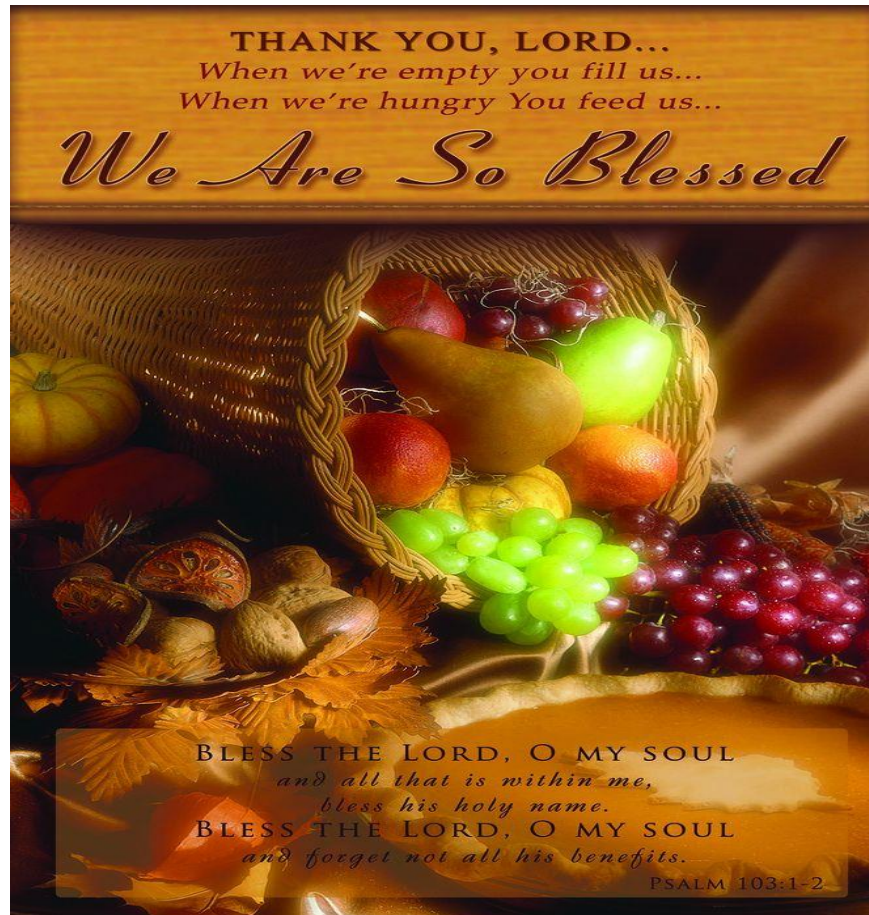


## **Mifflin Avenue and South Avenue United Methodist Churches**



**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

**24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Pastor Russel contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072

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

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. Large Print Bulletins: We have bulletins in LARGE print available. Please ask an usher for one. 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

Pastor: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

**People: We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

Pastor: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God;

**People: love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.**

Pastor: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

**People: We gather to offer our gratitude in song and prayer.**

HYMN

‘For the Beauty of the Earth’  
*Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*

No. 92 (Refrain)

PRELUDE

‘Pastoral in F Major, First Movement’

J. S. Bach

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

\*OPENING HYMN

‘Come, Ye Thankful People, Come’

No 694 Vs.1 & 4

Pastor: This is now a sacred space.

**People: Let us remember that when we gather in God’s name, God is in our midst.**

HYMN

‘We Gather Together’

No. 131

- 1. We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;  
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.*

Pastor: We come here to worship with thanksgiving.

**People: Let us remember that God is the audience, and we are the players.**

- 2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be Thine!*

Pastor: Come let us celebrate God’s wonderful blessings and love.

**People: We come here to be renewed and gratefully changed.**

- 3. We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,  
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be;  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;  
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God, we give you thanks this day for all that you have given to us. You fill our lives with joy, and now we return that joy with gratitude. May we, in this time of worship, give to you our proper thanks and praise as we enter into communion with you and as we share with thankful hearts. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

INTROIT

‘Give Thanks’

TFWS No. 2036

ANTHEM

‘Table of Plenty’

Dan Schutte

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

## CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts,  
**People: that we might behold wondrous things out of Your word.**

### CHORAL RESPONSE

‘Thy Word’ No. 601 (Refrain)  
“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

### FIRST LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

‘Alleluia’ No. 186  
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia”

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you,  
**People: And also with you.**  
Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.  
**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

### \*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Luke 17:11-19

### \*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.  
**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

### SERMON

‘Authentic Thanksgiving’

Pastor Russel Shuluga

### HYMN

‘Count Your Blessings’

1. *When upon life’s billows you are tempest-tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.*

*Refrain:  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your blessings, see what God has done!  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
\*Count your many blessings, see what God has done*

2. *Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,  
And you will be singing as the days go by.*

*Refrain*

3. *When you look at others with their lands and gold,  
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;  
Count your many blessings—money cannot buy  
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.*

*Refrain*

4. *So, amid the conflict whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
Help and comfort give you to your journey’s end.*

*Refrain*

### HYMN

‘Now Thank We All Our God’

No. 72

# CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

## CALL TO CONFESSION

May we prepare our hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

## LITANY OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Pastor: Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love.

**All: Forgive us when we have been unloving, when we have gossiped or held a grudge rather than trying to understand and reconcile a situation....**

Pastor: Where there is injury, pardon;

**All: Forgive us when we have refused to follow Christ's command to forgive; when we have harbored and nourished anger by our refusal to obey this command...**

Pastor: Where there is doubt, faith;

**All: Forgive us when we have withheld witness to His presence in our lives; when faith has not enabled another in time of doubt....**

Pastor: Where there is despair, hope;

**All: forgive us when we have failed to witness to the lively and living hope of Christ; when others have been in despair and we have withheld hope...**

Pastor: Where there is darkness, light;

**All: Forgive us when we have caused discouragement and frustration to dominate our action and have allowed our discouragement or frustration to rub off on others...**

Pastor: Where there is sadness, joy;

**All: Forgive us when we have failed to bring joy into a life consumed by sadness; when we have forgotten the source of our joy; when we have neglected to care deeply enough to work so that another's joy might be full...**

Pastor: O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

**People: Forgive us when we have been so preoccupied with our own needs for comfort that we have failed to recognize the needs of others and have selfishly turned away...**

Pastor: To be understood as to understand;

**All: Forgive us when we allow our loneliness to blot out the needs of others and when we are so eager to receive that we fail to make any attempt to give...**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'Amazing Grace'

No. 378 V. 1

# CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## THE LORD'S OFFERING

## THE OFFERTORY

'Pastoral in F Major, Second Movement'

J. S. Bach

## \*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**God, our hearts are filled with thanksgiving. Bless the gifts we offer to you. We pray that they will bring hope, peace, gratitude, and grace in this season of Harvest Thanksgiving, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

# CELEBRATION THROUGH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

## THE INVITATION

Pastor: Here, at the Lord's Table, Christ offers us his very self.

**People: We come to the table with thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Here, at this gift of bread and wine, Christ meets us as honored guests.

**People: We come to the table with songs of joy.**

Pastor: Here, at the foretaste of the heavenly banquet, Christ calls us his own.

**Pastor: We come to the table of grace.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Especially in this harvest season, we pause to give you thanks.

**People: God of growth, God of harvest, God of gifts, here we pause to give thanks for the abundance of our lives. For the fruit of the earth, for the food on our tables, for the love of brothers and sisters in faith around the world.**

Pastor: In the middle of life's messiness, we still give thanks, authentic thanks, thanks for a man from Nazareth, Jesus, the one we call the Christ.

**People: Child of Mary, child of grace, he came to teach about the wonders of your love. He came to break down the walls of division among your people.**

Pastor: He ate with the despised and the least of the world, he showed us what the glorious Banquet of life could be like.

**People: We give thanks for his witness and commitment to the Way. We give thanks for his healing of broken spirits and broken bodies.**

Pastor: For the promise of hope in a world given to despair, for the possibility of peace in a world torn apart by violence. For these and many other things we join our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven as we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

## SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING**

**\*BENEDICTION**

Pastor: We began this worship-event with thanksgiving. I call on you now to move out into the world with thanksgiving.

**People: We give thanks to our God who is so good, whose love stands forever.**

Pastor: Let thanksgiving enhance the joys you experience, let thanksgiving transcend the pains you may suffer, let thanksgiving sweeten the duties you must perform, let thanksgiving underpin even the griefs you may have to endure.

**People: We give thanks to our God who is so good, whose love stands firm forever**

Pastor: The love of the Redeemer, the love of the Creator, the fellowship of the Counselor, will be with you now and always.

**People: Amen!**



**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

'Danish Amen'  
*Amen, amen, a-men.*

No 898

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

'Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing'

No. 671

**\*POSTLUDE**

'Now Thank We All Our God'

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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

# SAUMC CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

November 12, 2023

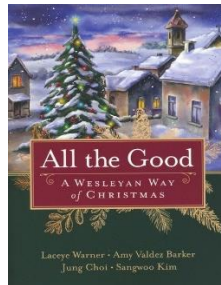
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The Altar Flowers are presented by David Lamont  
in loving memory of Stanley Lamont.

## MINISTRY COUNCIL

The Ministry Council will meet via Zoom on Thursday, November 16 at 7:00 pm.

## ADVENT BIBLE STUDY



A four-week Advent Bible Study, 'All the Good' - a Wesleyan Way of Christmas, will be held on Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20). You may purchase the book by calling the church office and we will place the order for you. The cost is approximately \$13.00. You do not need the book to participate.

## ENJOY BOOKS ARRIVED!

You may buy your new Enjoy book before the old one expires on November 1 and begin using it immediately! Books will be available in the church office or call Mabel Matteson at 412-826-5831.

## SAUMC DIRECTORY – 2023

The SAUMC directory has been updated. If you would like a copy, please notify Debbi and she will mail you one. Printed copies are available in the Church Office.

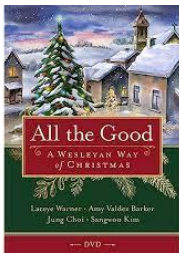
# MIFFLIN AVENUE ANNOUNCEMENTS



Diana Spencer – November 17<sup>th</sup>



Everyone is invited to attend the Thanksgiving dinner following today's service. If you forgot to sign up, you can still attend. All are welcome!



A four-week Advent Bible Study, 'All the Good' a Wesleyan Way of Christmas, will 13th, and Dec. 20th). You may purchase the book by calling the church office and we will place the order for you. The cost is approximately \$13.00. You do not need the book to participate.

**Please contact the church office to order a book. Deadline to order a book will be Wednesday, November 15th.**



Please consider participating in the annual Hanging of the Greens' service on 12/3/2023. Singers, musicians and readers are needed. Contact Barbara Thaw ([bcthaw@aol.com](mailto:bcthaw@aol.com)) to let her know you are interested. NOTE: If she has not heard from you, she will be reaching out!!



Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> – Zoom Church Council meeting 7PM  
Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> – Help decorate the sanctuary after the worship service.  
Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> – Advent Zoom Bible Study – 7PM



**The November Mission Opportunity will be to collect NEW unwrapped toys for "Toys For Tots".**

**Deadline to bring in your toy donations to the Mifflin church is Sunday, December 3rd.**

**Place your donations in the containers outside the office by the bulletin boards If you have any questions, call Mary at the church office (412) 731-2511 or email her at [office@mifflinave.org](mailto:office@mifflinave.org)**