



# Third Sunday of Advent

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2020

9:30 am Worship Service

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### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, HANOVER, PA

Rev. E. Robert Burkhart, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus

Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries

Lori Rebling, Hand Bell Director

Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music

Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's

Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family

Church Office: 717-637-5941

Email: [stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net)

Website: [www.stpaulsyorkst.org](http://www.stpaulsyorkst.org)

## Announcements

### \* Advent Candle Lighting

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” (stanza 3)



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune  
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### † Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Gracious God,

**Cong.:** have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your gracious Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through Jesus Christ our Lord, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Cong.:** Amen.

**Psalm:** 126 (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for - | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great | things for them."

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

**<sup>4</sup>Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**

**<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.**

**<sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

**\* 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.**

**\* Song**                    *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*                    pages 7 & 8

**\* Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray.

*Response to the prayer:* **C: Amen.**

**First Reading:**

L: A reading from Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:**

L: A reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\* Gospel:**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John 1:6-8, 19-28

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel concludes:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Rotation Faith Formation**

*The pastor will dismiss the PreK through 6th grade children for Children's Sunday School. Please have children wear their masks. Children will return at the end of the service.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Burkhart

**\* Song**                    *“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”*                    page 9

\* **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.

\* **Prayers of the People**

*Each petition ends with these words:*

L: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Response at the conclusion of the prayers: C: Amen.*

**Offertory**      “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”    arr. McCullough  
Senior Choir

*(Use this time to reflect on your financial and spiritual offerings to God.)*

\* **Offertory Prayer**

L: Let us pray.  
Merciful Father,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* **Communion Prayer**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed ...

\* **The Lord's Prayer**

**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**

*All baptized believers are welcome to commune. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.*

**Continuous Communion Distribution**

*Usher will release one row at a time. Please maintain 6 ft. distance in the aisle. Upon approaching the altar, sanitize your hands. Take a wine cup, refrain from touching other cups. Receive the bread from the Pastor, holding out your open hand, palm up, fingers straight out. The Assistant Minister will pour wine into your cup. **Please remain fully masked when receiving your bread and wine. Proceed to the cup disposal area and consume both elements at that location.** Place disposable communion cup in the waste container.*

\* **Blessing**

*Response after the blessing: **C: Amen.***

\* **Prayer after Communion**

L: Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\* **Benediction**

*Response: **C: Amen.***

**\* Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

*Response:* **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Congregational Meeting** (Please be seated)

*An usher will dismiss one row at a time, first one side of the sanctuary and then the other side; be patient and follow usher guidance. Wear mask until you leave church property. Do not congregate in the building.*

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\* Stand if you are able

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# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.  
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# Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - nointed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.  
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to  
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,  
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and  
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are  
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from  
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 pre - cious in your sight.  
 hill to val - ley flow.  
 king - dom with out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
 Music: FREUT EÜCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602  
 public domain

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!** If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

**THE RADIO BROADCAST** is sponsored to the Glory of God by St. Paul's.

**ONE VASE OF ALTAR FLOWERS** is sponsored to the Glory of God in memory of Margaret Loss's birthday on December 15 by the family.

**ONE VASE OF ALTAR FLOWERS** is sponsored to the Glory of God in honor of Hazel Lehigh's birthday on December 13 by Pete Lehigh.

**THE ROSEBUD** is sponsored to the Glory of God in honor of Hazel Lehigh's birthday on December 13 by Pete Lehigh.

**THE COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE** are sponsored to the Glory of God by St. Paul's.

**THE BULLETINS** are sponsored to the Glory of God by St. Paul's.

**THE ETERNAL FLAME** is sponsored to the Glory of God and with thanks to healthcare workers and first responders.

**SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR:**

- Radio – December 20 & 27 (\$60 or any portion you desire)
- Flowers – December 27 (1 large poinsettia \$35) It is the responsibility of the sponsor to take their flowers following worship.
- Communion Bread & Wine – December 27 (\$12)
- Bulletins – December 27 (\$20)

Please contact Sue ([swineholt@comcast.net](mailto:swineholt@comcast.net) or 717-637-5941) in the church office to reserve your special date.

**ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held TODAY following the worship service. The meeting is to elect new council members, vote on the proposed budget for 2021, and to review the annual reports.

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available on tables in the hallway by the lounge. The tables are spread out and labeled to make finding yours quick and easy. I tried to band together envelopes for the same household or family. If you can take envelopes for family or neighbors that aren't able to get out, please do so and see that they get them.

**CONFIRMATION:** The confirmation class meets Sunday from 10:30 until 11:30. Lucille Farrington leads the class but needs an additional adult helper. More than one member can share in this ministry. If you can volunteer, please contact Lucille Farrington at 717-630-8810.

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** for all your donations to the Christmas Blessing Express. What a wonderful collection of 93 gifts for the families of Hanover. We are sure you made someone's Christmas a little brighter. From The Faith in Action Committee

**IN PLACE OF POINSETTIAS THIS YEAR**, you may donate in any amount to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in memory or honor of someone. There is a form on page 27 of your Evangel.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES** will be videotaped and shared on St. Paul's website, [www.stpaulsyorkst.org](http://www.stpaulsyorkst.org). We invite you to make this a time of your Advent devotional life as we prepare for the Christ who comes to us at Christmas as Emmanuel - God with us!

**DECEMER SPECIAL DESIGNATED GIVING** will go to Lutheran Disaster Response. Please see page 7 of your Evangel for details.

**STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET:** *"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him."* – **John 1:6-7**

Like John, we are sent as witnesses to testify to the Christ at work in the world. In addition to preparing our own hearts and minds in Advent, faithful stewards know that the Spirit gives us the power to share the good news of God among us.

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**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** are available at the pulpit and lectern entrances to the sanctuary in both regular and large print.

**SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!** For Christmas our food distribution ministry would like to give extra food to our neighbors because children will be home from school. There will be a box to collect donations outside of the sanctuary. Please see page 10 of your Evangel for more information.

**NEW ADDITIONS TO THE PRAYER LIST:** Dorothy Thompson, Carly, Kirsten

Names to be included on the prayer list should be given to Janet Haack ([jmhaack@comcast.net](mailto:jmhaack@comcast.net) or 717-633-1365). As is always the case, if you have need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Bob directly or through the church office.

	<b><u>December 13</u></b>	<b><u>December 20</u></b>
<b>Assisting Minister:</b>	Russ Kaltreider	Betty Sheets
<b>Ushers:</b>	Team 2	Team 2
<b>Offering Deposit Team:</b>	Laura Silver Nancy Smith	Wayne Butler Frank Hueske

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday – Thursday – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday – 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

*(Closed 12:00 to 1:00 pm daily for lunch)*

(The church office is open by appointment only. Please call before you come. Only one person, other than staff, is allowed in the office at a time.)

<b>SUN., DECEMBER 13</b>	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast
	9:30 am	Worship Service followed by Congregational Meeting
	9:30 am	Rotation Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Confirmation Class
<b>MON., DECEMBER 14</b>	6:30 pm	Girl Scouts
<b>WED., DECEMBER 16</b>		Midweek Advent Worship (online)
<b>THURS., DECEMBER 17</b>	6:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Cub Scouts
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Recording for Christmas Eve
<b>FRI., DECEMBER 18</b>		PAL Team 3
<b>SAT., DECEMBER 19</b>	10:00 am	Grocery Ministry
<b>SUN., DECEMBER 20</b>	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Rotation Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Confirmation Class