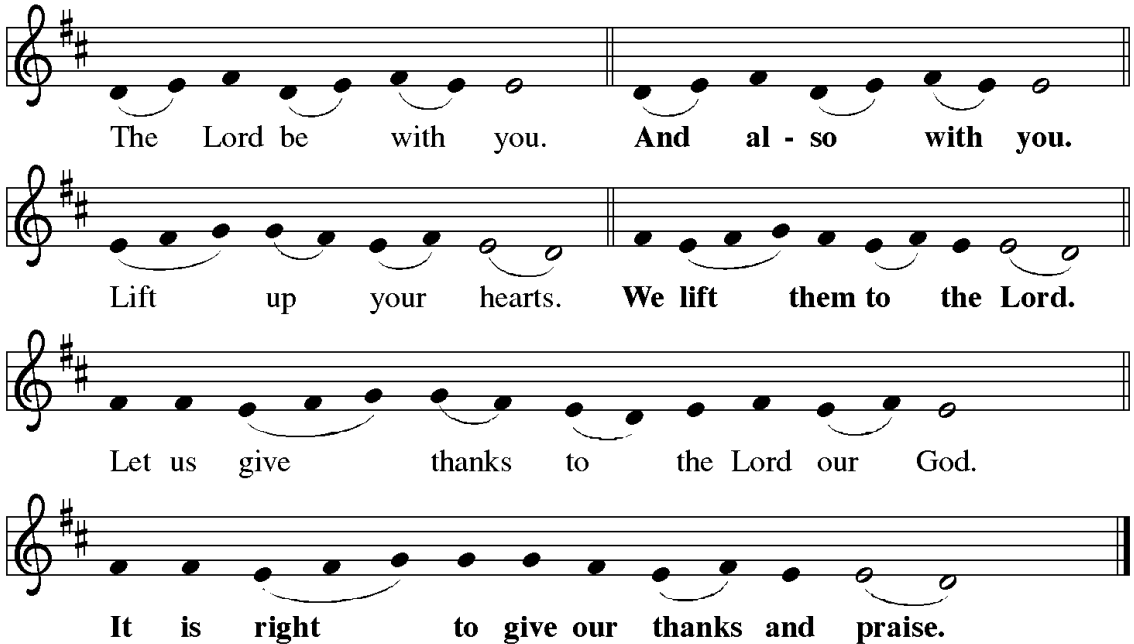
## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray.

Risen One,  
you have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.  
Come among us again, breathe your life into us,  
and enliven us with this meal,  
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

**C:** Amen.

## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

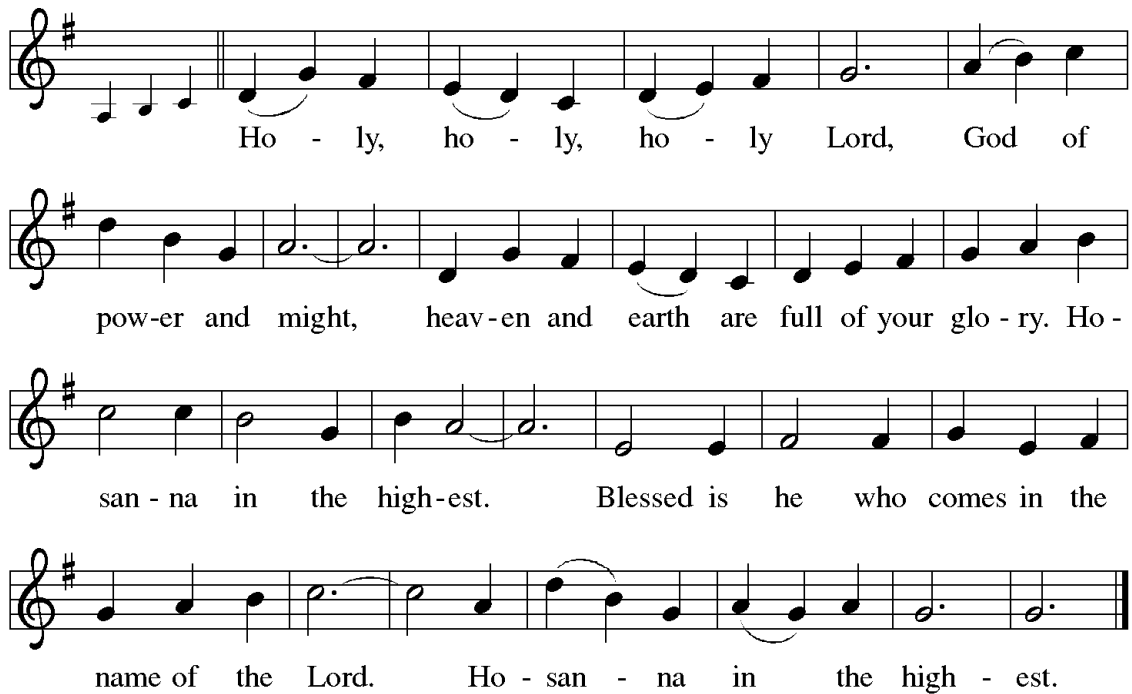
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**PREFACE** *(sung by the pastor)*

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: O God most mighty ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **[Amen.]**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **[Amen.]**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **[Amen.]**

P: O God, you are Breath ... life in you, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray ...*

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace.  
Receive the gift of new life.

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All who wish to encounter Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to the Table. As directed, please come forward. The elements will be given by Pastor Susan or the Communion Assistant. If you would like a verbal blessing only, please let the Pastor know. Holy Communion may also be received at your seat. Just inform the Pastor or usher. The elements will be partaken at the Pastor's or Communion Assistant's direction:*

***The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.***

## COMMUNION HYMN: *“Lamb of God”*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN: *“I Love to Tell the Story”*

LBW 390

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

**\*POST-COMMUNION**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**





## **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Living One,  
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
Send us now to tell of your wonders,  
sing of your glory,  
and proclaim your risen life  
to a wounded and weary world.

C: **Amen.**

## **\*BLESSING**

P: The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

C: **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: “*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*”**

**LBW 315**

## **\*DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **\*POSTLUDE**

# • MAY 2025 •

SUN. May 11	MON. May 12	TUES. May 13	WED. May 14	THURS. May 15	FRI. May 16	SAT. May 17
<b>8:25 am:</b> St. James  <b>9:45 am:</b> Christ  <b>11:00 am:</b> Bethlehem  <i>Birthday:</i> <b>Brian Kuhn</b>  <i>"Happy Mother's Day!"</i>	<b>1:00 to 3:00 pm:</b> New Hope Ministries (Bethlehem)  <b>7:00 pm:</b> Council Meeting (Bethlehem)  <i>Anniversary:</i> <b>Adam &amp; Heather Clapsadl</b>	<b>7:00 pm:</b> Worship & Music Committee Meeting (Bethlehem)          	<b>7:00 pm:</b> Bible Study (Bethlehem)  • Hosea • 6-10  <i>Birthday:</i> <b>Jonathan 'J.J.' Lang</b>	<i>Birthday:</i> <b>Hunter Taylor</b>		<i>Anniversary:</i> <b>James &amp; Kelly Lang</b>
SUN. May 18	MON. May 19	TUES. May 20	WED. May 21	THURS. May 22	FRI. May 23	SAT. May 24
<b>8:25 am:</b> St. James  <b>9:45 am:</b> Christ  <b>11:00 am:</b> Bethlehem  <i>Anniversary:</i> <b>Tony &amp; Bev Bretzman</b>		<b>7:00 pm:</b> Knit/Crochet Ministry (Bethlehem)  <i>Birthday:</i> <b>Roger Chronister</b>  <b>Judy Staley</b>	<b>7:00 pm:</b> Bible Study (Bethlehem)  • Hosea • 11-14	<i>Birthday:</i> <b>Shelvey Dugan</b>	<i>Birthday:</i> <b>Christine Ascencio</b>	<b>1:30 pm:</b> Memorial Day Service (Wenksville Cemetery)  <i>Anniversary:</i> <b>Larry &amp; Francene Gantz</b>

## ON-LINE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is livestreamed on YouTube at 11 AM on our Bendersville Lutheran Parish channel (this info can also be found on our website – [www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com](http://www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com)).

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### Lector

J Bettina McBeth  
C Larry Gantz  
B Jeanette Schachle

### Greeters/Ushers

—  
—  
Tony & Bev Bretzman

### Altar Guild

Harold & Kathy Stoner  
Deb & Dave Copenhaver  
Kathy Singley



## ALTAR FLOWERS

• St. James, Christ & Bethlehem •

*To the Glory of God*



## OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL NEEDS

Pastor Susan has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 pm at the Parsonage. You are welcome to stop by the Parsonage to visit. Her official day off is Friday, but she is available for pastoral emergencies.

For all your pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Susan Scott by phone/text at 717-497-1013 or email [pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com).



## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:

## **PARISH JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE**

• **SUNDAY, MAY 25th** •

**10:00 am**

**At: St. James Lutheran Church, Wenksville**

## **WEEKLY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

As a reminder, items for the bulletin should be received at the church office by Wednesday noon for that week's Sunday Bulletin.



## **Prayer List - Parish Members**

Adam & Laura Albright b  
Dixie Atha c  
Tony Bretzman b  
Dolly Chronister c  
Mary Chronister b  
Patsy Gochenauer j

Wahnetta Harvey c  
Harold Heller j  
Linda Heller j  
Lois Rinehart b  
Mike Rinehart b  
Alan Showers j

Bill Slaybaugh j  
Rhonda Slaybaugh c  
Dan Turner c  
Mike Wolfe c

## **Friends of the Parish**

Douglas Barbour  
Adam Black  
Jeff Black  
Tracy Brandt  
Bev Bretzman  
Nathan Bretzman  
Valerie Bushey  
June Cline  
Nancy Cline  
Nicole Cline  
Dick Cook  
Carl Corl

Jeanne Cuttitta  
Peter Cuttitta  
Bonnie DeHaven  
Diane Fetters  
John Gantz  
Galen Hartz  
Cody Johnson  
Susanna Kidwell  
Deb Litten  
Nicole Mackey  
Barbara Mahoney  
Emily Maiolo

Doug Miller  
Glenn Mulvey  
Diane Myers  
Zach Pelc  
Brian Reed  
Maurine Rickard  
Ginny Rinehart  
Vera Sprenkle  
Robert Tate  
Laurie Weikert  
Marlea Williams

## ***With Deepest Sympathy***

*We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have  
died in the faith and who are now at rest with their eternal Father  
(our saints who have gone before us).*

*Sally Gardner, Alice Hair, James Taylor, and Robert Wetzel*