

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 18, 2026**



**MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578
717-336-8800**

Pastor's Contact Information

Rev. Timothy L. Craven

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Director of Music

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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Fay Weitzel, Doug Leed, Shannon Brown, Ruth Hollinger, Shirley Sweigart, Mike Leed, Betty Cordes, Amy Weik, Molly Brown, Carl Mohler Jr., Jay Weaver, Dave Haldeman, Vivian Gehr, Tom Parrish Sr, Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller, Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Roy Latshaw and Marty Leed & Family.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer

Gardens at Stevens: Pat & Nevin McQuate

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen

Luther Acres Personal Care: Judy Meckley

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Priscilla, Gaile Gehman, Jimmy Vincent, Mary Stewart, Darrell Buchter, Barb Charles, Lisa Wing, Bob Farr, Mary Thorn, Cheryl Nixon, Cocalico Builders of Hope (finding a house for housing program), Carol Schaeffer, Lorna Buohl, Richard Sockriter, David Taimuty, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Doug Cody, Karen Velez, Ron Neidigh, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Bolotine, Bea Hassler (Hospice), Karen Leonhard, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Margaret Weller and Cynthia Peters.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Jack Poole, Renee Good, Sharlene Miller, Joyce Pannebecker, Barb Mertz, Beverly Sweigart, Maggie Kiralfy, Dale Firestone, Yvonne Walters, Larry Rabold, Zach Caflin, Bob Weaver, Pastor Conrad Youse, Karen Krater, Vesta Reber, Jean Shober, Joyce Boyer, Joan Wentzel, Jeff Moyer, Anna Weinhold, and Kenton Shaffer.

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

*Please stand if you are able

Ahava is playing this morning

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: Hymn #677 “*This Little Light of Mine*”

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN: #866 “*We Are Marching in the Light of God*”**

*CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

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

(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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

***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.

***THE KYRIE**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

† GOD'S WORD †

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Lay Reader (Bonnie Stafford): A reading from Isaiah the 60th chapter.

The Glory of Zion

60 ¹“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

2 See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

3 Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 "Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
5 Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
6 Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

PSALM 40:1-11



I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

¹ I waited patiently up- | on the Lord,
 who stooped to me and | heard my cry.
² The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
 and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.
³ **The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;**
 many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the Lord.
⁴ **Happy are they who trust | in the Lord!**
 They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do I not desire;

you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have I not required. R

⁷ And so I said, "Here I I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸ 'I love to do your will, I O my God;
your law is I deep within me.'"

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the I great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O I Lord, you know.

¹⁰ I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and I your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the I great assembly.

¹¹ You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually I keep me safe. R

CHILDRENS SERMON

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: *The Magi Visit the Messiah*

2 ¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem **2** and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. **5** “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

6 “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler

who will shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. **8** He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. **11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE: "The Great Epiphany Adventure"

-Pastor Tim Craven

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Lamb of God"

-Twila Paris

***THE APOSTLES CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

† Prayers of Intercession †

***P: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.**

A brief silence.

P: Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters (*current situations may be named*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness (*especially*). Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community (*local ministries may be named*). Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen

***THE PEACE**

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

C: And also with you.

*OFFERING HYMN: “Christ Be Our Light”

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

*OFFERING PRAYER

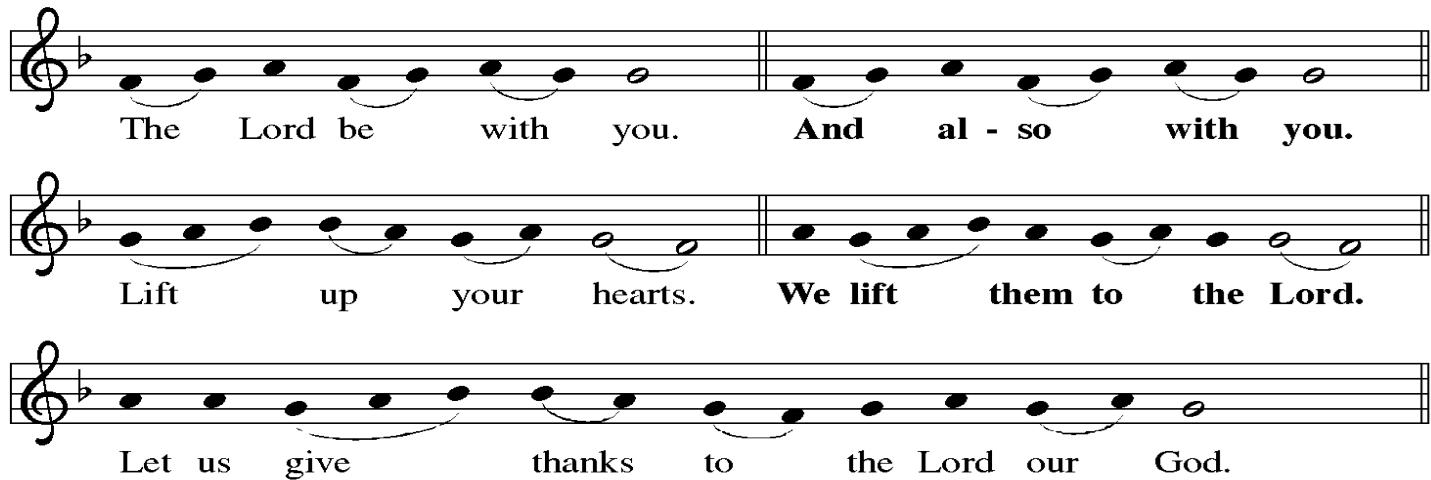
P: Merciful Father,

C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us- our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER †

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.



*THE PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*THE SANCTUS

A musical score in G clef, common time, featuring a single melodic line. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n 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." The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes connected by curved stems.

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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 and gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*TRADITIONAL 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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.

e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. Pick up an empty cup. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you. Please notify an Usher.

Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.

During Communion

Hymn #522: “As We Gather at Your Table”

Hymn #476: “Thee We Adore, O Savior”

Hymn #488: “Soul Adorn Yourself in Gladness”

Hymn #616: “Jesus Remember Me”

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

***Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210: “Blessed Be God”**

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,
The spirit of mercy.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

C: Amen

† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

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

C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)

***SENDING HYMN #671: “Shine Jesus Shine”**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Bonnie Stafford

Communion Assistant: Linda Weaver

Psalmist: Pastor Tim

Videographer: John Biles

Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Vic Richard, Lowell Yost and Jean Lausch

Weekly Receipts Report as of 01/15/2026	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	66/1
Online Attendance	201
General Receipts	\$1,918.00

Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are dedicated to the Glory of God by Chris & Tess Freeman in Honor of Their Grandson Bennett's 8th Birthday.



CHOIR PRACTICE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY MORNING
AT 8:15AM OVER THE WINTER MONTHS.

FEBRUARY 1 & 15
(the 15th potential to change)

UPCOMING AT MELLINGERS:

Ahava will be playing on January 25th

Scout Sunday will be Sunday February 1st

Scout's Spaghetti Supper on Saturday March 7th

See more information on the next page



For the Goat Fund; please fill out your donation then put it in a "Goat" envelope or make sure you write "Goat Fund" on your donation if you are using another envelope.



Weather Statement:

In case of bad weather on a Sunday, after 7:30 AM check the church phone answering machine 717-336-8800 or Mellingers Facebook page if we have Service.



Boy Scout Troop 115

Spaghetti dinner

SATURDAY
MARCH 7 2026
3:00–7:00 PM

ADULTS (12 & UP): \$15
CHILDREN 5–11: \$8
CHILDREN UNDER 5: FREE

MELLINGERS LUTHERAN
CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD,
STEVENS (SCHOENECK)



Enjoy all-you-can-eat delicious spaghetti and meatballs, salad, a roll,
beverages and a FREE Dessert

Everyone is welcome! We strive to make this event enjoyable and accessible to all.

Take-Out is available

Tickets at the door.

More information: call 717-468-5333
or email Sheldon: smb115@ptd.net

Benefits Boy Scout Troop 115



“This Little Light of Mine”

“This Little Light of Mine” is an iconic anthem of hope, unity and defiance. It was widely used during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 60s, transforming into a powerful freedom song with adapted lyrics, verses for protests and marches, despite its roots in religious tradition.

The origin is unclear, but the song is widely attributed to Harry Dixon Loes, a composer and teacher at the Moody Bible Institute, who reportedly wrote it as a children’s song in the 1920s. However, some scholars suggest it may have older roots in the African American spiritual tradition, though it does not appear in major 19th-century collections of Black spirituals.

The song is widely used in Sunday School and churches world wide.

January Prayer Ideas

7 Days of Prayer

- Jan. 19: Pray for Boldness in Faith
- Jan. 20: Pray for Strength in Weakness
- Jan. 21: Delight in God’s Word
- Jan. 22: Pray for Unity in the Body of Christ
- Jan. 23: Pray for Generosity
- Jan. 24: Rest in God’s Presence
- Jan. 25: Pray for a Grateful Heart

When they saw the

STAR, they
rejoiced
exceedingly with

**GREAT
JOY.**

Matthew 2:10, ESV



How many small stars can you find?



BIBLE QUIZ!

What city was Jesus born in?
a) Jerusalem b) Bethlehem c) Nazareth

What did the wise men follow to find Jesus?
a) a rainbow b) a dove c) a star

Where did Jesus sleep when he was born?
a) in a manger b) in a basket c) in a cradle

Who came to visit baby Jesus first?
a) the king b) the shepherds c) the wise men

Answer: 12

JOY TO THE WORLD



Fill in the blanks! What gifts did the wise men bring Jesus?



GLA

NE

RN

AG

E

C

AP

L

ROY

Are you as wise as the wise men
that visited Jesus? Unscramble the words!

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

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q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

q s : ' s , ' q , ' q

Help the wise men
follow the star to
baby Jesus:

