

Leading Worship Today– Megan Long

Serving Today– Nursery– Eva Estep/Aubrey Lantz

TIME TO REVIVE is hosting a conference January 9-12 in Elkhart to call our nation to repentance and prayer.

“America is at a Crossroads” will be held at the RV Hall of Fame and will include corporate worship and breakout sessions. Registration is only \$50. Information can be found in the fliers posted around the church or at reviveunited-states.com.

Deacon Fund Offering... As the year draws to a close we are looking to replenish our Deacon Fund. This account is used to help those in our church with various needs. If you have anything you'd like to contribute, a check made out to the church with “Deacon Fund” in the memo line will suffice.

Giving Envelopes... If you do not currently receive Giving Envelopes to be used for your offering each week, and you would like to receive a box of envelopes for 2025, please talk to Edna VanDiepenbos.

In Doug & Peggy's absence, should anyone have any Prayer Requests for the Prayer Chain, please call or text Pastor Jeff at 574-370-8171, and we will make sure those requests go out.

The church office will be closed December 25th to January 1st as Pastor Jeff takes a vacation.



December 22nd, 2024

Today's Message:
The Shepherds' Story
Luke 2:8-20

9am– Sunday School
10:15am– Morning Worship

Pastor Jeff Estep

831-2766 (church), 574-370-8171 (cell),

email– pastorjeffestep@bnin.net

Find us online at www.newparisfirst.com!

Calendar:

Sun., Dec. 22nd– Youth Christmas Party 6:00-8:30pm

Tues., Dec. 24th– Christmas Eve Service, 8pm

Fri., Jan. 3rd– Youth Lock-in, 7pm-9am!

Upcoming Birthdays!!

Wed., Jan. 1st– Megan Long

Upcoming Anniversary!!

Sun., Dec. 29th– Jim & Sarah Morris

Prayer Concerns:

- Josh L.– knee replacement surgery Tuesday
- Pam H.– in ER with infection, pray for healing
- Gregg & Vicki– traveling mercies this week
- Megan N.– juvenile arthritis is in remission!
- Willie– continues to recover from fractured ribs and skin cancer surgery
- Megan L.– pray for cousin Melissa, recovering from cancer surgery

Prayer Focus *Thank God for granting us peace. Peace in our homes, in our church, and in our hearts. Ask Him to help us be peacemakers in our family and with our friends, and neighbors.*

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Needed to make Budget each month in 2024: \$8,612

Given in December (as of 12/15): \$3,816

2024 Budget giving needed (Jan-Nov): \$94,732

2024 Actual Budget giving (Jan-Nov): \$92,578

(\$2,154 under budget for the year)

**December 22nd, 2024–
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Prelude, Welcome and Announcements

**Lighting of the Advent Candle of Peace–
Aaron Estep**

Opening Hymn #125– Joy to the World

Morning Prayer

Scripture Reading– Isaiah 54:8-10

“In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you,” says the Lord your Redeemer. “To me this is like the days of Noah, when I swore that the waters of Noah would never again cover the earth. So now I have sworn not to be angry with you, never to rebuke you again. Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Hymn #136 – The First Noel

**Message— *The Shepherds’ Story*
Pastor Jeff Estep**

Responding in Worship – The Praise Team

Dismissal

If you have an offering to give this morning, please place it in the box at the back of the sanctuary.

Sermon Notes:

When Jesus stepped into history, much of the world _____ the same _____.

The Pax Romana had created peace, making it _____ for people to travel.

Rome built _____, making it easy for people to travel _____.

WHEN GOD SPEAKS, THAT’S THE _____!

Start each day with a prayer- “Lord, what do you have for me today?”

Daily Scripture Readings:

Sunday– Genesis 3 **Monday–** Galatians 4:1-7

Tuesday– Luke 2:1-7 **Wednesday–** Luke 2:8-20

Thursday– Luke 2:21-40 **Friday–** Hebrews 4:1-11

Saturday– Isaiah 54

Upcoming Sermons:

12/29– The Magi’s Story– Matthew 2:1-12– Jesus Christ was born King of the Jews. But God’s plan for Christ was far more than that, as evidenced that among the first to worship Him were Gentiles.

1/5– The Voice– Luke 3:1-20– In the first message of our “Proclaim” Sermon Series, John the Baptist begins to call the people of Israel to repentance. Yet we get a hint that the salvation coming to the earth is not just offered to those in the “religious mainstream”. John proclaims repentance and forgiveness to all!

