

# You're Welcome...



Advent 2: December 4, 2022



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THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY E.L.C.A.

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# The Liturgy of Holy Communion

9:00 AM



GATHERING

## Announcements

**Prelude: Handbell Ensemble:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, Linda Boatright

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C. Blessed be God's name forever. Amen**

P. Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*(Silence/Kneel)*

P. God of new beginnings,

**C. we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen**

P. People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ✠ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**C. Amen**

*(Stand)*

**The Entrance Hymn: #249 ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY**

## Apostolic Greeting

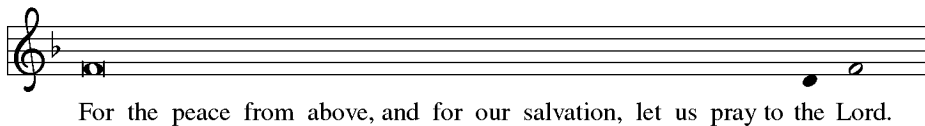
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C. And also with you.**

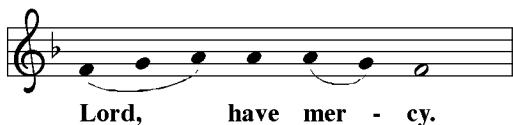
# The Kyrie



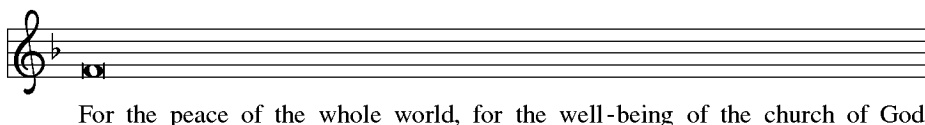
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



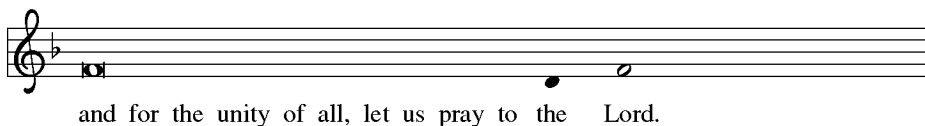
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



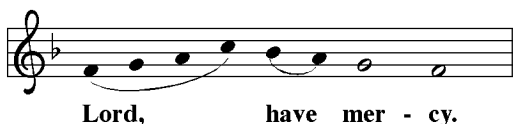
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



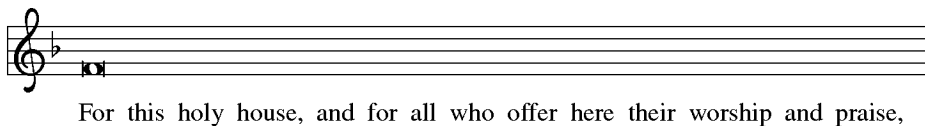
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



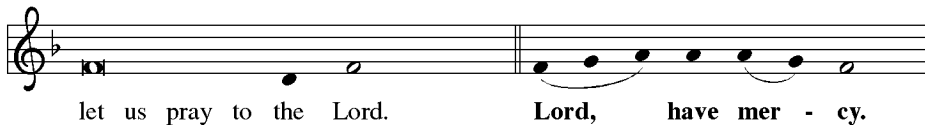
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



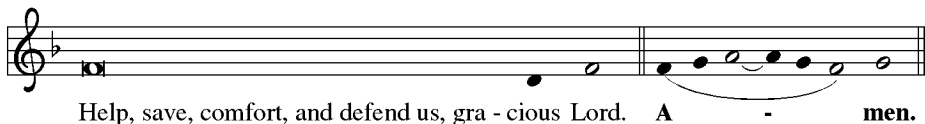
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P. Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

**C. Amen**

**Stanza 2** of "*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*" (hymn 240) is sung:

*Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.*

## The Prayer of the Day:

P. Stir up our hearts, Lord God,

**C. to prepare the way of your only Son. Nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*(Be Seated)*

## WORD

### The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

L. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 (sung responsively with the cantor)

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your jus- | tice, O God, and your righteousness to | the king's son;

<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your | people righteously and the | poor with justice;**

<sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people, and the | hills, in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**

**rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure, from one generation | to another.

<sup>6</sup>**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field, like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**

<sup>7</sup>In his time may the | righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**<sup>18</sup>Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!**

<sup>19</sup>And blessed be your glorious name forever,

and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

### **The Second Lesson Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; <sup>11</sup>and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

*(please stand)*

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### **The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 3:1-12**

P. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who

warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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:** #720 WE ARE CALLED

**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 the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*(Kneel)*

*(after each petition, please respond)*

A. God, in your mercy, **C. hear our prayer.**

P. God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C. Amen**

*(Be seated for the gathering of the offering)*

**The Offering: Sr. & Youth Choirs:** *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*, Welsh melody  
*(Stand)*

**Offertory:** *"Let the Vineyards...."*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**The Offertory Prayer:**

A. Eternal God,

**C. you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen**

**The Preface Dialogue (spoken):**

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**C. We lift them to the Lord.**

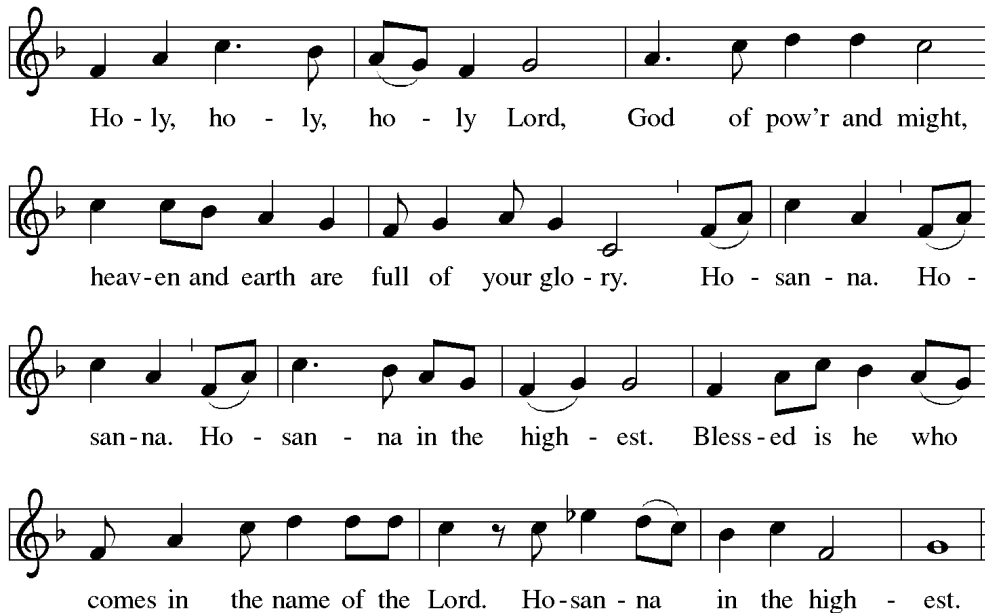
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface for Advent

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

## The Sanctus:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## 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. Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

**C. Thanks be to God.**



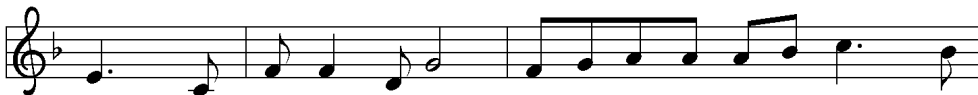
## Agnes Dei – LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

### **The Distribution:**

*[All are invited to come to the table, for either the bread and wine 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 or grape juice. Please join in the hymns provided for the communing of the faithful]*

#256 COMFORT, COMFORT NOW MY PEOPLE

#255 THERE'S A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

#715 CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

#250 BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL

#243 LOST IN THE NIGHT

### **The Blessing of Communicants:**

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

**C. Amen**

## Post Communion Canticle

Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be.

And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!

Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav'n - ly strain;

but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

### The Post Communion Prayer:

A. Faithful God,

**C. in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### The Benediction

P. God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✚ bless you now and forever.

**C. Amen**

## **The Dismissal**

A. Go in Peace. Christ is near.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**The Postlude:** *Prelude and Fugue in F Major*, J.S. Bach

Please do not forget to fill out a Communion Card. A communion and contribution of record are necessary each year for confirmed Members to maintain their voting status.

### **WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR WORSHIP APPOINTMENTS TODAY:**

† In memory of **Joyce Bowers**; from **Dave**.

† In honor of our daughter **Kelsey's** birthday; by **Curtis and Christy Boos**.

† In memory of my beautiful daughter **Metra Naraghi's** birthday, who fell asleep on **January 31, 2016** and is now in the arms of Our Lord, Jesus Christ; by **Joyce Hooper**.

### **OUR WORSHIPING COMMUNITY**

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** John Weiss

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT:**

**LECTOR:** Gary Nace

**ACOLYTE:** Anya Gilbert

**USHERS:**

Ron & Carlene Kerschner

**AUDIO-VISUAL**

Live Stream

**COUNCIL TEAM:**

Christy Boos, Kevin Gingrich

**ALTAR GUILD:**

Brenda Wangman, Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett

**LINEN LAUNDERING:** Brenda Wangman

**DELIVER FLOWERS:** Winnie Gerlach

## Prayers of the People

Tressie Martin – Ephrata Manor

The family of Kathy Ross. Kathy died Saturday, November 26.

Earl Dinger – 460 Horseshoe Trail Rd. Denver, PA 17517

Marti Nissley – 21 Ridgewood Drive, Akron, PA 17501

Linda Hinkle – 4 No. Line Road, Stevens, PA 17578

Carl Rentschler – 116 Barn Owl Rd. Lititz, PA 17543

Sue Rentschler – 116 Barn Owl Rd. Lititz, PA 17543

Bonnie Frey – Luther Acres, Manor Care, Rm. 142 17543

Connie Hutchinson – 1010 James Ave. Ephrata, PA 17522

Candice Walker – 270 Stevens Rd. Stevens, PA 17578

Jacob Connelly

The people of Ukraine

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

All those who have suffered losses during the current pandemic and all those front line and essential workers keeping us safe.



***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  
Linda Hutchinson  
Kathy Berkosky  
Janet Brunner  
Pat Schreibeis

COL. Eric Bowers  
Dan Wierbiki  
Jacob Hinkle Jr.  
Karen Woerner Kim  
Kim Harnish  
Rick Gerhard

Jim and Vicki Enders  
Dottie Effinger  
Jim Weik  
Evelyn Chronister  
Heidi White  
Johnny White

Brent Stever  
Alan & family  
Dori Hoch  
Cindy Stahl  
Grant Hummer

Jeff Donahue  
John Surdich  
Burnell & Dorothy Henry  
Mike & Henrietta Mull

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