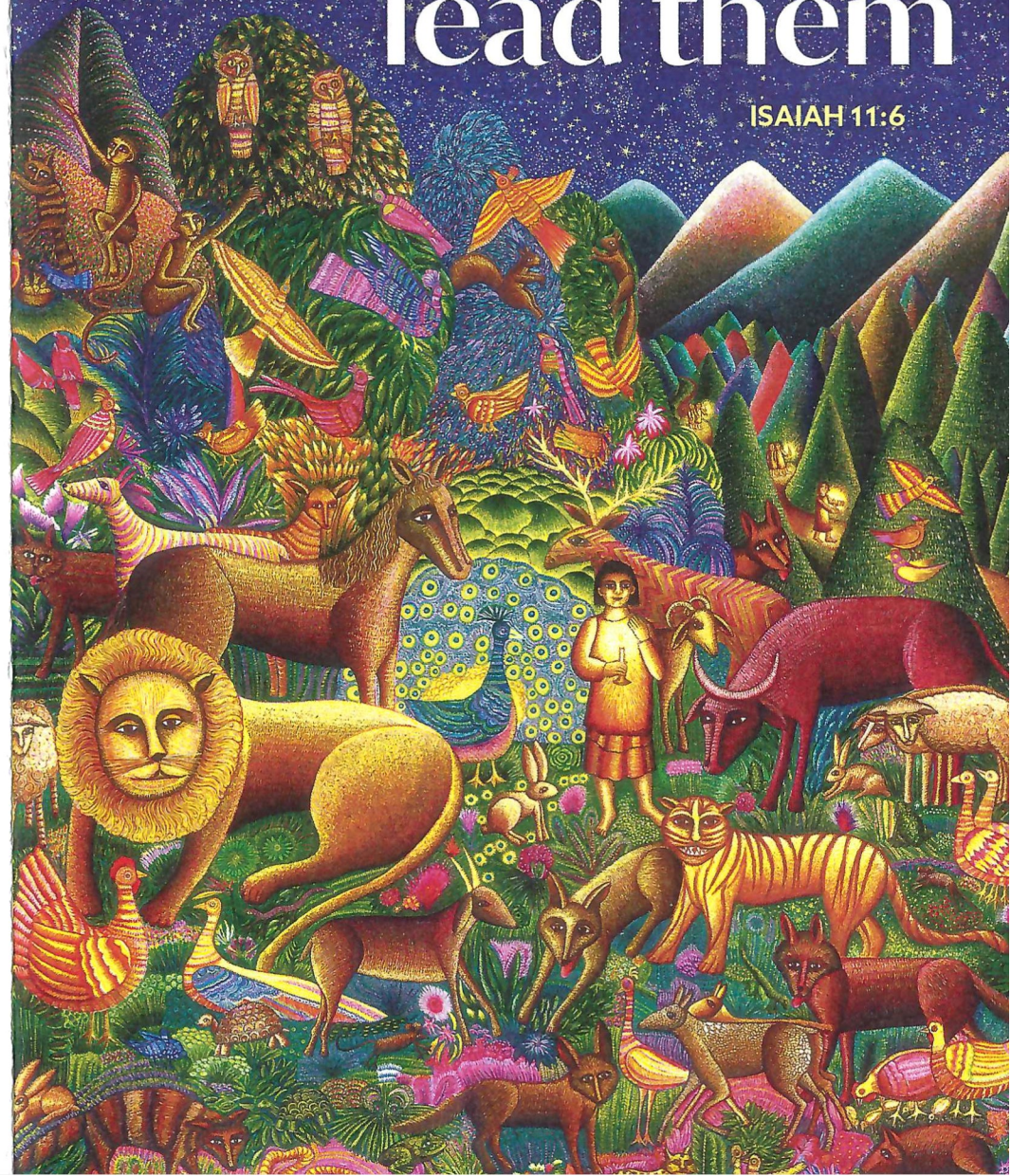


# A little child shall lead them

ISAIAH 11:6





Edinburg Lutheran Parish  
St. Jacob's & Zion Congregations

December 7, 2025

Pastor Katie Gosswein Parsonage: 984-9260 Cell: 335-7758

<https://elpva.org/>



**Remembering those who have requested prayer:** Sophia Gibb, Tasha Mahony, Kitty Martz, Jane Perry, Jerry Polk, Larry Polk, **and we further remember...** Steve Baker, Steve Campbell, Leannah Comer, Keith Cabbage, Tina Daniels, Burgess Dellinger, Roe Dias, Todd Edgerton, Carla Eickenhorst, Virginia Estep, Shelby Eye, Landon Fadely, Diane Funkhouser, Harper Gochenour, Luther Gochenour, Peggy Graff, Podge Green, Terry Grigsby, Belle Hamman, Martha Harlow, Mike Harlow, Tim Harlow, Mike Heishman, Betty Helsley, Barbara Hollar, Ronnie Hoffman, Wade Ludwig, Keith Manich, Toby Markley, Bonnie Mason, Eric McMinn, Evelyn Moomaw, Ron Moomaw, Jerry Newland, Anna Nilsen, Rick Painter, Bob Perry, Linda Perry, Karen Polk, Judy Polk, Ed & Bea Provost, Dennis Rigby, Steve Ritenour, Laurie Robinson, Roger Schmidt, Peter Shoemaker, Ed Sine, Dan Strother, Keith Taylor, Judy Tharp, John Wymer, and Christine Zuniga.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Next Sunday: December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent**

**8:30 Worship** will be a Service of the Word at St. Jacob's with hymnbooks.

**9:45 Adult Sunday School** meets at both churches.

**11:00 Worship** will be a Service of Holy Communion at Zion

Call-in worship is always offered at the 11:00 service.

Conference call: (425) 436-6395 Toll Free: (844)-854-2222

Access Code: 377656 #

## DID YOU KNOW ?

Abraham sacrificed a ram instead of his son, Isaac  
(Genesis 22:13)

## A LITTLE HUMOR

**What is a dentist's favorite hymn?**  
Crown him with many crowns.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Wreaths Across America** will take place **NEXT Saturday**, December 13 – 11:30 AM at Zion. Everyone is welcome to join us for this solemn event. The wreaths will arrive on Tuesday and we will have a group transporting and another group fluffing them as well as setting up for the day inside and out. If you'd like to help and need specific information of times, etc, call Robin Heishman. (540-481-3765)

**Following 8:30 worship at Zion today**, we will have a commercial regarding next Sunday's Congregational meeting. We're pleased to announce that Dianne George, Robbie Green, and Dave Hottle are willing to stand for election to our vacant Council seats. Many thanks to Steve Heishman, who will be finishing his second term and to Dianne who will complete her first. We will further briefly discuss some financial matters for you to prayerfully consider over the coming week regarding the 2026 budget, which will be discussed in further detail at our congregational meeting next Sunday, following the 11 AM service. For those unable to attend today, be encouraged to call Steve Heishman or Pastor Katie with your questions about what was shared.

**St. Jacob's Council** will meet tomorrow at 6:30 at the home of the Monroes

**Spring Forward** is on Christmas break and will resume classes on Tuesday, January 6 – Epiphany!

**Advent Bible Study:** Wednesday Nights (December 10 & 17) at 6 PM we look forward to learning more about the gifts this season offers us. This week our focus will be on **The Gift of Silence**, as we consider Bible readings from Psalm 19, James 1:17-21 and Luke 1:5-25, 57-66.

**Wednesday Noon Advent Service at Emanuel – Woodstock** – Pastor Katie and Pastor Todd Gess from Woodstock UMC will lead the worship service, which will be followed by a lunch of soup, sandwiches and cookies. Thanks to those who offered to bring food!

**Salvation Army – Red Kettle Ringers!** Thanks to those who braved the cold this past Thursday at Mt. Jackson – Food Lion. We have two more afternoons we are hoping to fill on **Mondays**, December 8 and 15. Pastor Katie has the sign-up sheet or you can call her. 90% of all funds raised stay here in the County and are used for utility and rent assistance. Come be a ding-a-ling to help others!

**Circle the date!** Saturday, December 20, 6:30 – 8 PM as we look forward to having a nativity celebration and carol sing!



*Larry Polk, Diane Funkhouser, Karen & Junior Polk*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**St. Jacob's Lutheran Church**  
**December 7, 2025 + 11 AM**

**Welcome** - Pictures today are from December 4, 2022.

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **Amen.**

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake**

**of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may  
delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the  
glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

### ***Assurance and Forgiveness***

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called, ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I, therefore, declare to You the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

### **Gathering Hymn # 241** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?  
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!  
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy, your lamp within my breast  
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

I lay in fetters, groaning; you came to set me free.  
I stood, my shame bemoaning; you came to honor me.  
A glorious crown you give me, a treasure safe on high  
that will not fail or leave me as earthly riches fly.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.  
Oh, love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace  
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.

Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,  
who mourn your joys departed and tremble at your doom.  
All hail the Lord's appearing! O glorious Sun, now come,  
send forth your beams so cheering and guide us safely home.

### **Apostolic Greeting**

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

**Refrain:** This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God. **(Refrain)**  
Power, riches, wisdom and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **(Refrain)**

Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **(Refrain)**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. **(Refrain)**

## Prayer of the Day

## God's Word



## Today's Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72  
Romans 15:4-13

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## The Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St.  
Matthew the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter, beginning  
with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

***The reading of the Gospel***

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon



*Dandy Harlow*



**Sermon Hymn** # 249    *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
oh, let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore

**Nicene Creed** - *We speak together the words of our faith*

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.

### Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer**



### Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food  
from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn  
our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all  
may know Your care; and prepare us now to feast on  
the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### Offertory

Create in me a clean heart O God  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and  
uphold me with your free spirit.

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**



Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior

*Leannah Comer serving Communion* Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.** (Page 108)

**+ Words of Consecration +**

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**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.**

### Invitation to Communion

Christ invites you to partake.  
Come, taste, and see.



### Partaking of Communion

*In the sanctuary, we will commune at the altar railing.  
Those at home are invited to commune at the  
beginning, as the Pastor invites them.*

### Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, in this meal You  
have drawn us to Your heart, and  
nourished us at Your table with  
food and drink, the body and  
blood of Christ. Now send us forth  
to be Your people in the world, and to proclaim Your  
truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray.



### Blessing

*Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
+ and give you peace. **Amen**

**Sending Hymn** # 264 *Prepare the Royal Highway*

Prepare the royal highway; the King of Kings is near!  
Let every hill and valley a level road appear!  
The greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

**Refrain:** Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's word!

God's people, see him coming, your own eternal King!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread Garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! **Refrain**

Then fling the gates wide open  
to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet every nation its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
their voices join your singing: **Refrain**

His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
for kindness so abounding. **Refrain**

**Sending** Go in peace, for Christ goes with you.  
**Thanks be to God!**



**St. Jacob's**  
will have their  
congregational meeting on  
Sunday, December 21  
following the  
11 AM service.

Pat Monroe & Nancy Bly!

