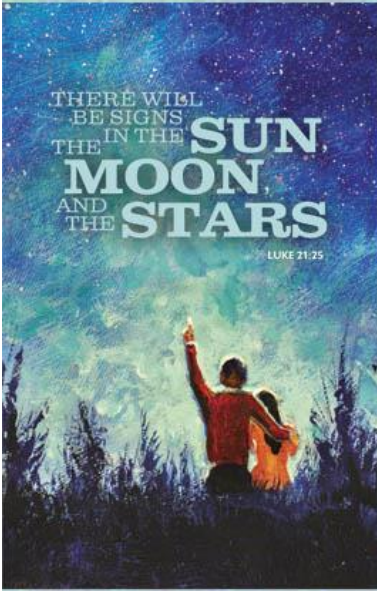


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
127 YORK STREET
HANOVER, PA



IST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 1, 2024

Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor
[*pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com*](mailto:pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com)

Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus
Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries
Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells
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)
Facebook: [*www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst*](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst)

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.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- Generously** stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- Serving** as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- Providing** for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- Growing in Faith** through worship, study, and discernment
- Praising** God through music, word, and service
- Welcoming** all people into fellowship with God

Important Worship Notes

All liturgies are printed within this bulletin.

Children's activity bags and children's bulletins are located on the podium in the hallway on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Children's activity bags are also located on the coat rack behind the door of the choir loft side of the sanctuary.

P: Pastor

C: Congregation

L: Lay Reader

A: Assisting Minister

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

**+ 1st Sunday of Advent +
December 1, 2024**

INTRODUCTION

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.
Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever.

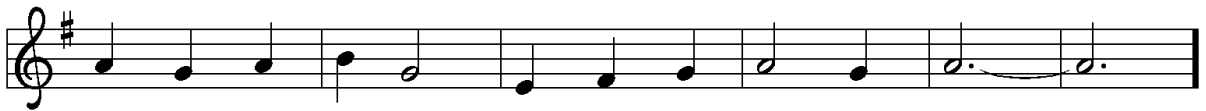
Amen.



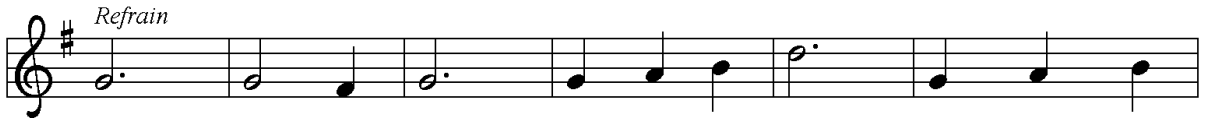
1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

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.

Amen.




***OPENING HYMN**

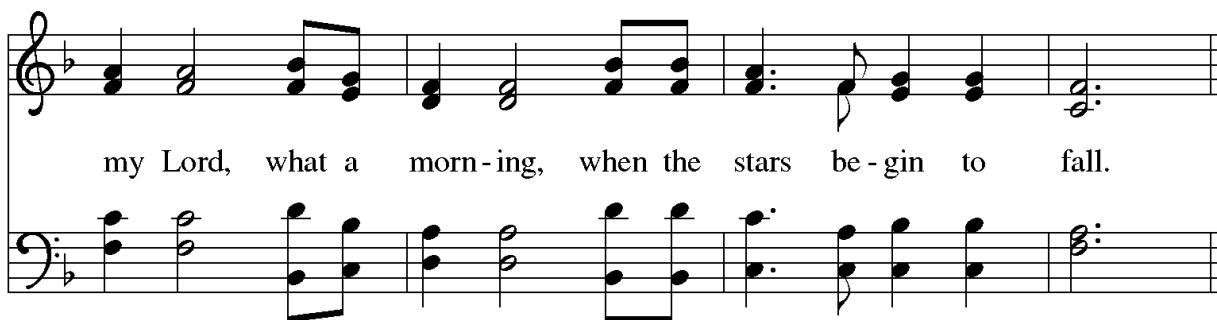
"My Lord, What a Morning"

ELW 438

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

***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**

ELW pg. 156-157

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



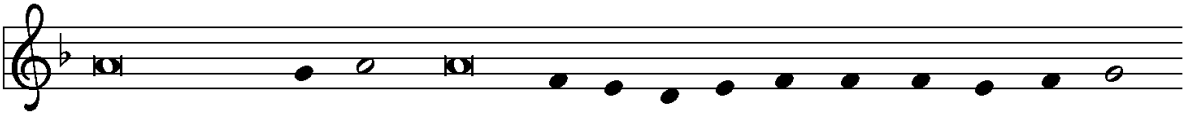
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



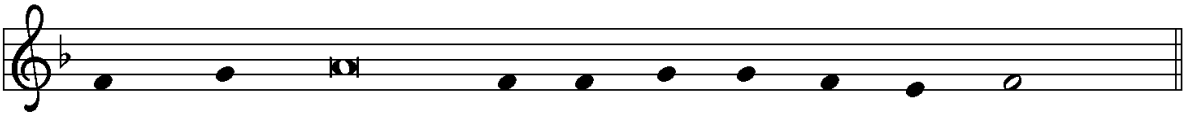
For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



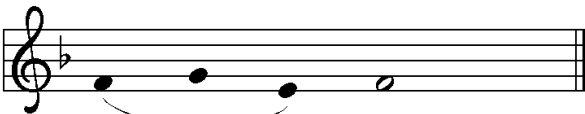
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Let us pray...

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

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 64:1-9

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The LORD is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

L ¹⁴ The 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. ¹⁵ In 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. ¹⁶ In 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.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

read responsively

A ¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

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

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

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

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

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

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

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰ **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

A Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

L 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.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – verse 1

“We Are Waiting for Jesus”



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

*GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke 21:25-36

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P [Jesus said:] 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. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven 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 does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be 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.

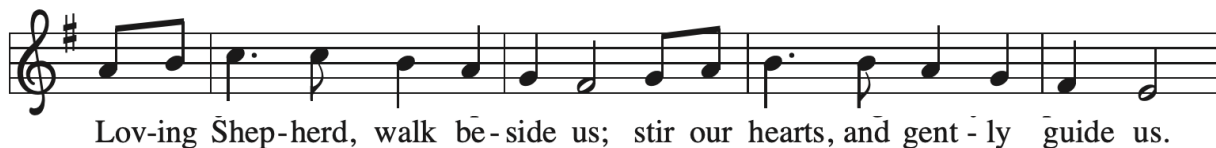
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Verse 2

"We Are Waiting for Jesus"



2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

ELW 436



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voice - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

*APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

A brief silence.

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering (*especially*). In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Gracious accompanying God, the One in whom we live and move and have our being, give us a vision of the times of our lives, the new situations in which we live out our faith in Jesus. May we ask anew what it means to be the Church in our time, our place. And as we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we welcome according to your Spirit the one you are sending to us to lead us into the new days ahead.

receive our prayer.

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.
The assembly is seated.*

THE MEAL

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Waiting"
Adult and Youth Choirs

Keesecker

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

There are a number of ways of making your offerings to God during this time. One is to place your offering in our offering plates in front of the pews or to give online at <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give>. If you prefer not to give online, you may of course mail a check to St. Paul's. If you are not able to give monetarily during this time, know that your prayers and praise are a pleasing offering to God. If you are able to give a little more during this time, please consider doing so as a way of supporting your fellow disciples who are not able to.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
Creator God,

C **you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, 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.**

*DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C **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.

*PREFACE

P 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 Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

*SANCTUS



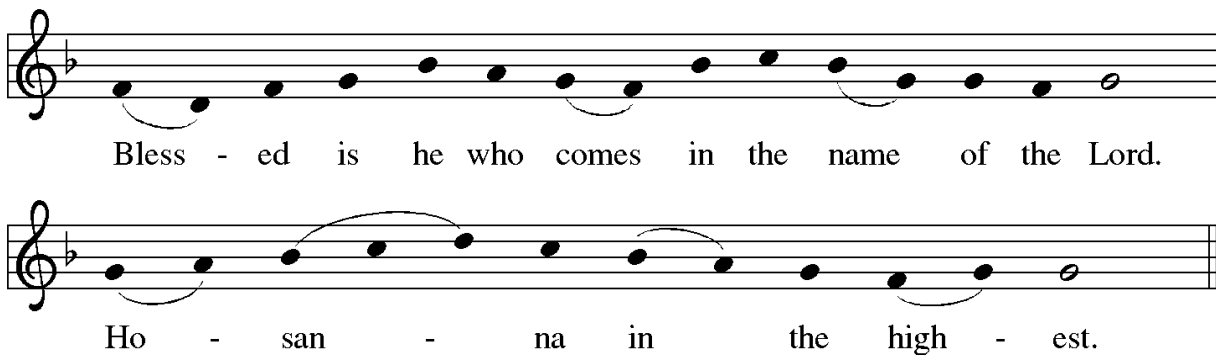
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

C Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen!

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

All are welcome to commune. If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

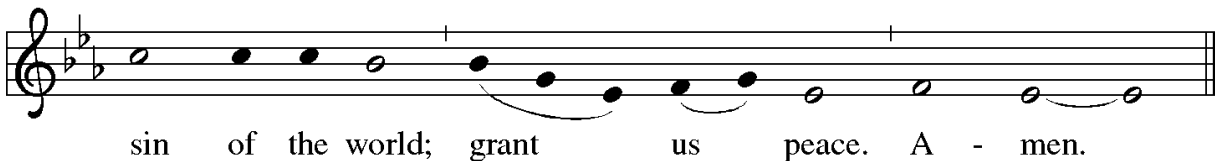
AGNUS DEI

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



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

"He Comes, Emmanuel"

tune of "Awesome God"

1. *He comes, Emmanuel.
Look up to heav'n above.
He rides on clouds of love.
He comes, Emmanuel.*

4. *He comes, Emmanuel.
Prepare your hearts to know
His grace that faith may grow.
He comes, Emmanuel.*

2. *He comes, Emmanuel.
His arm will set us free
For life redeemed to be.
He comes, Emmanuel.*

5. *He comes, Emmanuel.
He's born as child and king.
God with us, love to bring.
He comes, Emmanuel.*

3. *He comes, Emmanuel,
And brings his healing care
To broken everywhere.
He comes, Emmanuel.*

6. *He comes, Emmanuel.
Lift up your voice and sing
To hail the heav'nly king.
He comes, Emmanuel.
He comes, Emmanuel*



"Messiah"

Larry Olson

Someone's shouting from the des-ert.
Someone's shouting from the cit-y.
Someone's shouting I am brok-en.

Someone's shouting from the sea.
I am young,— I am cold.
Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain.
Someone's shouting from the country.
Someone's shouting come and change me.

Someone's shouting from the val-ley. Mes-
I am lone-ly, I am old.
Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes-si ah, come and be our



©1989 Dakota Road Music
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

15

***Children and Faith Formation leaders are dismissed to
Faith Formation time after receiving communion.***

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

C **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A Let us pray...
Generous God,
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. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C **Amen.**

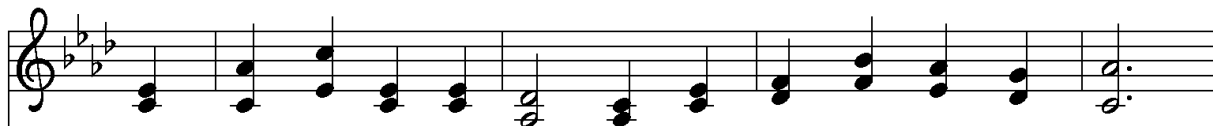
THE SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

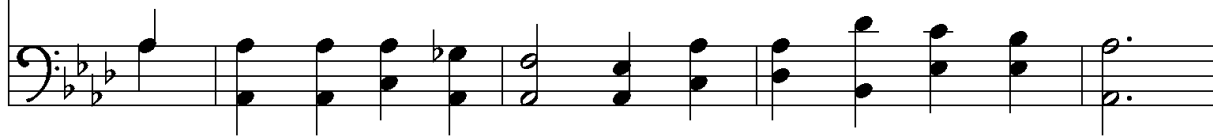
***BLESSING**

P God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ☩ bless and keep you now and forever.

C **Amen.**



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

***DISMISSAL**

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

 * Stand if you are able

Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103665 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream some or all of the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-707280. All rights reserved."
 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream some or all of the music in this service obtained from CCLI with license #A-779220. All rights reserve

	<u>December 1</u>	<u>December 8</u>
Assisting Minister	Frank Hueske	Russ Kaltreider
Acolyte	Dilynn Long	Jocelyn Fissel
Advent Wreath Candle Lighters	Long/Lovelace family	Fissel family
Cantor	Gretchen Walter	Gretchen Walter
Lay Reader	Frank Hueske	Christopher Johnson
Communion Distributors	Peg Sennett	Bill Sowers
	Donna Lehman	Deb Sowers
Ushers	Russ Johnson	Russ Johnson
	Christopher Johnson	Christopher Johnson
Altar	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman
	GINNY MURRAY	GINNY MURRAY

THE RADIO BROADCAST is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of Thelma and Dick Weaver by the Silver and Weaver families

ONE OF THE ALTAR FLOWER VASES is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of Alex Riley's birthday on December 2nd by his parents, Kim and Doug Riley.

THE ETERNAL FLAME is sponsored to the glory of God by Jean and Glenn Alwine.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TODAY, Dec. 1st immediately following the 9:30 am Worship Service

The business part of the meeting is to do the following:

- approve the proposed budget for 2025 (copies are available beside the bulletin baskets)
- to review the 2024 Annual Reports through August 31st (copies are available beside the bulletin baskets)
- Election of 2 Council members (To be announced)
- Approve the proposed sale of the parking lot adjacent to the former Poist Studio parking lot.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS - If you are curious about joining this faith community as a member, or are curious about St. Paul's rich history and ministries, then join Pastor Katrina today, December 1st for an hour of conversation and information (approximate start time 11:15 am). We'll meet in the 2nd floor lounge immediately following the annual Congregation Meeting. Any questions beforehand, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Katrina.

DECEMBER'S DESIGNATED GIVING will go to Lutheran Disaster Response-Hurricanes Helene and Milton Response. Hurricanes Helene and Milton hit the coast of Florida within weeks of each other as powerful and devastating storms impacting states across the Southeast. With your help, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to be there to support people affected by Milton, Helene and any other storms that may strike this season. **Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to these disasters and others, whenever and wherever they strike.**

“CHRISTMAS BLESSING EXPRESS” We are partnering with New Hope Ministries again this year to provide the basic life-needs for needy families this Christmas season. **Please do not wrap gifts.** New Hope needs to see the gifts to make a selection as to which family to give them to. **Please place items in the box TODAY.** They will be taken to New Hope Ministries. Thank you so much! Faith In Action Committee

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE, for anyone who is not attending the children's Faith Formation classes, will be held following the Worship Service. Grab some coffee and snacks in the lounge and join us **in the nursery, across from the lounge**, to dive a little deeper into the day's Bible readings. We should finish up by 11:30 am.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM has put together several activities to help our siblings in Christ prepare for Advent.

- **Advent “calendar” bags** are available on the counter as well as by our Advent in Full Color poster in the lounge! Enjoy a daily activity and prayer.
- Join in **discussion and fellowship** around our coloring poster in the lounge. New discussion questions each week.
- **Tuesday morning (10 am) Bible study** using “An Unlikely Advent” led by Linda Zellers
- Join us on **Dec. 22** following worship for an intergenerational Faith Formation event! You won't want to miss it!

How will YOU prepare for Christ's birth?

ADVENT SEASON'S Blue Christmas/Healing Service on Wednesday, Dec. 4th, at 7:00 pm Please join us for this special service.

ADVENT AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday, December 4 - Blue Christmas/Healing Service – 7:00 pm

Winter Handbell Concert – Sat. Dec. 7-4:00 pm

Westminster Ringers

Second Sunday in Advent – December 8 – 9:30 am

Third Sunday in Advent – December 15 – 9:30 am

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 22 – 9:30 am

Intergenerational Christmas Program lead by the Children's Choir

Saturday Evening Advent Worship - 5:00 pm

Saturday, December 14 and 21

Christmas Eve Service - December 24

7:30 pm (Pre-service music begins at 7:05 pm)

SISTERS IN FAITH CHRISTMAS TEA

When: Saturday, December 14th @ Noon – 3pm

Where: Sherry's Home, 4435 Highland Lane, Glenville, PA 17329

Light lunch and tea will be provided. Deb will lead us in Christmas Carols after lunch.

OUR SUNDAY SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22ND WILL LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR!

This is an intergenerational service of lessons and music to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Music and the building of a live nativity will be by the Children's Choir and the Handbell Choir. This service is also for those who may find it easier to have a Christmas Worship experience in daylight hours since our only Christmas Eve service is in the evening this year.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at finance@stpaulsyorkst.org

Radio—Dec. 8, 15 & 22 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers—Dec. 8 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine—Dec. 8 & 15 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins—Dec. 8 (\$20 each date)

WHAT A GREAT WAY TO SERVE! Just a few months ago we celebrated God's Work. Our Hands Sunday. Consider being God's hands in helping distribute food to our neighbors! Meet the Fabulous Friday crew in the gym at 3:00 (til 4:30) to help set up for grocery distribution AND/OR on Saturday at 9:00 (til 11:00) to pack and distribute. NO HEAVY LIFTING required and there are jobs for all ages and abilities. Come check it out and spread some joy!

THANK YOU to all who donated to and helped distribute our Thanksgiving meals with our Grocery Ministry team! We gave out to more than 90 families—Wow! Special thanks to those who helped on Thursday and especially to our Boy and Cub scout troops. We couldn't have done it without YOU!

SPY is planning on attending our synod's "Winterfest" gathering Jan. 3-5 BUT YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER!! Check the bulletin board or ask Deb for more details and to sign up. Registration is due NEXT SUNDAY.

SUN., DEC. 1	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 1 st Sunday of Advent
	10:30 am	Children's Choir rehearsal – Children's Music Room Followed by Faith Formation at 10:50 am
	Immediately following Worship Immediately following meeting	Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary New Members Class - Lounge Daily Discipleship class – nursery room (1 st floor)
MON., DEC. 2		Church Office is closed
	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd floor
	7:00 pm	Somethings Brewing Bible Study - Lounge
TUES., DEC. 3	10:00 am	Advent Bible Study – Theater Room (2 nd floor)
	10:15 am	LIU 12 Special Education Class – Fellowship Hall
WED., DEC. 4	7:00 pm	Blue Christmas Healing Service
THUR., DEC. 5	6:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – 2 nd Floor
	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary
FRI., DEC. 6	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
SAT., DEC. 7	9:00 am	Heritage Choir rehearsal – sanctuary
	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry – St. Paul's Council
	4:00 pm	Westminster Ringers concert (No Sat. Eve. Service)
	6:15 pm	Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
SUN., DEC. 8	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 2 nd Sunday of Advent
	10:30 am	Children's Choir rehearsal – Children's Music Room Followed by Faith Formation at 10:50 am
	Immediately following Worship	Daily Discipleship class – nursery room (1 st floor) Youth Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary

The Westminster Ringers

present their

*Winter Handbell
Concert*

Saturday, December 7 at 4pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church