Pastor Joseph Murdy (or PJ as we call him) began serving Ascension as his first call in 2012. He grew up on the Northside of Pittsburgh and is proud to have crossed the river in order to be with us. Pastor Joe graduated from Thiel College, a Lutheran liberal arts college here in Southwestern PA. From there, he attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. He is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Prior to coming to Ascension, Pastor Joe served Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Naples Florida as Vicar and supplied at dozens of congregations throughout central Pennsylvania while in seminary. His passion for ministry lies in sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ by recognizing our mutual call to be people of mission and Disciples of Christ. Our call to serve begins with worship where we are equipped and sent. Pastor Joe enjoys taking care of his fish tank, gardening, reading and spending time with his family. He and his wife Amanda met in the Thiel College Choir and have two beautiful daughters Zoey and McKenna. If you would like to talk with PJ he can be reached at [pastor@alcpgh.org](mailto:pastor@alcpgh.org)