You're Welcome...



Advent 1: December 1, 2024



THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY E.L.C.A. 167 EAST MAIN STREET EPHRATA PA 17522 PHONE 717.733.4134 Web: www.holytrinityephrata.org

The Liturgy of Holy Communion 9:00 AM ታዋታ

GATHERING

Announcements

Prelude: Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying, arr. Johann Gottfried Walther

(Please stand)

Confession and Forgiveness

P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence/Kneel)

- P. God of mercy,
- C. we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.
- P. God of might,
- C. we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P. God in our midst,

C. we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us. P. A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C. Amen

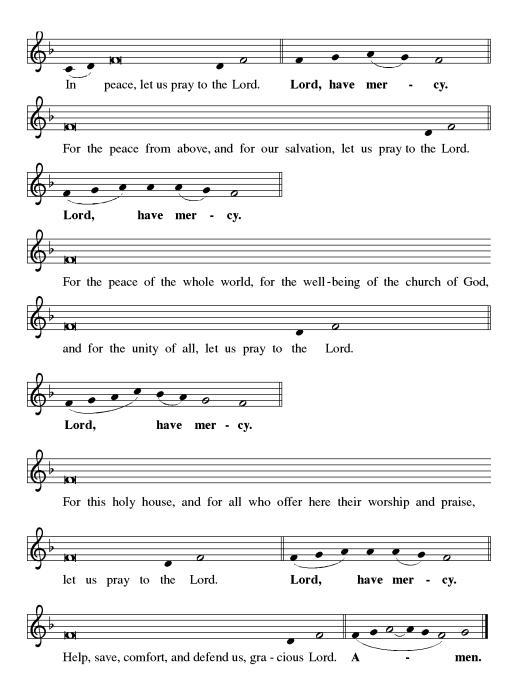
(stand)

The Entrance Hymn: #436 WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING

Apostolic Greeting

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

Kyrie:



Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P. Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

C. Amen

Stanza 1 of "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" (hymn 240) is sung:
C. Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

The Prayer of the Day:

P. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

C. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

(Be Seated)

WORD

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-10 (sung responsively with the cantor)

¹To [|] you, O LORD, I lift [|] up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³Let none who look to you be ¹ put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD, and teach | me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your [|] truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all [|] the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compas-¹ sion and love, for they are from ¹ everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- ¹ ness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and up-[|]right, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners [|] in your way.

⁹You lead the low-¹ly in justice and teach the low-¹ly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness

to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

(stand)

The Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:25-36

P. The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C. Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

The Sermon: Rev. Mark Luscombe

[Silence for reflection follows the sermon.]

(stand)

The Hymn of the Day: #254 COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

The Nicene Creed

P. Let us affirm our faith in the words of 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

The Prayers

A. As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

(please kneel or sit)

(after each petition, please respond)

- A. Lord, in your mercy, **C. receive our prayer.**
- P. Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
- C. Amen

C. And also with you!

The Offertory: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, arr. Robert Powell

The Offertory: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"



The Offertory Prayer:

P. Creator God,

C. you made the whole world and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

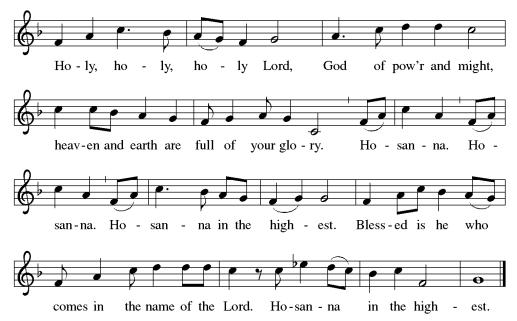
The Preface Dialogue: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P. The Lord be with you. C. And also with you.
- P. Lift up your hearts. C. We lift them to the Lord.
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Preface for Advent

P. "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy......join their unending hymn."

The Sanctus:



Eucharistic Prayer:

P. Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty......Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C. Amen**

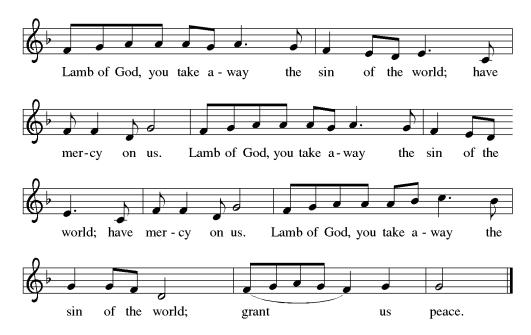
The Lord's Prayer:

C. 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

The Fraction:

P. God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

Agnes Dei – LAMB OF GOD



[Please be seated at the conclusion of this hymn.]

The Distribution:

(All are invited to come to the table, for either the bread, wine and grape juice or a blessing. If you are visiting, please follow the custom of your home congregation regarding participation of children at the table. We use a glass to receive the wine. The grape juice is pre-poured in the trays. Please join in the hymns provided for the communing of the faithful.)

- #260 THE KING SHALL COME
- #241 O LORD, HOW SHALL I MEET YOU
- #488 SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS
- #490 LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE
- #262 WAIT FOR THE LORD

(stand)

The Blessing of Communicants:

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C. Amen

The Post Communion Canticle:



The Post Communion Prayer:

P. Generous God,

C. we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world to be a sign of your reign. Amen

The Benediction

P. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C. Amen**

The Dismissal

A. Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel. **C. Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude: Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying, arr. Paul Manz

OUR WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

| ASSISTING MINISTERS | ALTAR GUILD |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 9:00 Ed Quirke | 9:00 Brenda Wangman, Heather Zimmerman, |
| | Lisa Garrett |
| LECTOR | |
| 9:00 Gary Nace | USHERS |
| | 9:00 Curtis & Christy Boos, Bill & Lori Spitzer |
| COUNCIL TEAM | |
| 9:00 Barry Kreider, Lisa Garrett | Launder Linens: Lori Spitzer |
| | |
| ACOLYTES | Deliver Flowers: Winnie Gerlach |
| 9:00 CH Ava Morgan | |
| | WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR |
| AV | FLOWERS/WORSHIP APPOINTMENTS TODAY: |
| Live Stream | ✤ In memory of Joyce Bowers: |
| | by Dave Bowers. |
| | $\mathbf{\hat{r}}$ In honor of the 16 th birthday of our |
| | granddaughter, Ava Berkosky; |
| | by Terry & Joyce Gehman. |
| | |

Prayers of the People

Jim Hooper – Joyce Hooper's husband. 309 Bank Hill Rd. Wrightsville, PA 17368 Candy Snyder – 218 E. Walnut St. Ephrata, PA 17522 Jill Puleo – Cheryl Plummer's cousin Ryan Johnson – nephew of Deb & Trig Olson Carl Rentschler – 116 Barn Owl Rd. Lititz, PA 17543 Karen Hurst – Neighbor of Bill & Lori Spitzer Sheldon Garman – Friend of Mike & Judy Williams Henry Perella – great-nephew of Judy Williams All people affected by war Victims of natural disasters Shut-ins of the Parish President Biden and leaders of this nation, Leaders and policy makers of every nation All outreach ministries, serving those in need

If for any reason you enter the hospital, whether outpatient or inpatient, please contact the church office and Pastor Mark. If you wish to be on the prayer list or have a friend or family member needing prayers, please contact the church office.

CONGREGATION REQUEST FOR PRAYER

The office staff does not know the current status of many on the list below. If there is a change in their life circumstance making it possible to remove their name from this list, please let the church office know.

Alexander Mulvenna Emmalyn Mulvenna Janet Brunner Andrew Campbell Michael Spenrath Asher D'Agostino Tony Perella Mike & Claudia Belden COL. Eric Bowers Dan Wierbiki Jacob Hinkle Jr. Karen Woerner Kim Kim Harnish Rick Gerhard Wyatt Geisthweit Les Doremus Jim Weik Heidi White Johnny White Jacob Connelly Sue & Denis Rowe Crystal Perry Hank & Pat Kajetzke Terry Gehman Brent Stever Alan & family Dori Hoch Cindy Stahl Grant Hummer Martha Becker Chris and Karen Payonk Alysha Fassnacht

John Surdich Ava Berkosky Amy Pasili Theresa Cimino Kim Burke Eric Mortorell Duke & Bonnie Leeper