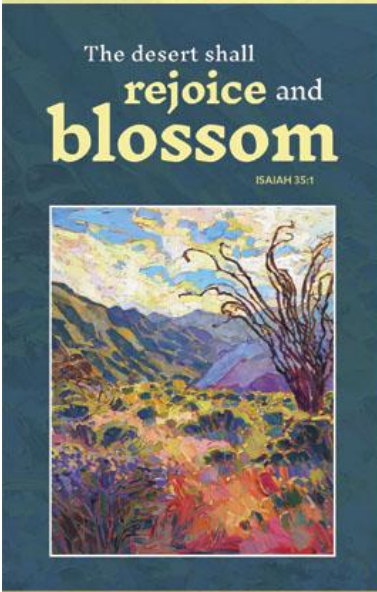


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
127 YORK STREET
HANOVER, PA



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025

Rev. Jason Northridge, Pastor
srpastor@stpaulsyorkst.org
717-467-1644

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
Website: www.stpaulsyorkst.org
Facebook: 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.

**+ 3rd Sunday of Advent +
December 14, 2025**

INTRODUCTION

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

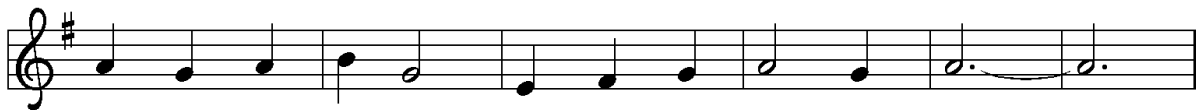
- P** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.
Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.
May he give water to all who thirst, for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever.
- C** **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



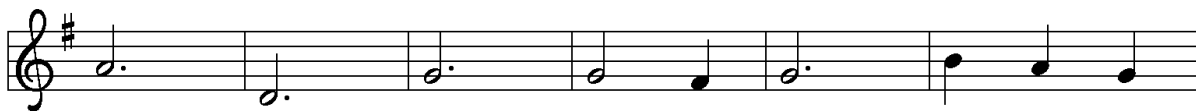
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



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, whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you
can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip
on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of
keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony
with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to
your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have
promised. Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

† You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the
Savior.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

ELW 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

*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.



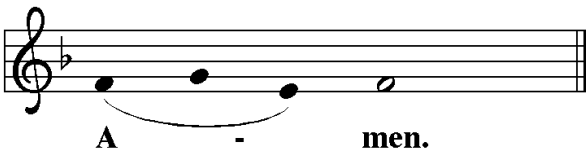
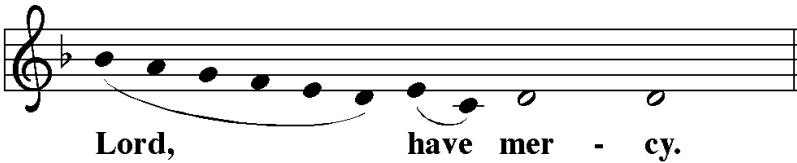
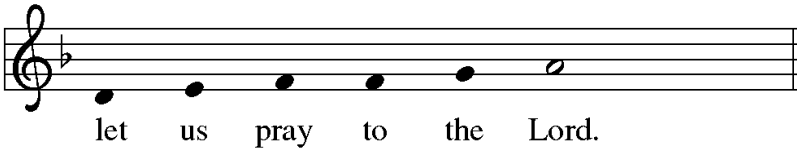
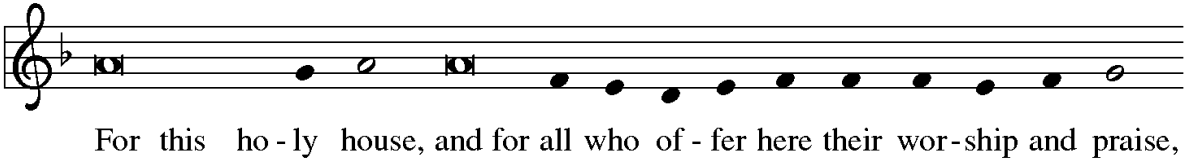
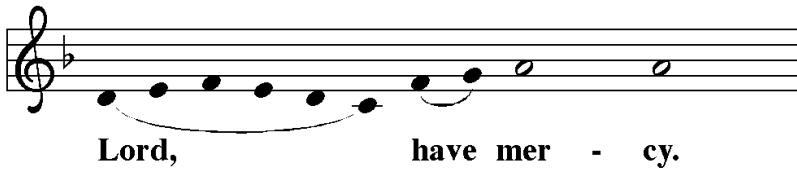
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Let us pray...

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

L The First Reading according to Isaiah 35:1-10

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 146:5-10

read responsively

A ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C ⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

A Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

L The First Reading according to James 5:7-10

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 11:2-11

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

P ² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹ "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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.



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



Lov-ing Shep-herd, walk be-side us; stir our hearts, and gent-ly guide us.



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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Jason Northridge

Following the Children's Sermon, Children and Children's Choir leaders are dismissed to Children's Choir rehearsal and will return for the Offertory Anthem.

SERMON

Pastor Jason Northridge

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

ELW 311



- 1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, 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;



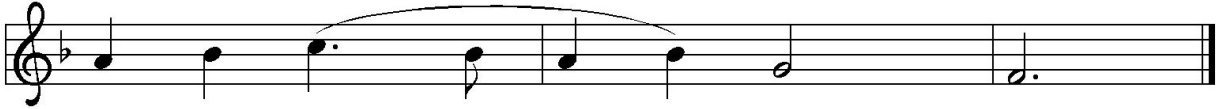
Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



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.

***NICENE CREED**

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

C **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**

A In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice, breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

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

"Emmanuel, El Shaddai"

arr. Tucker

Handbell Choir

"Emmanuel, El Shaddai" arr. by Sondra Tucker

© 2025 by Word Music LLC and Jubilate Music Group - All Rights Reserved

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #A-707280. - All rights reserved.

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.

*OFFERING RESPONSE

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

ELW 294, 3rd verse only

3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

The first line of musical notation for the offering response. It consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats and a common time signature. The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a half note C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

The second line of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a half note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a half note G5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

The third line of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a half note A5, a quarter note Bb5, a quarter note C6, and a half note D6. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.



*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

Nourishing God,

C you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

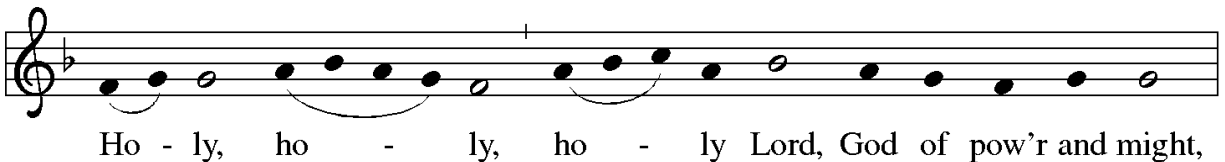
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

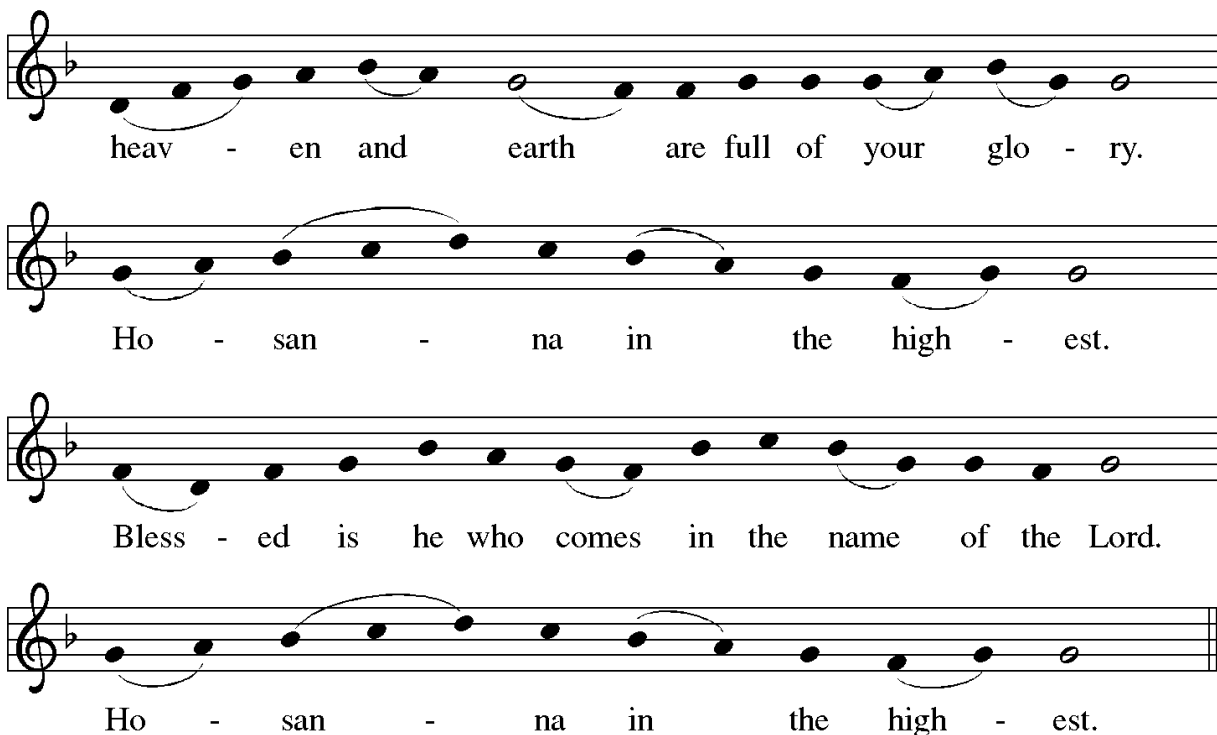
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*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





*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 Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

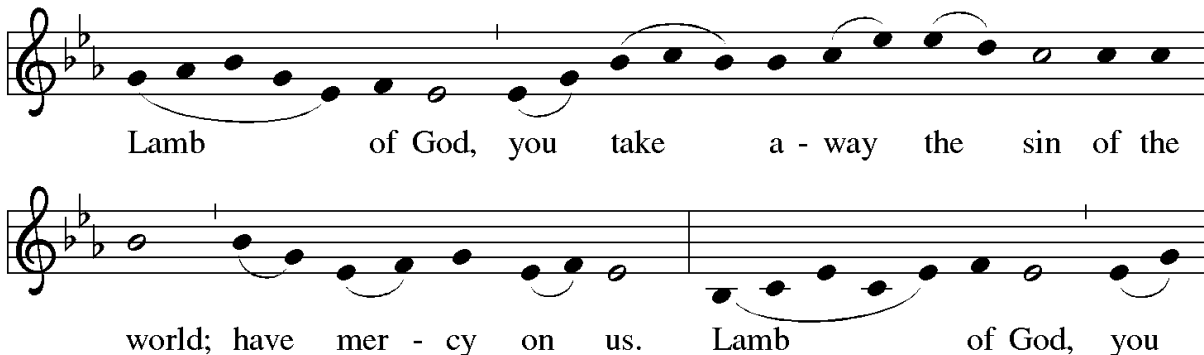
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

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



Handbell choir score for 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'. The score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: '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. A - men.' The music features various melodic lines with slurs and ties, indicating the sequence of handbells to be played.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. McChesney

Handbell Choir

"O Come O Come, Emmanuel" arr. by Kevin McChesney

© 1999 Jeffers Handbell Supply - All Rights Reserved

Used By Permission from Jeffers Handbell Supply - All rights reserved.

COMMUNION HYMN

"The King of Glory"

Refrain



The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.



1 Who is the King of glo - ry; how shall we call him?
 2 In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
 3 Sing then of Da - vid's Son, our Sav - ior and broth - er;
 4 He gave his life for us, the pledge of sal - va - tion;
 5 He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,

Refrain



He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of ag - es.
 he goes a - mong his peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.
 in all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.
 he took up - on him - self the sins of the na - tion.
 and he will share with us his heav - en - ly vi - sion.

***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**

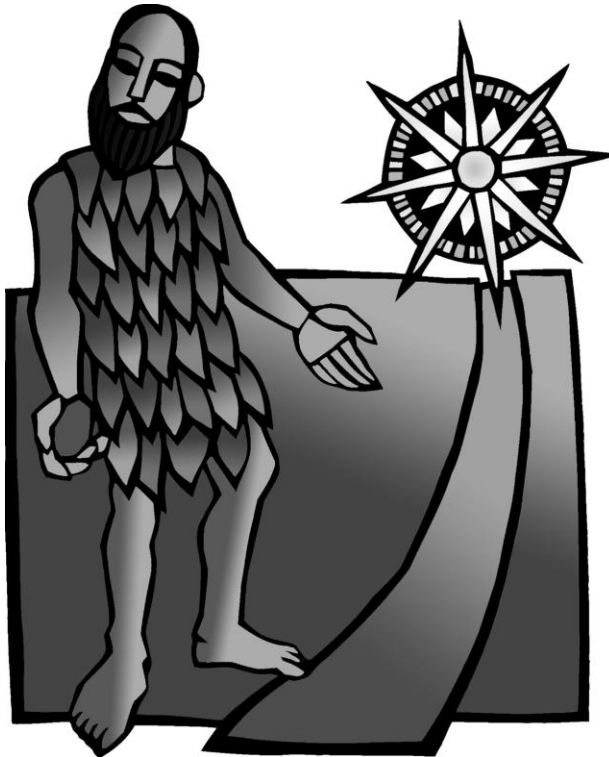
A Let us pray...
God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

***BLESSING**

P May God who comes among us, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C Amen.



***SENDING HYMN**

"All Earth Is Hopeful"

ELW 266



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

***DISMISSAL**

- A Go in peace. Keep awake.
- C **We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously. Thanks be to God.**

* Stand if you are comfortable
Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 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 14</u>	<u>December 21</u>
Saturday night Worship	Linda Zellers (12/13)	Russ Kaltreider (12/20)
Assisting Minister:	Bill Sowers	Frank Hueske
Acolyte:	Leah Kaltreider	Dilynn Long
Advent Candle Lighters	Wren Eyler and family	Dierks Wiles and family
Cantor	Diana Leppo	Gretchen Walter
Lay Reader:	Christopher Johnson	Michelle Johnson
Communion Distributors	Glenn Alwine	Russ Kaltreider
	Gretchen Walter	Maureen Kaltreider
Ushers:	Michael Kelly	Michael Kelly
	Sharon Kelly	Sharon Kelly
Altar:	Linda Knapp	Linda Knapp
	Sally Lovelace	Sally Lovelace

ONE VASE OF ALTAR FLOWERS, THE COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE AND THE ETERNAL FLAME are sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of the anniversary of Susan Shue's passing on December 7th by Melissa, Chris and Tom.

ST. PAUL’S ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING AGENDA
Sunday, Dec. 14th immediately following today’s worship service

- approve the proposed budget for 2026
- to review the 2025 Annual Report
- approval of updates to St. Paul’s constitution to the congregation
- Election of Council members
- Council moved to the congregation at the Annual Meeting the motion to sell the St. Paul’s parking lot located between the gray house and Levity Spa (formerly Poist Studios). St. Paul’s has an offer of \$28,000 for the lot.

There will be NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES today so that all can attend the Annual Meeting. Confirmation class will sit together during the meeting and meet as usual following the meeting.

CONFIRMATION CLASS meets today. Join Deb and Bill in the sanctuary following worship to sit together during the Annual Meeting. We'll discuss proceedings as appropriate as we pay attention to the "business" workings of our congregation. Lunch will be provided by the Klunk family. Don't forget our homework was to make a "belief statement" (since we're discussing our church's creeds).

WE HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED the Advent in Full Color poster for this season, but GOOD NEWS...there is one more available for us to complete! Come join in the lounge to work on it and enjoy some conversation along with fellowship following worship each week!

DECEMBER'S DESIGNATED GIVING will go to the Hanover Area Council of Churches' Changing Lives Shelter.

PASTOR JASON WILL CONTINUE MID-WEEK DEVOTIONS ON WEDNESDAY from 12:15 – 12:35 pm. All are welcome to join us in the church lounge.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU for all for your donated gifts to the Christmas Blessing Express. What a wonderful collection of just under 100 items (130 lbs) for families of Hanover. New Hope Ministries appreciated the items very much. St. Paul's congregation is full of good people doing good work! Thanks again! I am sure you made someone's Christmas a little brighter. From The Faith in Action Committee

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES are available to pick up in the hallway across from the Church Lounge. **Please do not use any of the new offering envelopes from your box before January 1, 2026** to ensure that you are properly credited for your offerings. Please feel free to contact Maureen in the church office (717-637-5941 or finance@stpaulsyorkst.org) anytime you have questions about your offerings.

ST. PAUL'S MEN IN MISSION are sponsoring a "Healthy Steps for Older Adults" in conjunction with the York County Office of the Aging. This is a 2-session class to be held in our fellowship hall on Monday, March 23rd and 30th, from 10am-12 noon. More details and a sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Pastor Jason's office. Class is limited to 15 people.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Carmen Buckley in the church office or at assistant@stpaulsyorkst.org

Radio—Dec. 21, 28, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers- Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine- Dec. 28, Jan. 11, 18 & 25 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins- Dec. 21, 28, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 (\$20 each date)

Eternal Flame- Dec. 21, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 (\$10 each date)

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AND CALENDARS ARE STILL AVAILABLE! What a great thing to have had to completely replenish the devotionals and calendars from last week's collection! Our Christian Education committee is offering these to all. The weekly devotional, "Starry Night" is appropriate for all ages and the daily devotional published by Luther Seminary is appropriate for adults. There are also Advent calendars to help you celebrate as well. Items are available on the counter outside of the sanctuary. Take one (or more) for a friend!

CARDS TO HOMEBOUND - A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board by Pastor's Office. There you will see a list of those of our members that are homebound with their birthdates and addresses. Please pick at least one member and make a commitment to seeing that the person gets a birthday card and a card for major holidays in 2026. This is an easy way for us to share Christ's love and concern for those of our members that are no longer able to attend church. We would like to have everyone covered by January 1, 2026. Thanks for helping with this project.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from December 22 through Jan. 2 for Carmen's vacation. The church will re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 6th at 9:00 am. Please submit any sponsorships or announcements for the December 21, 24, 28 and Jan. 4 bulletins by Wednesday, December 17th. Bulletins for those dates will be printed on Thursday, December 18.

JOIN US ON DEC. 28 following worship in Fellowship Hall for a Faith Formation event including a nativity pageant led by our younger members. ALL will be able to participate in telling the story by joining in with the singing of Christmas hymns. We'll end our time together with a small "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" celebration.

SUN., DEC. 14	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast – 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 3 rd Sunday of Advent
	Immediately following Worship	Congregation Meeting (see agenda on pg. 23)
	Immediately following meeting	Confirmation Class – Youth Room
	11:00 am	Private Use – Fellowship Hall
MON., DEC. 15	6:30 pm	Girl Scout groups – Fellowship Hall
TUES., DEC. 16	10:00 am	Advent Bible Study – Conference Room-2 nd floor
WED., DEC. 17	12:15 pm	Midweek Devotions – Lounge
	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
THUR., DEC. 18	6:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary
FRI., DEC. 19	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
SAT., DEC. 20	9:00 am	Heritage Choir rehearsal – Sanctuary
	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry – St. Paul's Book Club
	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Service
	6:15 pm	Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
SUN., DEC. 21	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast – 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 4th Sunday of Advent
	Immediately following Worship	Coffee Hour – lounge
		Faith Formation – Children - 2 nd floor
		Daily Discipleship class – nursery across from lounge
		Adult Choir II rehearsal
	11:00 am	Private Use – Fellowship Hall



**Please join us as we celebrate
the birth of our Savior, Jesus!**

Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24

7:30 pm

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