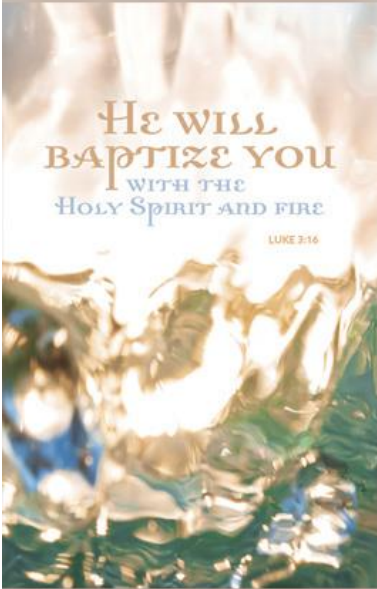


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
127 YORK STREET  
HANOVER, PA



**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

**December 15, 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.***

**+ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent +  
December 15, 2024**

**INTRODUCTION**

*Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.*

**THE GATHERING**

***We welcome Pastor Lee Brumback,  
who is presiding today while Pastor Katrina is on vacation.***

**WELCOME**

**BLESSING 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.

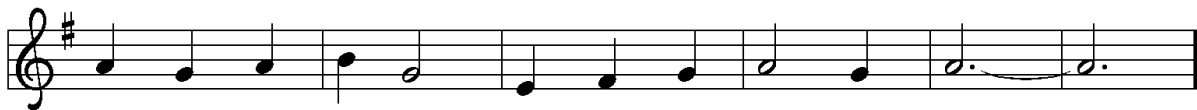
**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**



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

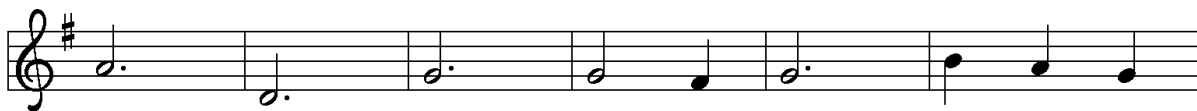


your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*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** "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.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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**\*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

Cantor and Congregation



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.



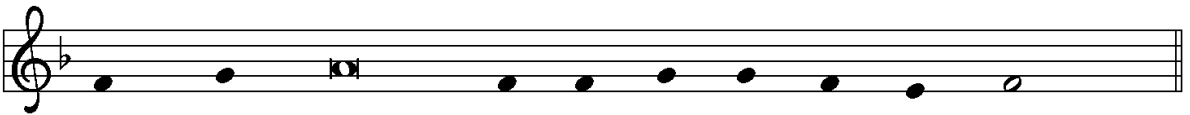
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



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 the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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

Zephaniah 3:14-20

*The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.*

L The First Reading according to Zephaniah 3:14-20

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup> The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup> I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

L The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### THE PSALM

Isaiah 12:2-6

read responsively

A Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

**C <sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

<sup>4</sup> And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**

<sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

A Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

*Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.*

L The Second Reading according to Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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 3:7-18

*John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke 3:7-18

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

**P** <sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." <sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**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 bē-side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



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

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

#### "In Thee Is Gladness"

ELW 867



1 In thee is glad-ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus, sun - shine of my  
2 Je - sus is ours! . . We fear no pow - ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv - en the gifts of heav - en, thou the  
death. He sees and bless - es in worst dis - tress - es; he can



true re - deem - er art. Our souls thou wak - est; our bonds thou  
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto - ry tell of his



break - est. Who trusts thee sure - ly has built se - cure - ly  
glo - ry with heart and voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es



and stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
in him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing,  
glad - ness, tri - umph o'er sad - ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
and still shall raise him glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

### \*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 who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

God who leads, this world cries out for true justice. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Gracious sanctifying God, thank you for drawing us ever anew into the ministry of the Word. In the community of faith, we are empowered for witness and

service even as we are ministered to with forgiveness, reconciliation, and healing. As we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, show us our neediness – what we need and what needs doing for our life together in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. 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

*"Bring Us Hope"*  
Adult and Youth Choirs  
Deb Diddlemeyer - viola

Schram

*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



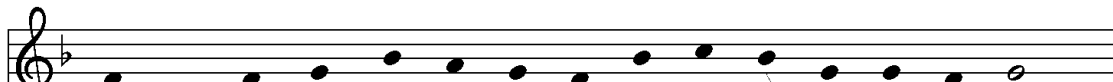
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,




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



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** **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 sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

# DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

## COMMUNION HYMN

### *"How Will We Know Him"*

Steven Ruppright

The musical score is written in treble clef, D major, and 3/4 time. It consists of seven systems of music, each with a line of lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The first system (measures 1-5) features a whole note chord progression: D, A, F#m, D, D. The second system (measures 6-11) has a more active melody with chords: D, G, D, G/B, D, D, D, G, D. The third system (measures 12-17) continues with: A, D, D, G/D, A/C#, G/B, D, D. The fourth system (measures 18-23) has: D, A, F#m, D, G, A/C#, G, A/E, G. The fifth system (measures 24-29) has: D, G, A/C#, G/B, A, G, A, G. The sixth system (measures 30-34) has: A/C#, G, A/C#, G, D, D, D. The seventh system (measures 35-38) has: A, F#m, D, A, F#m/A, D. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

May - be a  
May - be a  
May - be a

6  
stran - ger, we chance to meet. May - be the home - less, out in the  
sing - er, prais - ing the Lord May - be a po - et, writ - ing a  
buil - der, buil - ding a home May - be a teach - er, teach - ing the

12  
street May - be a small child, face all a - glow May - be a  
poem May - be a loved one, sit - ting close by May - be a  
young May - be a close friend, may - be a king, May - be a

18  
neigh - bor who sits all a - lone How will we know Him, when face to  
travel - er, whose lost in the night  
serv - ant, with noth - ing to bring.

24  
face How will we know Him, what time, what place. May - be a

30  
stran - ger, a beg - gar or friend. How will we know Him, when

35  
Je - sus comes in?

# "Messiah"

Someone's shouting from the des-ert. Someone's shouting from the sea.  
 Someone's shouting from the cit-y. I am young.— I am cold.  
 Someone's shouting I am brok-en. Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the val-ley. Mes-  
 Someone's shouting from the country. I am lone-ly, I am old.  
 Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes - si ah, come and be our

King.

*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 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

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

\* Stand if you are able

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	<u><b>December 15</b></u>	<u><b>December 22</b></u>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Donna Lehman	Deb Sowers
<b>Acolyte</b>	Leah Kaltreider	Matthew Kaltreider
<b>Advent Wreath Candle Lighters</b>	Kaltreider family	Weible family
<b>Cantor</b>	Diana Leppo	
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Michelle Johnson	
<b>Communion Distributors</b>	Russ Kalteider Maureen Kaltreider	Frank Hueske Sherry Cracium-Bolin
<b>Ushers</b>	Russ Johnson Christopher Johnson	Russ Johnson Christopher Johnson
<b>Altar</b>	Donna Lehman Ginny Murray	Donna Lehman Ginny Murray

**Please consider sending an anniversary card to Clete and Doris Smeak for their 75<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Address the card to 1700 Utz Terrace, Apt. 313, Hanover, PA 17331**

**ONE ALTAR FLOWER VASE** is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of Margaret Loss' birthday on December 15th by the family.

**ONE ALTAR FLOWER VASE** is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of departed loved ones by Joan Witman and family.

**THE ROSE BUD** is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of Hazel Lehigh's birthday on December 13<sup>th</sup> by Pete Lehigh.

**THE WORSHIP BULLETINS** are sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of our parents Pauline & Elmer Witman and Dr. Edwin R. & Helen Danner by Joan Witman and family.

**THE ETERNAL FLAME** is sponsored to the glory of God and in celebration of Jocelyn Fissel's birthday on December 21st by Bap, Nana and Aunt Sissy.

**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.**

**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.

**COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We know that fellowship is an important part of our faith community; that's why we hold Coffee Hour after church each Sunday. We are looking for volunteers to help keep our Coffee Hour going! There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge for folks to volunteer as coffee makers or to bring snacks. Coffee makers would start the coffee urn around 9 a.m. (coffee training available on request!) Both volunteers would help with set up and clean up. If you have questions, see Russ Kaltreider. Thank you for your help!



**THANK YOU SO MUCH** for all your donations to the Christmas Blessing Express. Out of 60 placecards, we received 70 gifts which weighed 116 pounds. I'm sure you have made a very merry Christmas for some of the families in Hanover, Thanks again from the Faith in Action Committee!

**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 WORSHIP OPPORTUNITES**

#### **Saturday Evening Advent Worship - 5:00 pm**

Saturday, December 21

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

**Intergenerational Christmas Program lead by the Children's Choir**

**OUR SUNDAY SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> 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.

**2025 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, 2025** 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](mailto:finance@stpaulsyorkst.org)) anytime you have questions about your offerings.

**JANUARY DESIGNATED GIVING** - Our January designated giving will go to support Golden Visions Adult Day Services. Golden Visions is a 501(c3) organization that has been serving elders of the Hanover community since 1990. They serve around 25 clients each day in the Adult Day Service, as well as providing vital Alzheimer's and dementia support services to their family and caregivers. Golden Vision's mission is to offer a daily structured program that ensures safety, security, and provides needed nutritional and medical care to local Alzheimer and Dementia clients. They provide outstanding services to a large portion of low-income seniors who would otherwise be overlooked. We will support Golden Visions in providing a bridge of care and support for our seniors in the Hanover area.

**STANDING ORDERS FOR SPONSORSHIPS** - We want to update our sponsorship calendars which include standing orders from years ago. A standing order is an order that was placed and asked to have it repeat yearly. Since we don't have contact information for everyone who has had a standing order in the past and wanting to have good records, the most prudent solution seems to be that we start fresh.

If you have a standing order, or would like to have a standing order, for Radio, Altar Flowers, Communion Bread and Wine, Worship Bulletins or Eternal Flame we are asking you to call or email us to let us know. If you're not sure if you have any standing orders, just contact us and we can check and let you know. (717-637-5941 or [finance@stpaulsyorkst.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsyorkst.org))

If we don't hear from you, we will assume that you no longer wish to have that standing order, and it will be deleted.

**SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at [finance@stpaulsyorkst.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsyorkst.org)**

Radio—Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers-Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine-Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins-Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$20 each date)

Eternal flame- Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$10 each date)

**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 TODAY.

<b>SUN., DEC. 15</b>	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service –3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> floor) Youth Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary
<b>MON., DEC. 16</b>	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor (Daisies – F.H.)
	7:00 pm	Some things Brewing Bible Study - Lounge
<b>TUES., DEC. 17</b>	10:00 am	Advent Bible Study – Theater Room (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor)
	10:15 am	LIU 12 Special Education Class – Fellowship Hall
<b>THUR., DEC. 19</b>	6:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary
<b>FRI., DEC. 20</b>	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
<b>SAT., DEC. 21</b>	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry – St. Paul’s Book Club
	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship Service
	6:15 pm	Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
<b>SUN., DEC. 22</b>	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Intergeneration Worship Service lead by the children
	Immediately following Worship	Children’s Choir – Children’s Music Room Followed by an Intergenerational Faith Formation Youth Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in Sanctuary
	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)**