

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 2025

### ORDER OF WORSHIP



Hymns: TLH 71,63,66  
First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10  
Epistle: James 5:7-11  
Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15



7pm Evening Worship tonight with Holy Communion

### WELCOME TO ST MATTHEW!

The Lord richly bless your time here this morning as we receive Christ in the liturgy, hymns, and preaching. There are guest cards and envelopes in the pews. All guests are encouraged to fill these out. The envelopes are provided for guests to contribute during the offering.

**QUESTIONS ABOUT WORSHIP, BAPTISM OR COMMUNION?** *Please see the Pastor or the Elder on duty.*

There will be one Worship Service at 9:15 A.M.. **Holy Communion will be celebrated the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month. There will be a evening Worship service on the 2nd Sunday of each month with Communion at 7:00pm.** Please announce your intention to commune by signing the sheet in the narthex. If you would like to receive communion in your pew please check the box after your name on the announcement sheet .

**Pastor Blaine Jorg** is available to bring Holy Communion to the home of any member desiring a visit. You may also call him, regardless of the time, if any congregation member is in need of pastoral care. This is particularly important when there is a serious illness, an accident, a hospitalization and when death approaches or occurs.

cell: 716-239-1097  
email: [ministry285@yahoo.com](mailto:ministry285@yahoo.com)



Joan Baroudi	Kelly Benedict
Christiana Brenon	Bob Burton
Patricia Cake	Orrin & Linda Christy
Linda Davidson	Michael Davidson
Bill & Pat Doeblor	Doug Ellman
Tom Essenburg	Ellie Grichen
Gloria Haeseler	Mark Haeseler
Marilyn Heigl	Sue & Ned Holmes
Hanna Koepsell	Abby & Nathan Lacey
Sharon Lemke	Florence Lindaman
Doris Matheis	Phil Moldenhauer
Jason Painter	Linda Pascucci
Renee Patton	Danielle Rance
Meredith Roberts	Mary Smith
Karen Tischler	Dennis & Eileen Tischler
Jeremy Trombley	Dave Urtel
Ron Waliszewski	Tami Walters
Wayne & Sandy Worthington	Curt Webb
Jim Connell	Michele Menkiena
Toni Durick	Donna Heiser
Our Shut Ins	

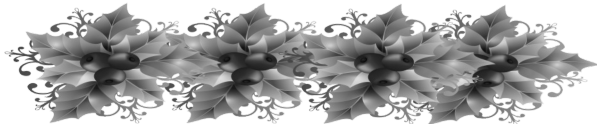
## TODAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR:

### The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see "the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful" (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, "be patient" and "establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand" (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as "the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up," so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that "sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Is. 35:10).



### **COOKIE SALE TODAY AFTER SERVICE IN THE SCHOOL HALLWAY.**



The flowers on the altar are in Thanks to God for Grammy Eileen's 83rd and Poppy's 83rd birthday from the Jorg family.



Flowers are placed on the altar in celebration of Lisa Ellman's birthday on December 10th and Carol Wilczal's birthday on December 18th.



Your articles for the 2026 Communicator are due tomorrow, December 15th. Thank you.

Advent Service will be on Wednesday, 17th at 7pm.



Dec 24th-7pm Christmas Eve Service  
Dec 25th-10am-Christmas Day Service  
Dec 31st-7pm-New Years Eve Service



### **POINSETTIA ORDERS**

We will be taking orders for Poinsettias till next Sunday. They will be \$10 again this year. Please see Bill Olczak in the Brides Room after service.



A gift was given to Ladies Guild from Tim and Tammy Walters.

A donation to St. Matthew Lutheran Church Capital Improvement Fund was given from Dick and Sharon Engler.

### **Offering Envelopes**



The offering envelopes for 2026 are on the table in the narthex.

**TODAY is the last Sunday to  
pick up "You've Got Mail"  
in the school hallway.**



### **CHECK YOUR FLOCK BOX TODAY**

Counters can pick up their schedules for 2026 in your flock box. If you have any changes please contact Leslie.

"You've got Mail" cards are also in your flock box.

## YCC ACTIVITY FOR DECEMBER

Any Questions contact Breanna Gerner Youth Director at 716-525-6953, gerner22@gmail.com. Meetings are on Sunday from 6-8.

We will meet **TONIGHT** for our Christmas Party



### PLEASE HELP US FILL OUR FOOD PANTRY HERE AT ST MATTHEW

We are in need of cereal, boxed mashed, au gratin or scalloped potatoes, Spaghetti noodles & sauce, elbow macaroni and pancake mix. Please place the items in the bushel basket in the narthex. Thank you for your donations.



THE NORTH TONAWANDA FOOD PANTRY is in need of. items for Christmas dinners; boxed potatoes, boxed stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes, canned green beans. **Put the items in the blue bin in the Quilting Room.** Thank you for your generosity.



## ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS YTD

Attendance 12/7/2025	84
Attendance 12/10/2025	19
Offering for 12/7/2025	\$5,111.00
Week Ending 12/13/2025	YTD
Budget	\$4,138.00
Received	\$5,111.00
	\$973.00
	\$202,762.00
	\$194,414.00
	-\$8,348.00
Capital Improvements YTD	\$3,800.00

## MEETINGS & EVENTS AT ST. MATTHEW

### DECEMBER 14, 2025

Sun: 9:15am-Worship Service  
10:30am-Bible Study  
10:30am-SARB  
10:30am-Sunday School  
6:00-YCC  
7:00-Evening Worship Service

Wed: 5:45pm-Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm-Advent Service

Thurs: 10:30am-Bible Study

Sat: 9:00am-Vine & Branches

## NEXT WEEK'S OFFICE HOURS

Mon: 9:00am-12:00pm  
Tue: Off  
Wed: Off  
Thurs: Off  
Fri: 9:00am-12:00pm  
Sat: 9:00am-11:00am

### Jesus

Our hope for a bright future,  
Our peace in times of need,  
Our joy for all eternity.



## SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

Elders: Pete Jaenecke, Bill Olczak  
Vestrymen: Art Marshall, Paul Schultz  
Ushers: Jeff Binkley, Keith Schumacher  
Greeters: Toni D, Linda P  
Sunshine Committee: Open  
Organist: Tom Goodrich  
Sr. Choir Director: Open  
Chimes: Open  
Offering Counters: Team 3  
SARB: Linda R\*, Sandy P  
Video Team: Bill Bundy