



November 23, 2025

8:30 AM

MT.ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
HISTORICAL VILLAGE OF CHURCHTOWN
BOILING SPRINGS PA 17007

WELCOME!

The members of Mt. Zion extend a warm welcome to all visitors. Please sign the guest register in the main entrance of the church. If you do not have a church home and are seeking one, we would love to have you join us. Please speak to the Pastor or to any of our members if you would like to learn more about our community of faith.

All are invited to the communion table. Bread and wine are used as the elements of this meal. Grape juice is also available for those who do not drink wine. There is also a gluten free choice. Children who do not commune may receive a blessing.

About today's lesson:

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

P: Pastor. A: Assisting Minister L: Leader C: Congregation

Pastor Rev. Jennifer Toburen

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Organist Lynn Ronan

Assisting Minister Edward McCullough

MT. ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
325 Old Stonehouse Road
Boiling Springs PA 17007

November 30, 2025
First Sunday in Advent

Holy Communion
Service 8:30 AM

SILENT PRAYER:

Lord, graciously hear us, for we seek you alone. Calm our bodies and minds with the peace which passes understanding, and make us radiant with joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please stand as able.

- P Holy God, the Beginning and the Ending, our Hope
as we wait,
- C We praise you for joining us to your people of old.**
- P We bless you for your prophets who call us to
righteousness
- C and promise a new earth with peace for all.**
- P We praise you for the coming of Jesus our Lord,
who lifts up the lowly, heals the suffering world,
- C and proclaims your way of mercy and truth.**
- P We give thanks for the sending of the Spirit
throughout the earth.
- C Nurture our faith with your grace,
and empower our zeal for your justice and joy.**
- P We lift our hearts and voices to you -
- C All praise to you, holy God, today, tomorrow, and
forever. Amen!**

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Long-expected God,

C **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**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *My Lord, What a Morning* #627
(WOV Blue Hymnal)

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.**

ADVENT LITANY:

P Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth.
C **Let the earth hear, and all that fills it.**
P The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
C **the desert shall rejoice and blossom.**
P They shall see the glory of the Lord,
C **the majesty of our God.**
P Nations shall come to your light,
C **and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**
P This is the Lord for whom we wait;
C **let us be glad and rejoice in the salvation of God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P Let us pray.
C **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

P Bless this Advent Wreath, a circle of greens symbolizing everlasting life and the very crown of Christ. Let its glowing lights be a sign to us, calling us, to seek the Christ.
C **What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**
P Let your blessings shine forth upon us as we light the candles of this wreath during this Advent season, as we prepare for the coming of the Light of the World.
C **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE:

P God of Creation, in this Christmas tree, we reflect on the bountiful and wondrous signs of your life-giving presence upon the earth and of your evergreen, eternal presence with and among us. As we illumine this tree, let your blessing come upon us. Send us your Son, the tender branch of Jesse, who brings us light and life. May we who stand in its light eagerly welcome the true Light that never fades.

C All glory be yours now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

P Let us pray.
O Lord our God, we live by the promise of your coming; a promise that heals our hearts and fills us with hope. Our eyes search the darkness, longing to see the glimmer of light which reflects the truth which holds us securely. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. O Lord, be our light.

C Amen.

Reading and Lighting of the Hope Candle

After each portion of the reading.

R O Emmanuel,

C Wake us up to your coming.

HYMN *O Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel* (Verse 1) **#34**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the

mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

A The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God**

PSALM: Psalm 122 (Read Responsively)

- ¹ I was glad when they | said to me,
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD.”
- ² **Now our | feet are standing**
within your gates, | O Jerusalem.
- ³ Jerusalem is built | as a city that is at unity | with itself;
- ⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the LORD,**
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the
LORD.
- ⁵ For there are the | thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the | house of David.
- ⁶ **Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:**
“May they prosper who love you.
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
- ⁸ **For the sake of my kindred | and companions,**
I pray for | your prosperity.
- ⁹ Because of the house of the | LORD our God,
I will seek to | do you good.”

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION :



GOSPEL:

P The Holy Gospel according to Mathew the 24th chapter.

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

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be

the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE:

SERMON:

Please stand as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*
(LBW Green Hymnal) **#31**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess
our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

THE NICENE CREED:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker
of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of
God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,**

Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

P 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.

After each portion of the prayers.

A God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

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

C **Amen.**

PEACE:

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share the peace with one another.

Please stand as able.

The Lord's table is prepared.

Offering brought forward.

Offering Prayer:

P Nourishing God, 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.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

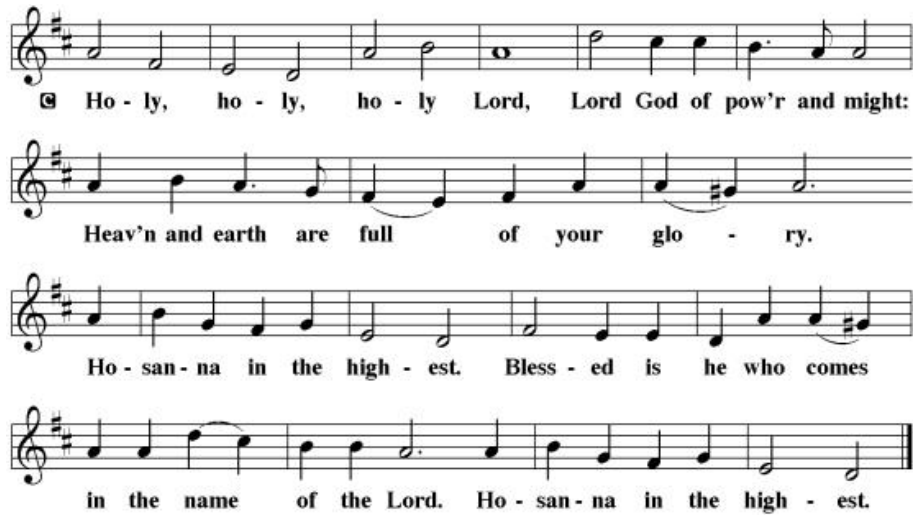
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

PREFACE:

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. 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 again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS:



P 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

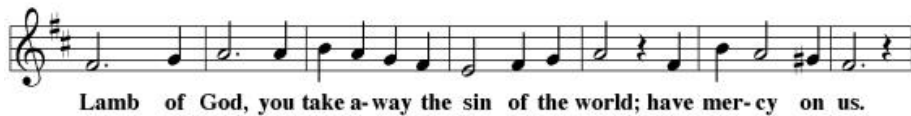
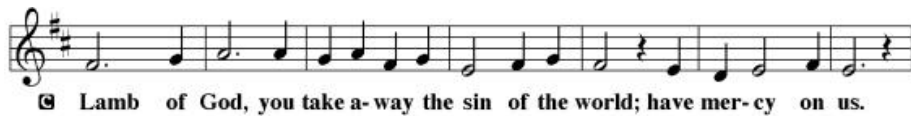
P Now let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Please be seated.



DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION We will be communing by tables. Please follow the instruction of the usher. **Communion hymn of meditation** is played until everyone has communed.

Please stand as able.

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

C **Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYER:

P 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 God, whose presence grants you stillness,
Christ, whose peace helps you wait,
Holy Spirit, whose fire illumines your way,
✚ bless and keep you always.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* #25
(LBW Green Hymnal)

DISMISSAL:

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE:

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The bulletins are given to the Glory of God by Blaine Leib
in memory of Mary Ann.

ATTENDANCE

November 23, 2025	27
Last Year	20
Online November 16, 2025	84
Last Year	58

STEWARDSHIP

November 23, 2025	\$ 764.26
Includes Noisy Offering	\$ 19.26
Last Year	\$ 505.00

ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING will be December 14, 2025, after worship service.

TRUCK STOP MINISTRY cookies will be due back December 14, 2025, and we will be bagging them after the Congregation Meeting.

LONGEST NIGHT BLUE CHRISTMAS EVENING PRAYER will be a special service held on December 18, 2025, at 7:PM.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADVENT PREPARATION AND WAITING - SUNDAYS AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM flyer has information and an email has been sent also.

ANGEL TREE with gifts for New Hope will be up November 30. Collection will be thru December 28, 2025. Delivery the next week.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE order form is on the back table along with the price list. Last day to order is November 30, 2025.

FROM PASTOR JENNIFER If you are in need of a home visit, or know someone who is, please contact Pastor Jennifer at 734-576-2025 or pastorjenn.clc.duncannon@gmail.com

FINE ARTS AT FIRST 2025-2026 The Baltimore Consort February 22, 2026, 4 PM. Muhlenberg College Choirs April 19, 2026 at 4 PM. Flyer on bulletin downstairs

THE BULLETINS To sign up the chart to sponsor bulletins, (\$25), is located on left bulletin board inside church doors. As this is part of our budget please sign up.

TRINDLE SPRING LUTHERAN CHURCH presents
Music at the Spring 2025-2026 The Great American
Songbook with Jeff Coon, February 15, 3 PM, Filament,
March 22, 3 PM, Messiah University Percussion Ensemble,
April 26, 3 PM.

NEW HOPE'S DILLSBURG CENTER SPECIFIC

NEEDS: Canned chicken, tuna or beef stew, Canned fruit
and fruit cups, Canned vegetables, Peanut Butter, Juice and
juice boxes, Ketchup and mustard, Diapers, wipes, diaper
cream, Feminine hygiene products, Laundry detergent,
Shampoo, Toilet paper, paper towels.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE As ever and with
your support, the ELCA, through Lutheran Disaster
Response, stands ready to walk with our neighbors in the
Texas hill country as the floodwaters recede and
communities begin to navigate life on the other side of this
horrific flood. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating
with the Southwestern Texas Synod and will work with
other partners as well to respond to urgent needs, provide
emotional and spiritual care, and support cleanup and long-
term recovery. Please make checks payable to Mt. Zion and
put Lutheran Disaster in the memo line.

PLAN AHEAD

- November 30** Noisy Offering (Last Sunday)
Decorating Christmas Tree (after Service)
Adult Sunday School via Zoom 7:00 PM
- December 6** Community Dinner 5:00 - 6:30 PM
- December 7** Lite Breakfast 8:00 AM
Second Sunday in Advent Worship 8:30 AM
Sunday School for children (after Service)
Adult Sunday School via Zoom 7:00 PM
- December 9** Music and Worship Meeting 2:30 PM
- December 14** Lite Breakfast 8:00 AM
Third Sunday in Advent Worship 8:30 AM
Annual Congregation Meeting (after Service)
Truck Stop Cookie packing after meeting
- December 18** Council Meeting 5:30 PM
Longest Night Blue Christmas 7:00 PM
- December 21** Lite Breakfast 8:00 AM
Fourth Sunday in Advent Worship 8:30 AM
Sunday School for children (after Service)
Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- December 24** Christmas Eve Service 7:30 PM
- December 28** Lite Breakfast 8:00 AM
Lessons and Carols 8:30 AM
Sunday School for children (after Service)