

1st Sunday of Advent

November 30th, 2025 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist

WELCOME

() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

***Opening Litany**

P: Advent is a time to be filled with anticipation and hope.

C: We wait and hope for the One who will bring light to the darkness.

P: Advent is a time to remember that God's love extends to all people.

C: We wait and hope for the One who will bring justice.

P: Advent is a time to renew our determination.

C: We wait and hope for the One who will bring righteousness.

P: Advent is a time to strive for understanding.

C: We wait and hope for the One who will bring peace.

***Opening Hymn #260**

"The King Shall Come"

***The Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

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.

P: Let us pray. ~ 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

P: God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Advent Candle Lighting (1st candle is lit)

“We Light a Candle” (verse 1 sung together ~ see insert)

Prayer

We praise You, O God for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when He comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome Him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Isaiah 2: 1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: “Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!”

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!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

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.

The Second Reading ~ Romans 13: 11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**



***The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 24: 36-44**

The Holy Gospel according to the 24th chapter of St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus describes His second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, He urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

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. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But 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. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

***Hymn #436 “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”**

***The Apostles’ Creed (professed together)**

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.

***Prayer of the Church**

After each prayer petition, please respond:

God of grace... **hear our prayer.**

Anthem

"Candle of Hope"

The Blessing of the Communion Elements



The Lord's Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Communion will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the wafer will be dipped in the chalice so that both elements are received together.

Post Communion Blessing, Prayer, and Benediction

P: God for whom we wait, in this meal You give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #244**

"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"

***The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

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Kindly return the song inserts to the back table in the narthex
so they may be used in future weeks. Thanks!



*thank
you*

... to Diane Ernst for serving as our lector

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech

The altar flowers have been sponsored by
Diane and Bob Ernst in loving memory of
Mahlon Ernst.



To be remembered in prayer ... Richard Eisenhart,
Hope Geary, Jeanne Logan, Steve Schoepple,
Barb Shaneberger, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell
Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, people living in war-torn
countries, victims of oppression, injustice, vio-
lence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones
whom we name before God. †



~ SHOOFLY PIE SALE ~

Orders for 9" shoofly pies are now being taken!

The cost is \$12/per pie.

Orders must be received by Sunday, December 7th.

(Forms are available on the narthex tables.)

The pies will be made on December 17th & 18th and may be picked up during coffee hour on Sunday, December 21st. If you are not able to pick up your pies then, please speak with Maureen Wagner or Kristin Nepomuceno to make other arrangements.

THANK YOU



You are invited to join us for worship on Christmas Eve,
December 24th, at 6pm.

Special prelude music will begin at 5:45pm.