

CHURCH FINANCE'S	
Last Sunday's Attendance	43
Last Sunday's Offering	\$745
Difference to Weekly Budgeted Offering	<\$1,659>
Offering YTD	\$131,203
Difference to Offering YTD	\$3,791

- * **Sermon Notes** - Available in the Narthex
- * **Listening devices** are available upon request

- * **Church Directory** - The church directory is available by request from the church office.
- * **Interested in becoming a church member?** Please talk to Pastor Joseph
- * **WE WANT TO PRAY FOR YOU:** If you have an immediate prayer need and would like us to pray for you, please fill out the pew card and place it in the offering plate. Be as thorough as possible so we can most effectively pray for you.
- * **No Kids own worship today. Children will return to their families after the children's message.**
- * **Please join us in the Parlor after worship for Coffee Hour, coffee, punch, treats & fellowship.**

Contact Us at Mansfield 1st (EPC)

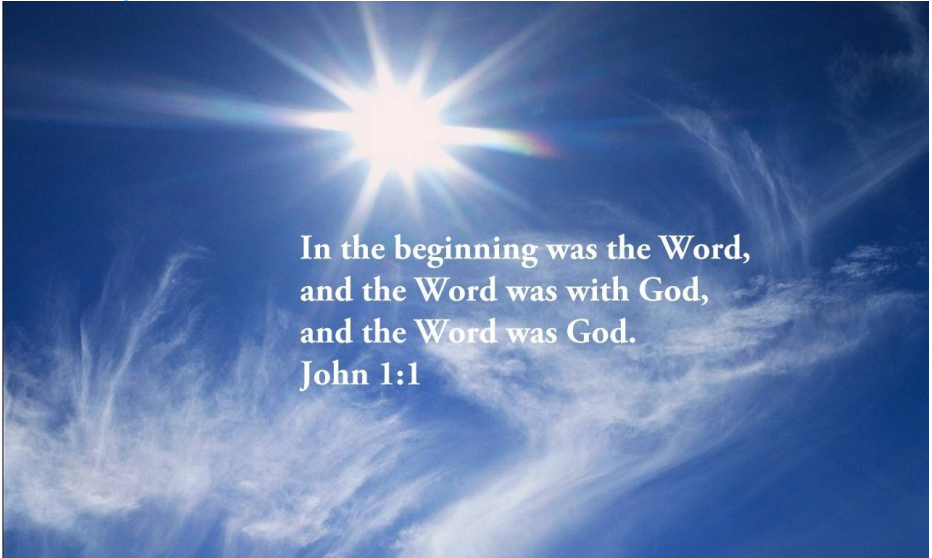
Phone: 419-756-7066 **Email:** office@mansfield1st.com

Elders

Tucker Bacquet, Randy Richard, Judy Swartzmiller, Ben Troyer, Dana Woodring



Mansfield 1st Evangelical Presbyterian Church



Sunday, January 7th, 2024

In the beginning...

John 1:1-4

Rev. Joseph Yerger, Pastor

A Sanctuary of Worship

A School of Religious Education

A Church Home with Open Doors



Welcome to Mansfield 1st EPC!

Order of Worship – January 7th, 2024

Please take a moment to fill out pew pads



Call To Worship: (Psalm 75:1)

Pastor Joseph

***Hymn of Praise:**

#210 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

***Prayer of Adoration:**

Ben Troyer

Call to Confession: (Psalm 75:2-8)

Ben Troyer

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

(ALL)

LORD of Creation, we humble ourselves in Your glorious presence. You alone are the Creator while we are merely creatures, possessing nothing of ourselves that has not first been given to us. You formed us from the dust of the earth. You breathed life into our nostrils. You have given us a good land upon which to dwell. You have given us the sun, moon, and stars to light our way. You give us the rains which water the earth and cause the plants to grow which sustain all that live. Who are we that You should be mindful of us, that You should love us so very much? Forgive us of all our transgressions against You; for all of our many sins, we pray. Help us to forgive as You forgive us, in mercy and with grace. Let the cup of Your just wrath pass from us and let us sing Your praises forever. All the Glory and Honor, Majesty and Power are Yours alone. **AMEN**

Silent Prayers & Confessions:

Ben Troyer

Assurance of Pardon: (Psalm 75:9-10)

Pastor Joseph

**Please stand as you are able*

Sunday School

Visitors Are Welcome!

- Pastor Joseph teaches adult Sunday School at 9:00 am in the Library. We are studying the Gospel of Mark. Coffee is provided.

- We have classes for children age 3-Kindergarten (Begin with Jesus), Kindergarten -2nd grade (Show me Jesus), for grades 3rd-6th (Closer to Jesus), and for 7th-12th grade (Grow with Jesus). Each class begins at 9 am on Sunday mornings.

Prime Time - Meets every other Wednesday. This study is for all adults, beginning at 4pm with a dinner following. **On Hiatus**

Spirit Seekers - at 4pm. Meets every other Sunday at 4pm with dinner afterwards. This Study for those in their 20's-40's is divided into 'Parents' & Youth. [Next Meets January 28th](#)

Kids O' the Kirk - The youth companion group to Spirit Seekers.

[Next Meets January 28th](#)

Missions: Chair - Randy Richard

The Missions Committee is responsible for planning, overseeing, and facilitating the Good Works which the congregation does “beyond the walls” (Matthew 25:31-46) including global missions like Samaritan's Purse and local like the Wayfinders.

There is a distinct and particular difference between Missions and Charity: Missions are Good Works which show the love of Christ to others and also share the Good News about Him, while Charity are simply Good Works that display our love for Christ in others but do not convey a Gospel message. Both Missions and Charity are integral parts of our fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15), but Missions should always take the priority.

Jesus did many Good Works during His time on earth, but they were always done with specific intent and the purpose to display Who He Is. Jesus surely had the power to have healed many more people and perform additional miracles, but He did not instead saying, “...*whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do...*” (Jn. 14:12 ESV). Our Good Works are the expression of our faith and a means by which we share and spread our faith to others, not an end in themselves.

Congregational Care - Chair - Pastor Joseph

The focus of the Congregational Care Team is to respond to the care and support needs of the congregation and to engage in the ongoing spiritual, physical, emotional and relational expression of living faithfully within the Body of Christ. Every Christian is gifted and called by God to be in ministry.

***Song of Response:** #813 Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

Installation and Ordination of Church Officers:

Randy Richard, Dana Woodring & Tucker Bacquet

Offertory: Angie Hunter
”Grace Medley,” arr. by James Koerts

Prayers for God’s People - Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. **AMEN**

***Song of Response:** #815 Doxology

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:** Pastor Joseph

Song of Preparation: Come to the Table
(see insert)

Children's Message: Kids come down to the left-side steps
No Kids Own Worship today, Children return to their families in the pews.

The Word of God**

The Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-5; John 1:1-4

Sermon: In the beginning...

**Please stand as you are able*

*** Found on page 1 & 862 in the red pew Bible.*

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Please hold the elements until everyone has been served, then we will partake together.

*** Gluten free wafers are available in the small dish on plate

***Affirmation of Faith:** (ALL)
(The 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**

***Sending Song:** #414 O Word of God Incarnate

Benediction Pastor Joseph

**Please stand as you are able*

Description of Church Committees

Worship: Chair - Tucker Bacquet

The Worship Committee is responsible for ensuring that our Sunday worship is set up and prepared accordingly. Duties would include: preparing for Communion, cleaning up following worship (picking up left over bulletins, communion cups, refilling pens/pencils, etc), collecting the attendance register from the black pew pads, lighting and extinguishing the candles, and operating the slide show and sound board (as necessary). May be called upon to assist with passing out bulletins and greeting visitors.

Fellowship: Chair - Ben Troyer

The Fellowship Committee is responsible for overseeing, facilitating and/or planning all church community events that take place outside of express worship or study events. This includes: church luncheons and dinners, Coffee Hour, sociable "Social" occasions (e.g. 5th Sunday Sundaes), refreshing parlor decorations, organizing and planning annual Christmas decorating, and any other events that occasion suggests.

Outreach: Chair - Ben Troyer

The Outreach Committee is responsible for all activities and advertising intended to increase the local community's awareness of our congregation and our services. The purpose of this committee is to improve our external engagement with the people of Mansfield and Richland county; to invite and encourage others to join us for worship, fellowship, discipleship, and eventually in membership. Everything which our church does for the Preschool (Cookie Reception October-Blest, etc) is considered to be outreach.

PRAYER REQUEST

Brett & Rachel Lloyd

James Willis

Larry Jenkins mourning Gloria Smith

Students & Families of Tusky Valley

Eurobrass

EduNations and its students

Families & children of the Sudan

Our Congregation

Pastor Joseph & Jodie

Shawn Wade & Our Preschool

For Our City, Our Nation & Civic Leaders (for wisdom, grace, peace)

Reverend El Akuchie, Mansfield City Councilman, 3rd Ward

Mayor Jodie Perry

First Responders (Police, Fire, EMS)

All Christians being persecuted around the globe

For Revival in our city, state & county

Palestinian Christians

Jerusalem and all those in harms way

For everyone else not listed, but also in need of prayer

YMCA Stronger Through Prayer:

12/21

My Aunt, her husband passed away on Dec. 11

Healing for Paulette

Ariodyn & family

Healing for Barb’s grandson



This Week at Mansfield 1st EPC

Office hours are M-F 8am-noon

Sunday, January 7th	9 am	Sunday School
	10 am	Family Worship Service
	11:20 am	Coffee Hour
Tuesday, January 9th	4:30 pm	Outreach Meeting
Wednesday, January 10th	12 pm	Staff Meeting
Thursday, January 11th	10 am	Prayer Meeting
Sunday, January 14th	9 am	Sunday School
	10 am	Worship Service
	11:20 am	Coffee Hour

It is with great sadness we inform you that both Betty Albers & Charlene Reed recently passed away. Their obituaries are printed and available in the Narthex.

Tithing Envelopes are located in the Narthex for everyone who signed up.



Please join us by adding our community prayer angels, which we have collected from “Christmas at Kingwood”, to your prayers. You will find them displayed in the Narthex on the Sanctuary window. Copies are available for you to take home.

We have several different yearly Bible Reading plan options printed and available in the Narthex

Would you like to use your God given talents to help our church? Please read the description of church committees included in this bulletin and prayerfully consider becoming involved with one or more. Sign up sheets for these committees are located in the Narthex. If you are currently a member of these committees, then there is no need to re-sign up.

Save the Date! - We will be hosting a “Empty Bowls” Soup Supper Event on Saturday, February 24th. This event will be a fundraiser held for and in partnership with the Discovery School, Mansfield Christian School & the Lexington School District.



Prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise Cindy Hessin

The LORD is Sovereign over ALL THINGS Maxine Smith

Our American Freedoms Don Harding

Our Freedom to worship the LORD Sally and Bill Wyatt

Prayers of Petition Ms. Vivian Stevens

Healing for Carol Nemeth Sid & Nancy Hall

Healing for Martha Ball Patsey Himes

Healing for Pat Olsen Family & friends of Charlene Reed in morning

Healing for Dan Davis Family & friend of Betty Albers, in morning

Healing for Beverly Urschel

Healing for Joseph James Hazel Bigner & family

Healing for Meg Wyatt O'Rourke Jon & Dorothy Powell, Home Hospice

Healing for Martha Montague

Healing for Nik Stevens Maureen Doherty

Healing for Edda Braun Mark Doherty

Healing for Jan Gibbs Kenly Scott, improve vision

Healing for David Doerr Madden Family, safe travels, peace, healing

Healing for Agie

Over——>

Healing for Aunt Robin, covid

Erna & Frank Becker

Come To The Table

Words and Music by
Claire Cloninger and Martin J. Nyström

♩ = 78

VERSE

F F^{sus} F C/D Dm⁷ Am⁷ Gm⁷ B♭/C

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, _ pre - pared with the wine _ and the bread; .

4 F C/F B♭/F F F^{sus} F C/D Dm⁷ Am⁷

_ All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, _

CHORUS

7 Gm⁷ B♭/C F^{sus} F Am⁷ F/B♭

come and your souls _ will be fed. _ Come at the Lord's _ in - vi - ta -

10 C/D Dm⁷ Am⁷ Gm⁷ Dm/F C/E B♭/D C

- tion, _ re - ceive from His nail - scarred hand; _

13 F F^{sus} F C/D Dm⁷ Am⁷

Eat of the bread _ of sal - va - tion, _

15 Gm⁷ B♭/C F^{sus} F

drink of the blood _ of the Lamb. _

Sermon Notes

[illegible]

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

The Heidelberg Catechism, was written in Heidelberg at the request of Elector Frederick III, ruler of the most influential German province, the Palatinate, from 1559 to 1576. This pious Christian prince commissioned Zacharius Ursinus, twenty-eight years of age and professor of theology at the Heidelberg University, and Caspar Olevianus, twenty-six years old and Frederick's court preacher, to prepare a catechism for instructing the youth and for guiding pastors and teachers. Frederick obtained the advice and cooperation of the entire theological faculty in the preparation of the Catechism.

The Heidelberg Catechism was adopted by a Synod in Heidelberg and published in German with a preface by Frederick III, dated January 19, 1563. A second and third German edition, each with some small additions, as well as a Latin translation were published in Heidelberg in the same year. The Catechism was soon divided into fifty-two sections, so that a section of the Catechism could be explained to the churches each Sunday of the year.

In the Netherlands this Heidelberg Catechism became generally and favourably known almost as soon as it came from the press, mainly through the efforts of Petrus Dathenus, who translated it into the Dutch language and added this translation to his Dutch rendering of the Genevan Psalter, which was published in 1566. In the same year Peter Gabriel set the example of explaining this catechism to his congregation at Amsterdam in his Sunday afternoon sermons.

The National Synods of the sixteenth century adopted it as one of the Three Forms of Unity, requiring office-bearers to subscribe to it and ministers to explain it to the churches. These requirements were strongly emphasized by the great Synod of Dort in 1618-19. The Heidelberg Catechism has been translated into many languages and is the most influential and the most generally accepted of the several catechisms of Reformation times.

LORD'S DAY 1

1. Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own,¹ but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death,² to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.³ He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,⁴ and has set me free from all the power of the devil.⁵ He also preserves me in such a way⁶ that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head;⁷ indeed, all things must work together for my salvation.⁸ Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life⁹ and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.¹⁰

¹ 1 Cor 6:19, 20.

² Rom 14:7-9.

³ 1 Cor 3:23; Tit 2:14.

⁴ 1 Pet 1:18, 19; 1 Jn 1:7; 2:2.

⁵ Jn 8:34-36; Heb 2:14, 15; 1 Jn 3:8.

⁶ Jn 6:39, 40; 10:27-30; 2 Thess 3:3; 1 Pet 1:5.

⁷ Mt 10:29-31; Lk 21:16-18.

⁸ Rom 8:28.

⁹ Rom 8:15, 16; 2 Cor 1:21, 22; 5:5; Eph 1:13, 14.

¹⁰ Rom 8:14.

2. Q. What do you need to know in order to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. First, how great my sins and misery are;¹ second, how I am delivered from all my sins and misery;² third, how I am to be thankful to God for such deliverance.³

¹ Rom 3:9, 10; 1 Jn 1:10.

² Jn 17:3; Acts 4:12; 10:43.

³ Mt 5:16; Rom 6:13; Eph 5:8-10; 1 Pet 2:9, 10.