

HOLY COMMUNION

Advent II

December 9, 2018

8:00 an

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *Savior of the Nations, Come*

Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

435

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

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

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be a light shining in the darkness
welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,

for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

☩ Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

☩ A reading from Malachi.

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

☩ The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

☩ A reading from Philippians.

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s

grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

The Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may be spoken. The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.**

A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A Lord Jesus Christ, John came to awaken expectation and direct
preparation for your advent, and his message continues to awaken
and prepare our hearts today. Help us to hear and heed his cry in the
wilderness, and open a way for your coming into our lives today.
Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the church, for its pastors and bishops, for the newly
baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and
for our growth in grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an
increase of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace
among nations and among peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for
victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind,
body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness,
and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we
name in the silence of our hearts... Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

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.*

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

OFFERTORY

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray...Merciful Father,
- C** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:

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 our thanks and praise.

The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly continues with the SANCTUS:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The minister continues with the WORDS OF INSTITUTION, usually included in a Eucharistic Prayer.

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**☩ 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

☞ Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

☞ Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

☞ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

☞ Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the

communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing.

Stand

SONG AFTER COMMUNION (NUNC DIMITTIS)

been ful-filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re-veal you to the na-tions and the glo-ry of your
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - cr. A - men.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✙ give you peace.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Noel Nouvelet*

arr. Wood



The Christmas Cycle celebrates the events surrounding Christ's coming — the prophecies, his birth, his manifestation (epiphany) to the Gentiles, and his baptism — through the Advent season, the Christmas season, and the Epiphany season.

A Hymn of Praise is not appropriate during Advent because of the season's preparatory nature.

The liturgical color blue, symbolic of hope, is used for the Advent season.

Vestry Members	Special Area	Home Phone	E-mail Address
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Gary Wessner	<i>President/Property</i>	610-454-0106	gtwess@comcast.net
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2019 Stewardship Campaign Update		
	Commitment Cards	Dollar Amount
Total Possible	274	\$235,000
Received as of 11/25/18	13	\$22,632
Amount Outstanding	261	\$212,368
<p>If you have not yet returned your Commitment Card for 2019, please return the completed card as soon as possible. A copy of the 2019 Commitment Card can be downloaded from the parish web site, www.augustustrappe.org, under the "About Us" tab.</p>		

Assisting in the Service:

Altar Servers: Braden Tighe and Ashley Tighe

Lectors: 8:00 am: Earl Catagnus

10:30 am: Jeannie Funk and James Lorah

Ushers: Gary Halteman, David Halteman, Scott Halteman, and Dick Allebach

Communion Assistants: 8:00 am: Debra Augustine

10:30 am: Janice Reiff and Sonya Sowards

Altar Guild: 8:00 am: Sally Sweeney

10:30 am: Mike Van Blaricum

Offering Tabulation: John Kochel, Brian O'Hara, and Frank DePaul

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Jim and Sally Lorah in loving memory of our Parents.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Shirley Latshaw in loving memory of parents, Howard & Emma Ziegler and Frank & Mildred Latshaw.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Scott and Andrea Halteman in honor of daughter Danielle's birthday.

The Wreaths on the doors of our Parish House, Brick Church, Old Church, and Muhlenberg Center are given to the glory of God by the Holcombe family in memory of loved ones.

Hats and Gloves for Silver Springs: Social Ministry Committee

We have been informed that the Silver Springs Martin Luther School now has plenty of hats and gloves. So we will be donating to The Daily Bread Food Pantry instead. Because of the change in recipient there is no longer a restriction: hats, gloves, mittens and scarves will be accepted and they may be store bought or hand crocheted or knitted. We will be collecting for children and adults through January 6.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
Sunday	12/9	8:00 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
		8:45 am	Children's Music
		9:00 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Holy Communion in the Brick Church Nave - Advent II
Monday	12/10	6:45 pm	Cub Scouts
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
		7:00 pm	Knitting Group
Tuesday	12/11	7:00 pm	Community Club
Wednesday	12/12	9:30 am	Soup Kitchen
		6:00 pm	3-in-1 Confirmation Classes
Thursday	12/13	6:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Friday	12/14		
Saturday	12/15	9:00 am	WELCA Fruit Basket Assembly
		12:00 noon	Cubs Pinewood Derby Workshop
		3:00 pm	Christmas Concert
Sunday	12/16	8:00 am	Holy Communion in the Chapel
		8:45 am	Children's Music
		9:00 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Holy Communion in the Upper Nave – Advent III

AUGUSTUS MUSIC ENSEMBLES

present

A Family Christmas Concert in HISTORIC OLD TRAPPE CHURCH

A Celebration of Carols



BENEFITING:
SILVER SPRINGS
MARTIN LUTHER SCHOOL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 3 PM

AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

717 W. MAIN STREET, TRAPPE
610-489-9625 augustustrappe.org

CHRISTMAS EVE AT AUGUSTUS: 5PM AND 7PM IN THE OLD CHURCH
9PM IN THE BRICK CHURCH

2018 Christmas Poinsettias

POINSETTIAS CAN NOW BE ORDERED FOR CHRISTMAS!

Please include payment with your order. Make checks payable to: AUGUSTUS
FLOWER FUND

Mail to: Karen Lachenmayer
412 Dartmoor Road
Schwenksville, Pa. 19473
Phone: 619-715-4850
E-mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail



ORDER DEADLINE: Sunday, December 16, 2018

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

NAME _____

COLOR	QUANTITY	TOTAL \$
RED	_____ @ \$10.00 ea	_____
WHITE	_____ @ \$10.00 ea	_____

Check One:
_____ I will take my plants after the 9:00 P.M. Service 12/24.
_____ Please distribute my plants to others.

I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read:
