

# Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

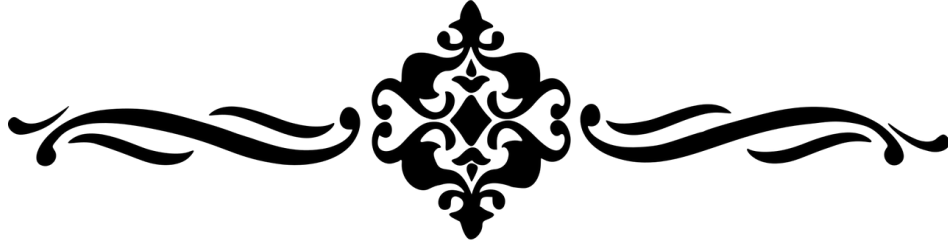


## Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack  
716-848-9683

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 25, 2025

The Prelude  
The Greetings



Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come. **Amen.**

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ.  
Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

*Silence for Prayer & Confession*

God our helper,  
**we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news. **Amen.**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

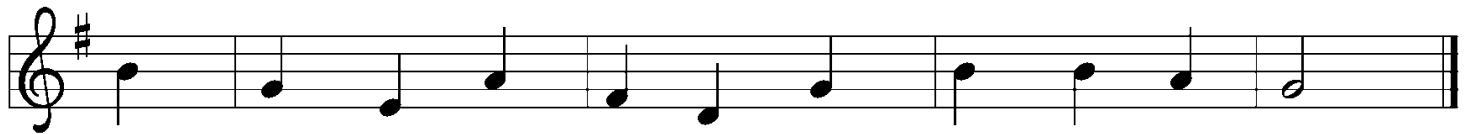
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO. Welsh traditional



## The Prayer of the Day

**Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## The First Reading Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67  
*Read Responsively*

May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

**Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations on earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

**The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.





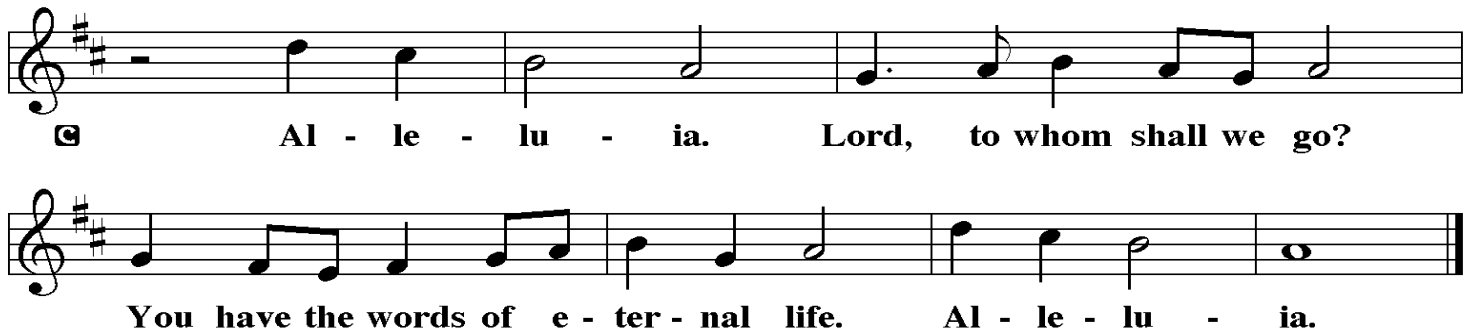
## Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.



## The Alleluia



## The Gospel Reading John 14:23-29 **Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

The Sermon  
Rev. Jamie Retallack

*Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes*

1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be - stows;  
2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel - comes and fare - wells;



Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre - cious blood;  
and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour.



peace in him for sin - ners found is the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
Peace be with you, full and free, now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt.  
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887





## Prayers of Intercession

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.*

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors (specific partners may be named here), that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling (especially Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb, Kelly R., Luke Roller and Kathy Snyder). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ (especially). Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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. **Amen.**

## The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
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. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the Church

**Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

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. **Amen.**

## The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## The Offering

### The Offertory Hymn



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

### The Offertory Prayer

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. **Amen.**



The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

## The Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## The 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. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## The Invitation

### The Lamb of God



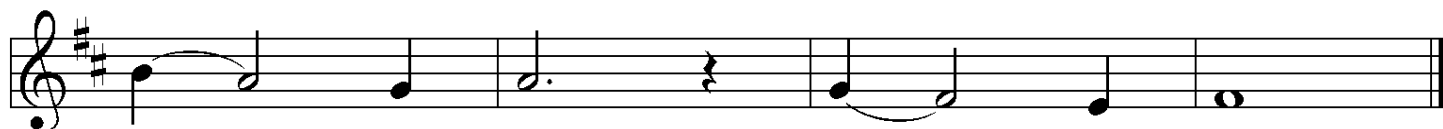
**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**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 Music  
LBW 212, WOV 709

## The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## The 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.**

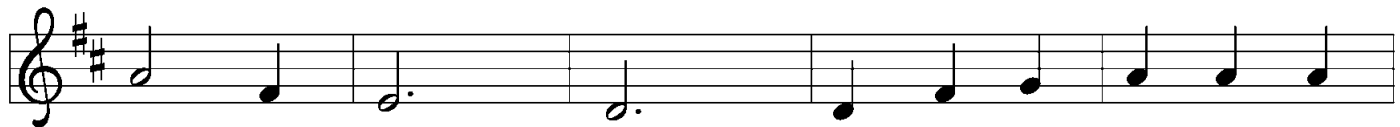
## The Sending Prayer

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. **Amen.**

## The Benediction

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

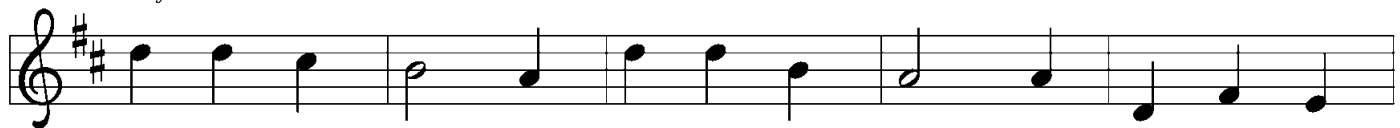
1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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## The Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## The People of St. John's Welcome You for Worship Today!

If you would like a **pastoral visit** for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

### Office Hours:

Melissa will have office hours here in Lancaster on Mon, Wed, and Thurs, from 10am to 3pm.

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb, Kelly R., Luke Roller and Kathy Snyder.

### Quarterly Statements are available upon request.

If you would like to receive quarterly statements in the mail, please sign up, or let the office know.

### QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to **St. John's donation page** where you can make a one-time or recurring **offering!** Thank you for giving!



**Altar Guild:** RaeAnn Jakubowski & Timmy Gierlinger

**Deacon:** RaeAnn Jakubowski

**Ushers:** Rich Rice & Janet Sincebaugh

**BOOK CLUB:**

Please join us at the Conference Table downstairs in the Chapel Hall at St. John's Lancaster (using the ramp entrance) on Wednesday, June 11th at 1:00 PM to discuss the novel, KILLS WELL WITH OTHERS, by Deanna Raybourn.

**Altar Flower Arrangements**

are \$30 (for 2). To dedicate flowers use the envelopes provided in church or contact the church office by phone (716-683-8972) or email (stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com). Dedications must be submitted by the Monday before the dedication date.

**Available Altar Flower Dates:**

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available for **Communion**

**Offering:** 5/18/25 - \$ 1956.00

**GOT SNEAKERS???** Guiding Eyes for the Blind is having a sneaker drive with a sneaker recycling organization called GotSneakers. If you would like to help, please bring in your used/old sneakers and deposit them in the receptacle in the Fellowship Hall marked GotSneakers? Thank you!

The Elma and Lancaster **Women's Fellowship Lunch** will be @ 11:30am on Wednesday June 11th @ Olive Tree. Please sign up or contact Bev Hess by Sunday June 8th.



# THIS WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

## SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
BIBLE STUDY	9:00AM	MEMORIAL LOUNGE
JOYSINGERS	9:30AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
IN PERSON/ ONLINE SERVICE	10:00AM	SANCTUARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:00AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM

## MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
MEMORIAL DAY		
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE
GUIDING EYES	4:30PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL
LYMA GOLF	5:15PM	KIS-N-GREENS ALDEN
CHORDSMEN	7:30PM	CHAPEL

## TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
ELMA OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	LANCASTER OFFICE
COUNCIL MEETING	7:00PM	CHAPEL - CONFERENCE AREA
NA MEETING	7:00PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE

## THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE
BIBLE STUDY	1:00PM	CHAPEL - CONFERENCE AREA
HANDBELL PRACTICE	6:30PM	SANCTUARY
CHOIR PRACTICE	7:30PM	CHOIR ROOM

## SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
IN PERSON SERVICE	5:30PM	CHAPEL

## SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
BIBLE STUDY	9:00AM	MEMORIAL LOUNGE
JOYSINGERS	9:30AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
IN PERSON/ ONLINE SERVICE	10:00AM	SANCTUARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:00AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
CONFIRMATION CLASS	11:00AM	

# Youth Party

Let's welcome summertime in!

**June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6-8:30pm**

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Fun & Games Inside and Outdoors

New Youth Room

Food and Beverages Provided

Seniors RSVP to Kelly (716-868-3023)



**St. John's Lutheran, 55 Pleasant Ave, Lancaster**



# St. John's Prayer Page

*We pray with confidence for:*

Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram,  
Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee  
Babirad, Sara Hermismeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno  
Konstabel, Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb,  
Kelly R., Luke Roller and Kathy Snyder

*We pray especially for:*

All affected by the Buffalo/Tops shooting (2022):  
the families of the fallen; the lives lost; the impact  
on the community. May we never forget: Aaron  
Salter, Andre Mackneil, Celestine Chaney,  
Geraldine Talley, Heyward Patterson, Katherine  
Massey, Margus Morrison, Pearl Young, Roberta  
Drury, and Ruth Whitfield.

*Whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the  
throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with  
undeserved grace, and we will find help. Hebrews 4:16 (CEV)*

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides  
an inviting environment for spreading God's Word  
through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address  
the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.  
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!*

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)  
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia  
Vicar Teresa J. O'Connor  
*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster, NY 14086  
**Office 683-8972 (Mon-Wed-Thurs 10am-3pm)**  
[www.stjohnslanc.org](http://www.stjohnslanc.org)  
[stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com)

## **Congregation Council**

Janet Sincebaugh (President)  
Carol Graham (Vice-President)  
Karen McClintock (Secretary)  
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

Pauline Bauer	Jeff Miller
Sam Gierlinger	Rich Rice
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Paul Rudz
Jamie Kloc	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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