

Fourth Sunday Epiphany ~ February 2, 2025

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor

Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God

Please stand

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess
our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be
messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our
joy, our resources, and our security.**

**We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our
neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

**Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life
in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 705 *God of Grace and God of Glory v.1,4*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN of PRAISE



☪ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☪ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☪ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☪ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together
A brief silence is kept before the prayer. **Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy."⁷But the LORD said to me,"Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you."⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth."¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 71:1-6

Response Spoken

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

²**In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;
incline your ear to me and save me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;
you are my crag and my stronghold.

⁴**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**

⁵For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, my confidence since I was young.

⁶**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my
mother's womb you have been my strength;
my praise shall be always of you.**

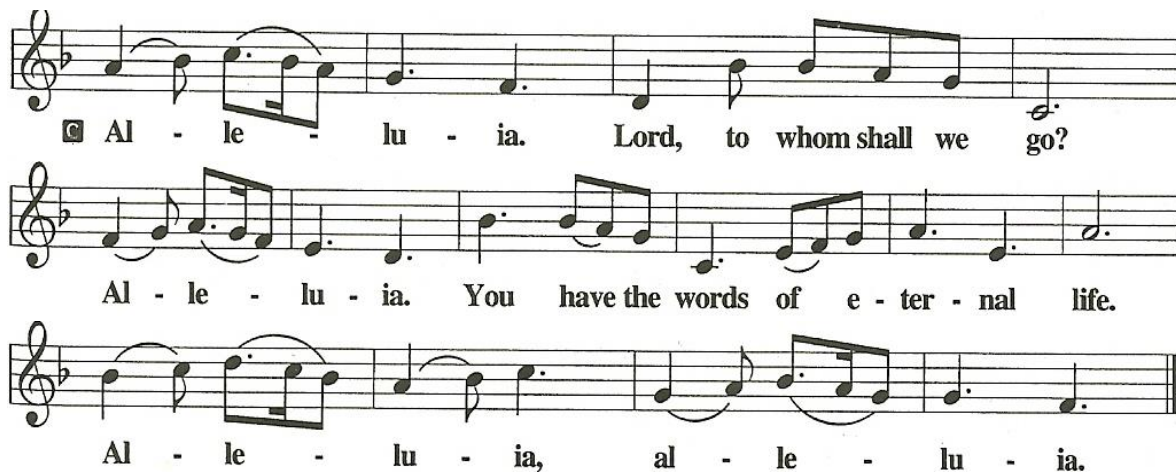
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30

The holy gospel according to Luke, Chapter 4. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

cont'd

²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand

HYMN of the DAY ~ **ELW 644** *Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue*

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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness. We pray especially for: Analee and family. Ellie, Court, Dick, Judy, Lois, Damian, Pat K., Marjorie, Ron F., Carolyn M., Larry & Barb, Tom, Esther, Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Don & Donna, Evelyn and the prayer requests from our Little Library friends. Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the young people in our congregations. May their voices be celebrated. Give youth a place of honor and value among us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We remember those who have gone before us. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

All share the Peace of the Lord with one another.

MEAL

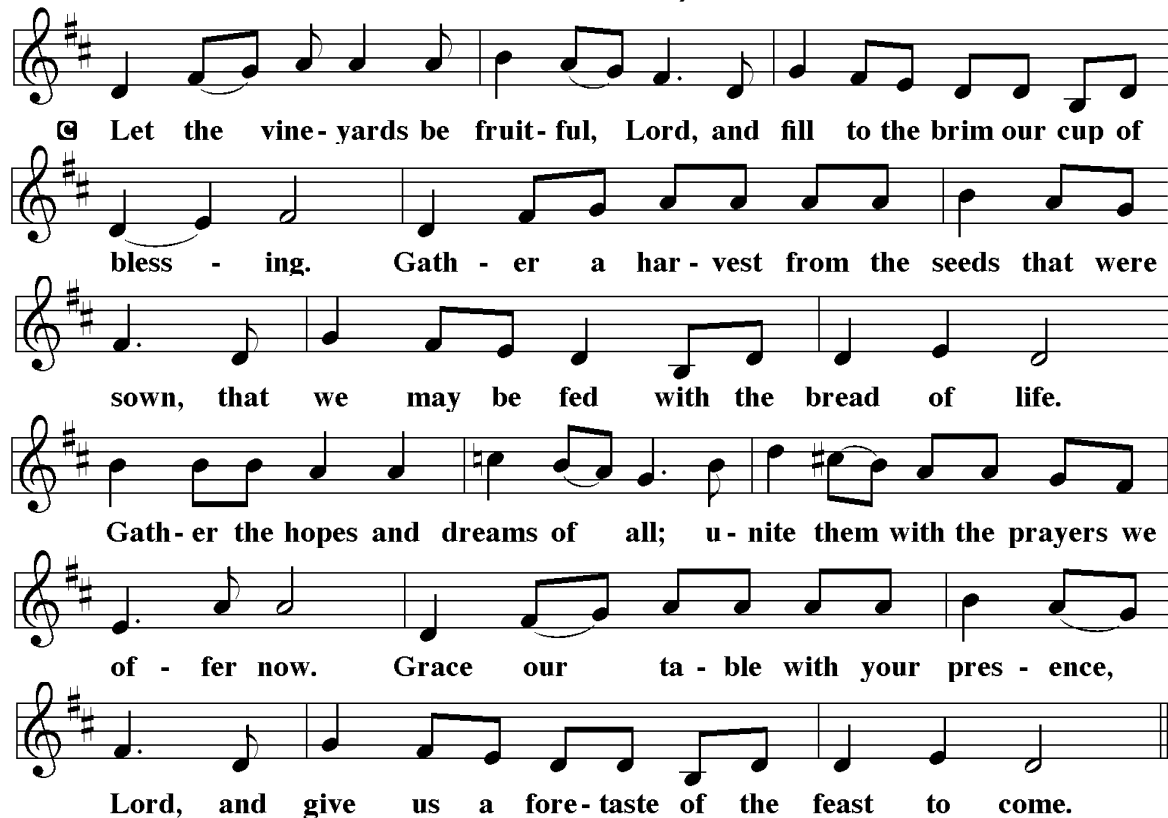
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated

OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN ~ *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. **God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

Please Stand

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

THANKSGIVING at the TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection,
 and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion
 we may know the unity we share with all your people
 in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Please be seated

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

At Abiding Hope all believers are welcome to share Holy Communion at the table of the Lord. After receiving the bread, (gluten free) you may receive wine from the chalice poured into individual glasses or you may choose pre-poured grape juice (in center of tray) as an alternative.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

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 ~ O God, You Search Me



1 O God, you search me and you know me.
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.
You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,
you have known its mean - ing through and through.
still I search for shel - ter from your light.
gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:
and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:
You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:
There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:
For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION

PASTORAL BLESSING

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

PRAYER after COMMUNION

Let us pray. **God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please stand

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 836 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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PARISH NOTES ~ February 2, 2025

Pastor Karen Parsh – 814-881-3266 Pastorparsh@gmail.com

ahadministrator@hotmail.com - www.abidinghopeerie.org -

FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

Please keep these members and friends in your prayers: Analee Cree and Family. Ellie Cherpak, Court Cratty, Dick Brucker, Judy Johnston, Evelyn Senger, Lois Kuhns, Damian Santabene, Mary Randall, Pat Kerr, Marjorie Wonner, Ron Froess, Judy Nordin, Carolyn Mariotti, Larry & Barb Ruhlman, Esther Klakamp, Tom Cirillo, Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Don & Donna Holder, prayer requests from our Little Library.

Receiving Communion: If it is a challenge for you to come forward to receive communion, please alert the usher and you will be served communion at your seat.

Sunday, February 2: Worship, 930a ~ Choir: Rehearsal, 1045a

Bible Study, 1045a

Sunday, February 9: Worship, 930a ~ Choir: 900a & 1045a

Bible Study, 1045a

A Note of Thanks

Thank you so very much for your prayers and expressions of support and encouragement for our son, Dylan, and his new wife, Brianna, who were forced to quickly evacuate to escape the flames of the California fires. They returned to a smoke damaged but intact home, and were fortunate to have it quickly restored. We praise God for His goodness to us! Dylan and Bri have so many friends, colleagues and clients who were not so fortunate however, and the devastation is beyond description. Please continue to pray for all those suffering the effects of these fires. *Blessings and Gratitude, Jerry, Connie, Pat, Dylan and Brianna*

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thank you to the eligible Thrivent members who direct their Choice Dollars to Abiding Hope Lutheran Church! This money is being used to carry on the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a Thrivent member and have questions about this program, please contact your Thrivent Financial Representative.

Monday, February 3: Prayer Shawl gathering, 10a-12n. Join the group for prayer, good conversation, knitting shawls, prayer cards, lap robes for the homebound. Experience not necessary, showing "how to" will gladly be offered. **All ladies are welcome, bring a friend!**

Tuesday, February 4: Easter Flock meeting @ 1230p. Volunteers are needed to help plan for 2025. Curious as to what you could do to help, stop by the church and help plan another fun community party.

Thursday, February 6: Learn what Lutherans believe with Pastor Karen. **Class @ 100p.** Flyer in narthex for additional information.

Friday, February 7: "Night to Shine" If anyone is interested in volunteering, **6-7p** and be part of the red carpet to cheer on the guests entering the "prom", they can register at this link: <https://form.jotform.com/243055717006148>

Sunday, February 09: Souper Bowl Sunday...donate canned or dry soup, cereal, canned fruit , write a check to KAFP or designate part of your offering to "Souper Bowl of Caring". Please place monetary donations in the soup kettle as in the sanctuary or in the offering plate.

Tuesday February 18: Care Team meeting 1230p

Wednesday, February 19: Prayer Warriors 1-3p in the Sanctuary or "Quiet" room. Pray with us silently for whatever time you can or wherever you are during that time. Through intercession prayers believers can bring comfort, encouragement and hope to those facing difficult circumstances.

Wednesday, February 19: Men's Night Out, 630p - McGarry's Oakwood. RSVP not necessary. Just stop in and join the AH guys for good food & conversation.

Thursday, February 20: A new place for **Ladies Night Out.** The group will meet at **The Cornerstone Bar & Grill, 308 E. 38th, 530p.** Join in for a fun night of good food, conversation and some LAUGHS. Sign-up sheet in narthex, please **RSVP** by **Tuesday, Feb 18.** Drivers/riders meet @ AHLC, 5:00p. All ladies are welcome.

Sunday, February 23: Once again this winter, **Abiding Hope** is providing a "Night of Food" bags for **"Our Neighbors' Seasonal Overflow Shelter"** to feed people who are cold and hungry. **Following worship,** lunch bags (about 60) will be filled with fruit, sandwiches, snacks, a dessert, beverage/napkins. A **sign-up sheet** for volunteers is in the narthex. You may also text **Jacque Holmberg** - 814-490-4470, email - jholmberg@roadrunner.com, OR *just show up that morning*. We thank the Thrivent Financial Action Team program for the funds to purchase supplies.

Little Free Library/Pantry: Even on the most harsh of days in January, visitors stopped at the AH library/pantry and many books were exchanged/added/taken. The food pantry has experienced higher usage in terms of the amount of foods taken. Appreciated donations would be: **individual hot cereal packages; hot chocolate packages; dried grain meals pasta/quinoa/rice/noodles etc); dried soup mixes; peanut butter/jam in PLASTIC jars; crackers; small packages of nuts/trail mix; granola bars.**

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up sheet and request forms on table in narthex. Arrangements-**\$20.00 each.** Place the **completed form and payment** in the offering plate, or to the office at least two weeks, no less than one, prior to your chosen Sunday.

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, 9:30a-3:30p. Wednesday, 9:30a-12:30p. For **immediate pastoral assistance**, call **Pastor Karen**, 814-881-3266.

WORSHIP LEADERS ~ February 2, 2025

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Donna Holder
Lector/Prayers	Penny Gresh
Communion Cups	Michele Rion
Communion Tray	Emily / Kayla Miller
Presenter	Connie Kerr-Vogt
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	Rick Filson
Usher	Andy Saska
Counters	Andy & Paul