



PAXTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The End and the Beginning

January 11, 2026 | 10:30 AM

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

January 11, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE "Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart" -arr. A Jordan
 "The Heavens Declare God's Glory" -R. Powell
 "We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus" - arr. M. Burkhardt

WORSHIP PREPARATION

**In preparing for our worship together please quiet yourself
and allow God's Spirit to ready your heart, mind, and soul.**

During this time, we invite you to sign the **guest book**, pass it down your row and back again and note friends and guests worshipping next to you. Please also complete a **prayer request card** at this time if you have a joy or concern for which you would like special prayers during the service. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GREETINGS AND NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" -arr. M. Burkhardt

THE WORD GATHERS US

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 29, Mark 1, and Isaiah 43)

The voice of the Lord is over the waters,
and in the temple God's people say: Glory!
The heavens opened, the Spirit descended,
and a voice sounded: This is my Beloved Son.
Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:
I have called you by name; you are mine.
Let us worship God!

* HYMN – 10 "Sing Glory to the Name of God"

* PRAYER OF PRAISE

O God, whose majesty surpasses all names that we could give you, we praise you for your power and thank you for your love. We are overwhelmed with awe when we pause to consider all that your hands have made: the bare limbs and the evergreen branches of winter, the mighty seas and quiet streams, the majestic mountains and open plains. We praise you for the works you have done, especially the work of becoming one of us in Jesus Christ. We offer our praise and thanksgiving to you, and ask that your Spirit would be with us in this time of worship and in all of our days. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

* GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace. (silent prayer) **Amen.**

* GOD'S ASSURANCE OF RECONCILIATION

* OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE – No. 581

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

* PASSING THE PEACE

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

THE WORD PROCLAIMS TO US

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Psalms 29

(OT 621)

ANTHEM

“You are My All in All”

-arr. Lloyd Larson

Soloists, Tara Frank and Andrew Vinton

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 3:13-17

(NT 3)

SERMON

“The End and the Beginning”

HYMN – 164

“Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways”

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY

THE WORD INVITES US

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation for the Offering

* Response of Praise – No. 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***



* Prayer of Dedication

OFFERTORY

“All Praise to Thee, Eternal God”

-arr. P. Manz

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

-Traditional (p. 35)

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

To be ordained and installed as Ruling Elders: Nancy Bingaman and Cindy Cavanagh (Class of 2028)

To be installed as Ruling Elders: Bob Frank and Craig Staudenmaier (Class of 2028)

To be installed as Deacons: Sue McClain (Class of 2026)

Sally Appleby, Rich Lengler, Diana Robertson, and Merideth Staudenmaier (Class of 2028)

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THOSE BEING ORDAINED AND INSTALLED

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

All ordained ruling elders, deacons, and ministers of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) are invited to come and join in the laying on of hands.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER HARRISON MONAHAN

THE WORD SENDS US

* HYMN –688 “Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart”

* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE “In Thee Is Joy”

-M. Dupre

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.

CCLI#2707192

Please use your phone’s camera to scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

Directing our worship today: Preacher, Pastor Margaret Poteet;
Worship Assistant, Janice Hutchison; *Conversation with Our Children*, Nancy Lengler;
Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce;
Director of Youth Music, Andrew Vinton

Prayer Square

Please keep the following church members and friends in your prayers.

Members

Jim Brillinger, Brenda and Ron Brinkley, Bruce Cavanaugh, Betty Conte, Fran Gilchrist,
Shirley Grunden, Don Hoopes, Nancy Hutchison, Larry and Annette Kilpatrick, Jim
Knight, Penny Knight, Robert Martin, Nedra Maxwell, Joanne Miller, Donna Powers,
Elsie Williams, Dave Wion, Kathie Zimmerman

Friends

Shelia Gorlhard, Will Green, Susan Grieco, Dr. and Mrs. Kent Groff, J Jackson,
Joey Koch, Frank Sallusti, Cliff Stern, Bill W.

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Square
please contact Janice at 717-418-1526 or momjakh@aol.com

NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Donna and Guido from Tom and Karen.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES 2026 Offering Envelopes are available. They may be picked up after worship or from the church office during the week.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN are accepting dues during January and February. These dues support the ministries we contribute to and help fund PW activities in our church and community, including Santa Shop, Valentine's Day "Love Letters," and the Sewing Circle. If you are a woman, you are a member of PW. There is no set amount — please give what you are able. Checks should be made payable to PW of Paxton, with "PW dues" in the memo line. Cash donations may be placed in PW envelopes in the gathering room. Please include your name. Dues may be left in the PW mailbox.

CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG SALE Forms are now available outside the office and will be due with payment by February 1. This year all proceeds will go toward the cost of the Rise Against Hunger event in April.

SOUP SUNDAY Evangelism and Outreach will be hosting Soup Sunday on January 25 and February 22. Please come and enjoy some soup and fellowship following services on those dates. We provide 2 soups, including vegetarian and gluten free options, as well as mac and cheese for the children. If you are interested in making a soup for a crowd (you will be reimbursed) please contact Linette Burd (717-608-7845). See you there!

COMMUNITY MEAL Join us for our next community and congregational meal on January 14. Dinner will be available from 5pm-6:30pm with takeout meals available if needed. All are welcome for food and fellowship! Contact Dawn Palmer, 717-877-9013 to volunteer or with questions.

FOOD PANTRY Due to the cold weather and school vacations we are currently very low on soups (especially the hardy ones that can serve as a meal, we have plenty of cream soups) and fruit, especially kid favorites like applesauce. In another couple of weeks, we will be out of toilet paper. Thank you for all the tuna and peanut butter; that has been a big help.

FINANCE AND BUDGET MINISTRY TOWN HALL Please join the Budget and Finance Ministry on Sunday, February 1 in the Great Room after worship for an informational presentation on Paxton's finances. It has been six months since the last presentation, and we look forward to reviewing in detail the end-of-year reports with you prior to the Annual Meeting on February 22. After a brief presentation we will welcome questions and comments. If you have any questions ahead of the town hall, please email treasurer@paxtonchurch.org or lenglersnj@comcast.net by January 31.

BYLAW QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION After the Budget and Finance Town Hall on February 1, the Bylaws Committee will welcome questions and comments regarding the revised Bylaws for Paxton Presbyterian Church that have been approved by Session and will be on the agenda for congregational approval at the Annual Meeting. Copies of the revised Bylaws will be made available in mid-January.

PER CAPITA This year's Per Capita amount has been set for \$34.66. Your gift allows PCUSA locally, regionally and nationally to work for justice and peace, care for the hungry and homeless, and spread the word and love of the Lord. Please mark your donation "per capita" and place in the offering or mail to the church office.

DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD VOLUNTEERS The 2026 Downtown Daily Bread sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please contact Judy Schmidt with questions at 717-652-5781.

THANK YOU, The Stewardship Ministry extends heartfelt gratitude to the congregation for their generous support of the Breakfast for Two meal bags, which raised a total of \$606. These funds will be dedicated to creating future meal bags for our Free Little Pantry, ensuring we can continue to serve those in need. Thank you for your kindness and commitment to this important cause.

VOLUNTEER TUTOR NEEDED Looking for someone that is willing to tutor a first-grade student in math and reading on a weekly basis. Please contact Dawn Palmer 717-877-9013 for more information. Thank you for your consideration.

PW BOOK SHARE PW invites you to peruse the BOOK SHARE TABLE in the Great Room! Bring your unwanted books and magazines or take-home new reading material!

January 11 - 18

Sunday, January 11	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room
Monday, January 12	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Voices of the Valley	Great Room
Tuesday, January 13	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	10:00 AM	Stephen Ministry	Room 202
	11:45 AM	Staff Meeting	Room 202
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Budget and Finance	Room 201
Wednesday, January 14	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	Fellowship Hall
	10:00 AM	Evangelism and Outreach	Room 101
	5:00 PM	Community Dinner	Fellowship Hall
Thursday, January 15	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:15 PM	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Friday, January 16	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	Great Room
Saturday January 17	9:00 AM	AED/CPR Training	Great Room
Sunday, January 18	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public

9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday through Friday

If you need to visit the office or building at another time, please call the office.

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED JANUARY 19 IN OBSERVENCE OF MARTIN
LUTHER KING JR. DAY**

Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor	x105	Margaret Poteet	pastor@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Faith Formation	x104	Michelle Sheppard	michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Music		Susan Beckley	
Organist		Jeanne Bruce	
Director of Youth Music		Andrew Vinton	
Office Administrator	x101	Abby Spencer	office@paxtonchurch.org
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	treasurer@paxtonchurch.org
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

Board of Deacons

Tara Frank '25	Moderator	Merideth Staudenmaier '25	Secretary
Sally Appleby '25		Rich Lengler '26	
Jim Bruce '26		Diana Robertson '25	
Linette Burd '26		Deb Trephan '27	
Judy Frankford '27		Brenda Vinton '27	
Cheryl Holtzman '26		Bev Ziebell '27	

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Leaders	Gary Myers	Jane Sanford
Stephen Ministers	Karen Cirillo	Karen Herrold
	Cheryl Holtzman	Janice Hutchison
	Annette Kilpatrick	Nancy Lengler
	Steve Miller	Kathy Woodbridge

For a confidential referral please contact a Stephen Leader.

Session *Chair

Margaret Poteet		Moderator
Kitti Taylor		Clerk of Session
Karen Herrold '25*		Christian Education
Janice Hutchison '25*		Evangelism and Outreach
Nancy Lengler '26*	Craig Staudenmaier	Budget and Finance
Judy Schmidt '27*	Jan Gough '25	Mission
Gary Myers '26*	Janice Hutchison	Nominating
Jay Kealey '26*	Gary Myers	Personnel
Nino Giambrone '27*	Geoffrey Vinton '27*	Property Management
Craig Staudenmaier '25*		Stewardship
Sharon Webb '26*		Technology
Anita Laughery '27*	Bob Frank '25	Worship and Music

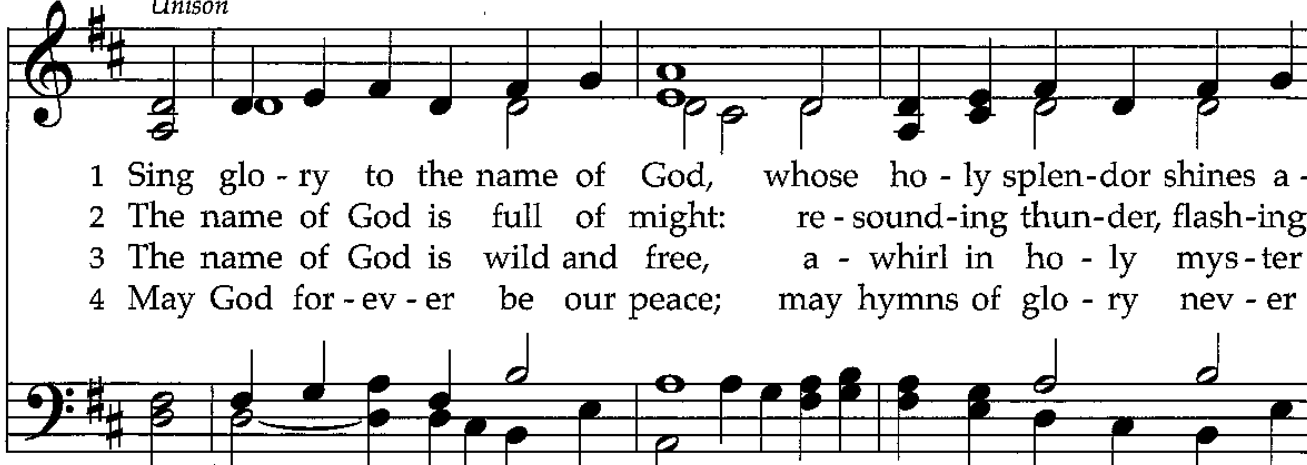
At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, mental or physical ability, or religious background.



10 Sing Glory to the Name of God

(Psalm 29)

Unison



1 Sing glo - ry to the name of God, whose ho - ly splen - dor shines a -
 2 The name of God is full of might: re - sound - ing thun - der, flash - ing
 3 The name of God is wild and free, a - whirl in ho - ly mys - ter -
 4 May God for - ev - er be our peace; may hymns of glo - ry nev - er

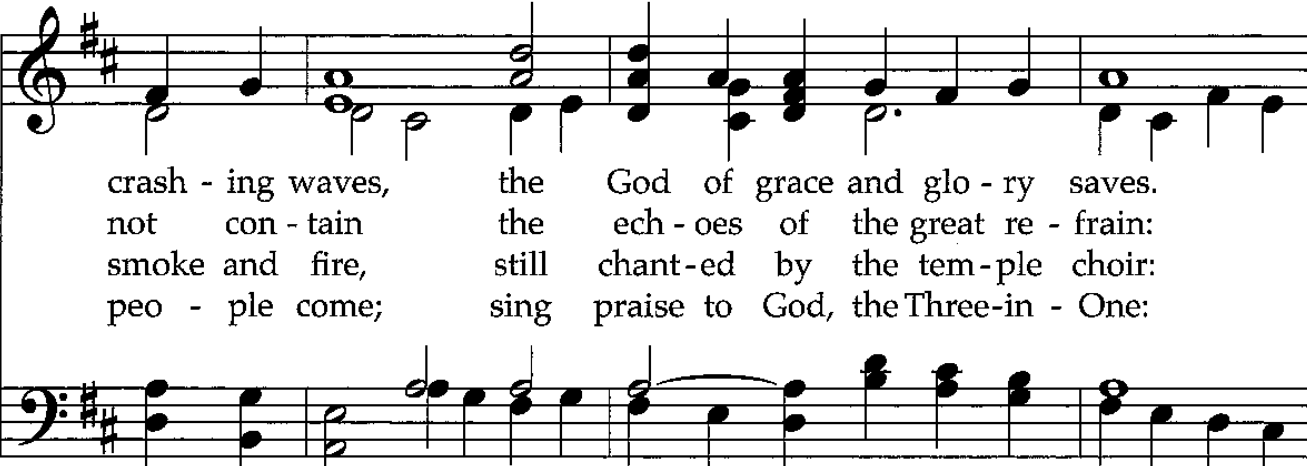
Harmony *Unison*



broad.
light.
y.
cease:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

En - throned a - bove the
The wil - der - ness can -
A se - cret wrapped in
Let all the faith - ful



crash - ing waves, the God of grace and glo - ry saves.
 not con - tain the ech - oes of the great re - frain:
 smoke and fire, still chant - ed by the tem - ple choir:
 peo - ple come; sing praise to God, the Three - in - One:

THE TRIUNE GOD

Harmony

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,

Unison

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways 164

Capo 3: (A9) (D/A) (A9) (Dsus)(D)
C9 F/C C9 Fsus F

1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road-ways a strang-er trav-eled on
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav-ens torn;
3 We too have found a road-way; it led us to this place.

(A9) (D/A) (G) (F#m)
C9 F/C Bb Am

from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John.
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.

(Bm) (F#m) (Gmaj7) (F#m7) (Em) (A/C#)(Bsus)(Bm)
Dm Am Bbmaj7 Am7 Gm C/E Dsus Dm

He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
The ho - ly dove de-scend-ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.

(G) (D/F#) (Em7) (G/A) (Asus)(A7) (D)
Bb F/A Gm7 Bb/C Csus C7 F

but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
"You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
"You are my own, my cho-sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
 4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
 5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,

wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
 the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,

and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.