

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**November 19, 2023**

**8:00 am and 10:30 am**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.

**SILENT PRAYER**

**PRELUDE:** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Payne

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

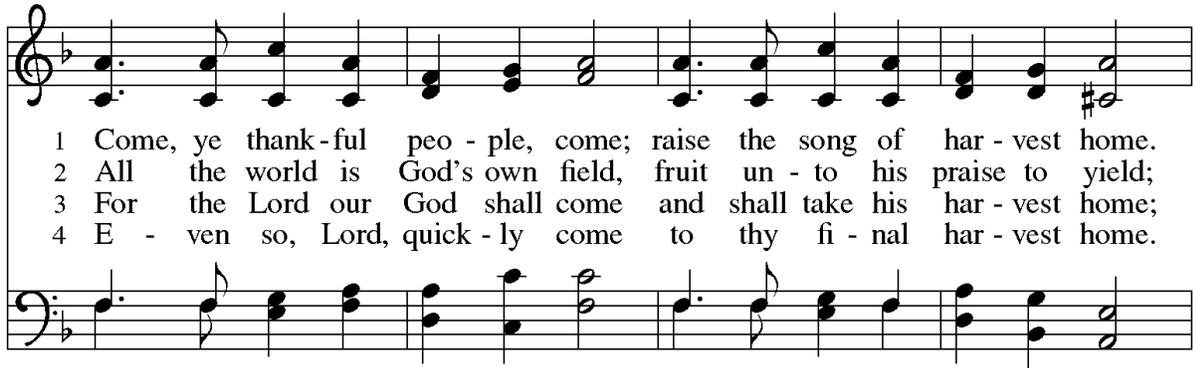
**GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)**

***Stand***

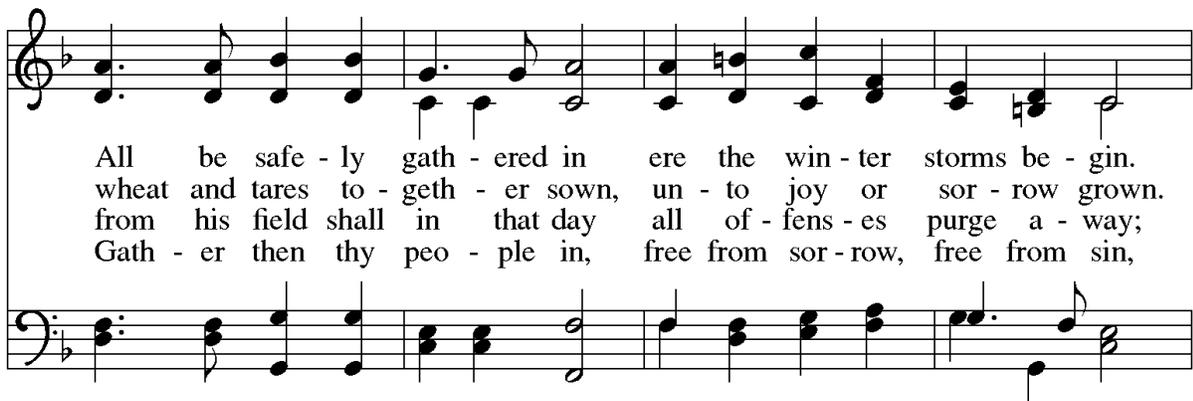
**HYMN:** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

*Printed on the next page.*

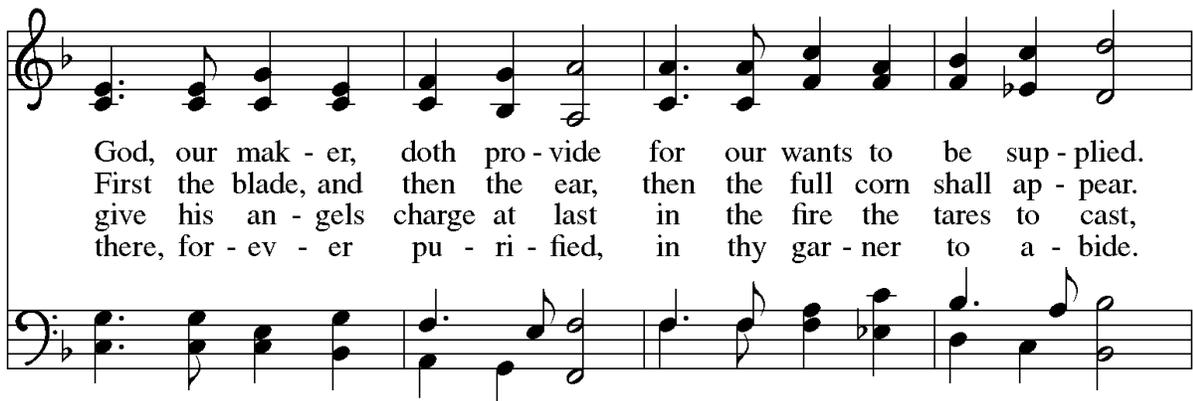
# Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



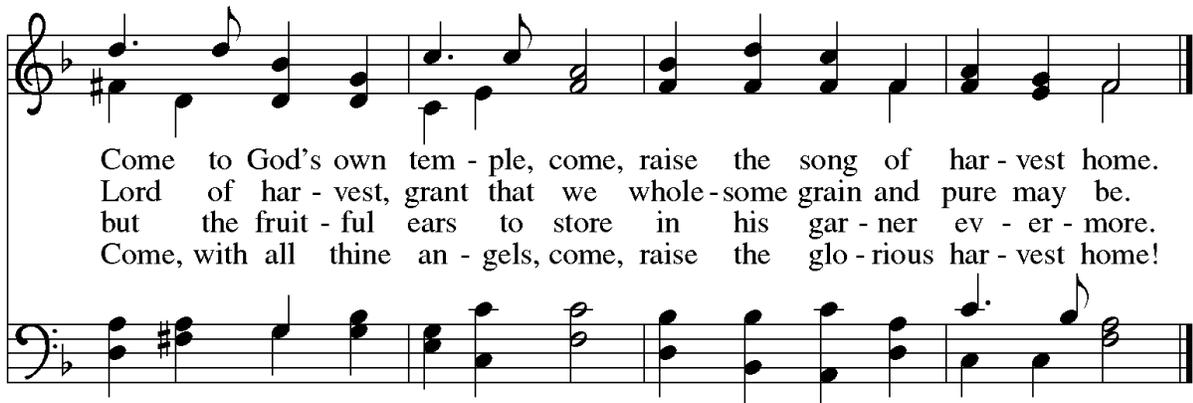
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;  
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;  
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.  
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

## 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.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE (GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO)



**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.  
Lord God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, always keeping in mind the end of all things and the day of judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of life here and may live with you forever in the world to come, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

*Later service only:*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.*

**A** A reading from Zephaniah.

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
"The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm."

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Later service only:*

**PSALM 90:1-8, 12** (*The congregation's verses are in bold face type.*)

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have | been our refuge  
from one generation | to another.

<sup>2</sup>**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were  
born,  
from age to age | you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the | dust and say,  
"Go back, O | child of earth."

<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past  
and like a watch | in the night.**

<sup>5</sup>You sweep us away | like a dream;  
we fade away suddenly | like the grass.  
<sup>6</sup>**In the morning it is | green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**  
<sup>7</sup>For we consume away in | your displeasure;  
we are afraid because of your wrathful | indignation.  
<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have | set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**  
<sup>12</sup>So teach us to num- | ber our days,  
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**A** A reading from First Thessalonians.

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The congregation sings the Acclamation.*



*The choir sings the Verse.*



*The congregation repeats the Acclamation.*



## GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

**P** The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came

forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

- ☐ The gospel of the Lord.
- ☒ Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

**SERMON**

The Reverend Betty Wright-Riggins

*Stand*

*Later service only:*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Sing to the Lord of Harvest*

*Printed on the next page.*

# Sing to the Lord of Harvest



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;  
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,  
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;  
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.  
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;  
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,  
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.  
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.  
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

***Stand***

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

**APOSTLES CREED**

**☐** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**☑** **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 into hell.  
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 INTERCESSION

- 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** We pray for the church, for its pastors and other ministers, 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.**

*Worshippers do not greet one another. The service continues with the Offertory.*

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

*The Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you leave the church.*

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

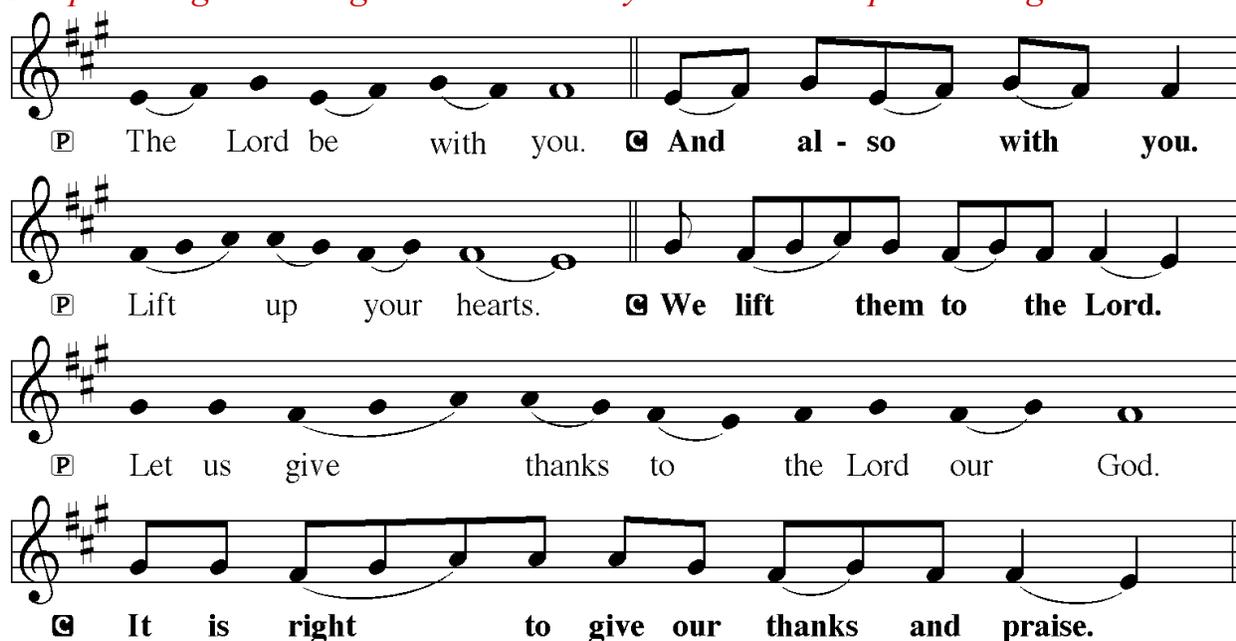
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

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

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

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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



**P** The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.

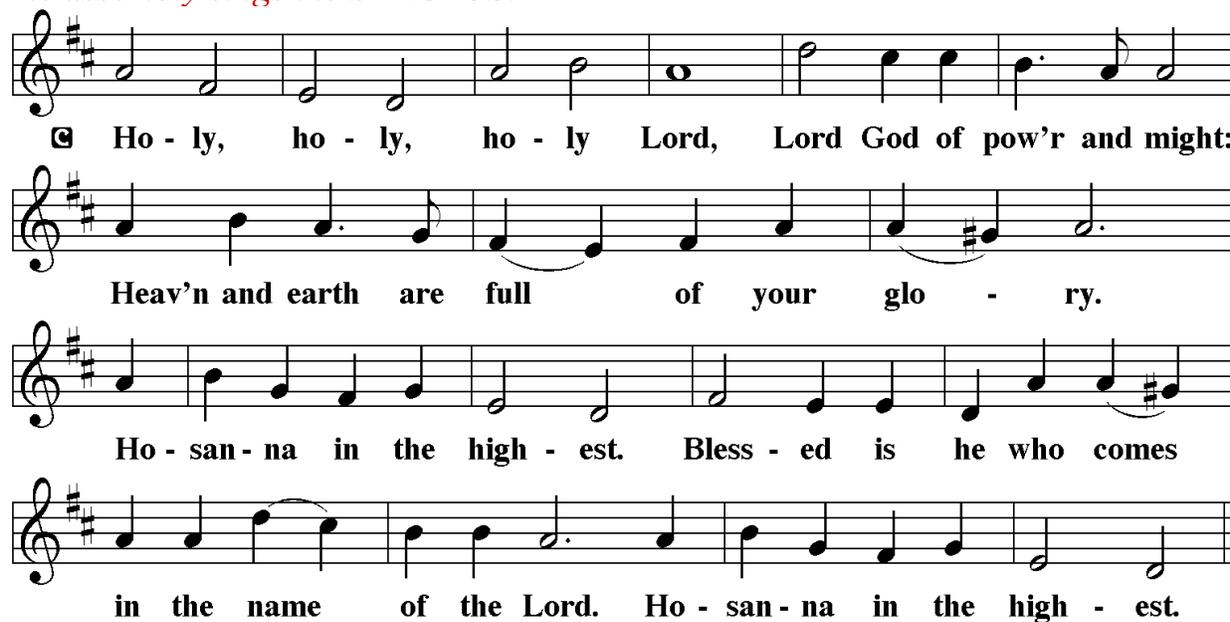
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**G** 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 sings the SANCTUS:*



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

Heav'n 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.

*The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.*

**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.

### **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** 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.

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

*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*

**R** Amen.

*We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” 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.*

*Music during Communion:*

**LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)**

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take  
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

*Later service only:*

**ANTHEM:** *All Good Gifts*

Butler

## All Good Gifts – Eugene Butler

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:  
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft, refreshing rain.

*Refrain:* All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;  
Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord for all His love.

God only is the Maker of all things near and far;  
He paints the wayside flower and lights the evening star;  
The winds and waves obey Him, by God the birds are fed;  
Much more to us, His children, He gives us daily bread. *(Refrain)*

We thank you then, O Father, for all things bright and good,  
We pledge to care for your world, our life, our health, our food;  
Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,  
We bring to you our gratitude, our humble, thankful hearts. *(Refrain)*

### *Stand*

#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- G** 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.
- G** 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** A - men, A - men, A - men.

DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN:** *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*

*Printed on the next page.*

# Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;  
 2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;  
 3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
 he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.  
 with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:  
 Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!  
 As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.  
 Our God is march - ing on.  
 while God is march - ing on.

*Refrain*



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.



## OFFERING

*The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.*

**POSTLUDE:** *Now Thank We All Our God*

Bach



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**The Time of the Church** is the season after Pentecost, beginning with The Holy Trinity and ending with Christ the King. These weeks focus on Christ's ministry and teaching.

**On Sundays for which the color is green**, it is appropriate to omit either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise, reserving both together for festival seasons.

**The liturgical color green**, symbolic of growth, is used for the season after Epiphany and after Pentecost.



### Worship Assistants

Ushers: Scott Halteman, Dick Allebach, Pat O'Hara, and Dennis Ludwig  
Elevator Attendant: Mike Taylor

Lectors: Lessons: Sonya Sowards                      Prayers: Gary Wessner

Communion Assistant: Sherry Jessee

Acolyte: Katie Kerr      Crucifer: Emily Barndt

Altar Guild: 8:00 am: Debra Augustine and Sally Sweeney

10:30 am: Becky Quitk

Offering Tabulation: Jennifer Wentworth, Brian O'Hara, and Chilly Lyaro

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar are given to the glory of God by John and Charlotte Wentworth in memory of loved ones.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Elizabeth Rutter in memory of brothers LeRoy Reed and George John Reed.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Richard and Dolores Alleach in honor of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

**New Newsletter Delivery Coming!** Beginning over the winter of 2024, our Monthly Church newsletter will be delivered via e-mail. If you don't think we have your e-mail address, please drop a line to [office@augustrappe.org](mailto:office@augustrappe.org) to get on the list! If you don't use e-mail, please call the church office to let Karen know that you would like to continue receiving your newsletter via regular mail. Please note that this change will not begin until after the first of the year.

## 2023 Christmas Poinsettias Order Form



Mail to: Karen Lachenmayer      Phone: 610-715-4850  
412 Dartmoor Road      E-mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail.com  
Schwenksville, Pa. 19473

**ORDER DEADLINE:      Sunday, December 3, 2023**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT INFO: \_\_\_\_\_

COLOR	QUANTITY		TOTAL \$
RED	_____	@ \$11.00 ea	_____
WHITE	_____	@ \$11.00 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## **THANKOFFERING / QUILT & AFGHAN SUNDAY**

a day to show gratitude for:

**God's Blessings and God's Countless Gifts to Us**

**During both significant and ordinary moments, we should say "Thank You" to God**

We are honored today to have the Reverend Betty Wright-Riggins, Ursinus' Chaplain and Director of Religion & Spiritual Life, as our guest preacher at both the 8:00am & 10:30am church worship services. A reception will be held in the Muhlenberg Center between the services and following the 10:30am worship service. All are welcome to attend! Please join us in welcoming the Reverend Betty Wright-Riggins to Augustus' family.



While at Augustus today please take notice of all the quilts and afghans adorning the church sanctuary. They were made by the Hearts and Hands Committee of Augustus' Women of the ELCA under the direction of Mildred Stuffle. The quilts will be given to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed to countries all over the world to help those people less fortunate. The full-sized afghans will be taken to Laurel House, a shelter for abused women and children, in Norristown, and the baby afghans will be taken to the Genesis Pregnancy Care Center in Pottstown. The prayer blankets will be given to Doylestown Hospital for end-of-life patients and to St. Mary's Medical Center

for mothers who lost their babies. Making quilts and afghans for those people less fortunate is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. The afghans provide a level of personal comfort and care. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world with suffering. Many thanks to everyone who have contributed to this ministry over the past year. If you would like to get involved and be connected to this global Christian family, you are always welcome to join the quilters, knitters, and crocheters of Augustus. The Hearts and Hands Quilting Group meets the first Wednesday and the third Tuesday of each month in room 24 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM, and the Hearts and Hands Knitting/Crocheting Group meets the second and fourth Monday night of each month in room 20 from 7:00 PM to 9:00PM. If you prefer to support the Quilting group in the comfort of your own home, we have quilting packs, each containing 48 squares, available in the Muhlenberg Center: Pick a pack out of the basket on the table, sew the squares into a quilt top, and return the pack to the bin under the table. Each quilt top will then be used to make a quilt for Lutheran World Relief. Each pack has instructions and a contact email address for questions. If you wish to help the Knitting/Crocheting group from the comfort of your own home, 7" x 9" blocks can be either crocheted or knitted and placed in the designated basket in the Muhlenberg Center. They are also collecting full-sized afghans 56" x 63", baby afghans 36" x 36" or 36" x 45" in pastel colors, lap prayer blankets 2'-3' wide by 3'-4' long in any color, and knitted/crocheted/quilted prayer blankets 50" x 60" in pastel colors. If you need yarn, please contact Mildred Stuffle at [jandmstuffle@verizon.net](mailto:jandmstuffle@verizon.net).

In honor of Thankoffering, envelopes will be distributed for your donation in support of the life-changing ministries of the Women of the ELCA including programs, resources, leadership training, and operational expenses. All proceeds collected will be sent directly to the churchwide organization of the Women of the ELCA. Please be generous! Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and hope for all that is to come. They give us an important and tangible way to express that gratitude and hope. When significant or ordinary moments happen, it is our way of saying "thank you" to God! **Please make checks payable to Augustus Women of the ELCA. If you wish to have your contribution recorded on your quarterly statement from Augustus Lutheran Church, please include your congregational # on your envelope.**

Thankofferings date back to the 1800's when Christian women formed "mite" or "cent" societies to support the mission of the church. When others in the church said there was not enough money to carry out projects, the women believed otherwise and acted together. In these societies, each woman collected offerings at home. On occasion, they would gather as we do today to worship and make their offerings with thanks and praise. When Women of the ELCA was formed over 30 years ago, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Together, we can do more than we could ever do alone.

## Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins

Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins became Ursinus College's Chaplain and Director of Religion and Spiritual Life this summer after serving both roles on an interim basis last year. Betty's career has led her down many paths with one commonality: leading a diverse community of people.

Betty Wright- Riggins is an ordained American Baptist Minister and Certified Spiritual Director. She has served the denomination as Pastor, consultant, executive leader and co- founder of the American Baptist Spiritual Director's Network.

Reverend Betty taught in Eastern's School of Christian Ministry (ESCM) for over six years. She is the Principal of TrustOne, a consultancy ministry for spiritual direction, spiritual formation, seminars and retreat coordination.

Reverend Betty founded home spiritual formation gatherings, "Breathing the Breath of God" (BBOG). She sends voiced scripture reading, "Breathing in Scripture" weekly to recipients nation-wide. She is on staff at the Middleton Center for Counseling and Spiritual Direction. She serves as group facilitator at Oasis Ministry for Spiritual Development and maintains an active spiritual direction practice.

Reverend Betty is married to Reverend Dr. Aidsand F. Wright- Riggins. They have three adult children and are raising their beloved grand daughter and her dog Paisley.

### Education

Masters of Divinity from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia PA.

Masters in Education Administration, Post Graduate Studies in Speech Pathology and Bachelor of Speech Pathology all from California State University, Los Angeles.



**FOR THOSE WHO WE HOLD CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS AT CHRISTMAS**  
a free gift and token of remembrance and hope

**Advent Remembrance Days**

**Dec. 03**  
**8:00 & 10:30 AM**

Brian O'Hara © 2023  
brian.chara24@gmail.com

A graphic for 'Advent Remembrance Days' featuring three lit candles on the left, a white dove in flight on the right, and a snowy landscape with evergreen trees at the bottom. The background is dark with white snowflakes.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Participating youth attend  
**Sunday School at 9:00 AM**

**December 17, 2023**  
**10:30 AM**



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 brian.o'hara.24@gmail.com

717 W. MAIN STREET WWW.AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG 610-489-9625

## AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion \* 9:00 AM Sunday School \* 10:30 AM Communion

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Services & Family Traditions



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**FREE GIFT!!!**  
 for all attendees

**HISTORIC OLD TRAPPE CHURCH**  
 December 24, 5:00 PM Candlelight Living Nativity  
 Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols  
 December 24, 7:00 PM Candlelight Family Service  
 Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols

**HEATED BRICK CHURCH**  
 December 24, 8:00 AM Communion  
 Located in Chapel  
 December 24, 9:00 PM Candlelight, Lessons, Carols, & Communion  
 Traditionally decorated main Sanctuary

Step back in time with our candlelit pathways, gas lamps wrapped in greens, and candlelight Christmas Eve Services in Historic Old Trappe Church! All services in Old Trappe Church are in a 1743 unheated and unelectrified Colonial Church.

Please dress accordingly and remember your flashlights!

Enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service in the heated Brick Church with lessons, carols, and special music



**Annual Toy Drive:** WELCA will host their annual Toy Drive for the children of Silver Springs Martin Luther School during the month of November. There will be a box in the Muhlenberg Center for your donations all month. See below for how you can help a child have a Merry Christmas!



## 2023 Gift Wish List

### Toys

- Large and medium-sized stuffed animals
- Small and medium-sized Squishmallow stuffed animals
- Games – Checkers, Chess, Jenga, Connect 4, UNO, Monopoly, Scrabble, Trouble, and Sorry are favorites
- LEGO sets
- Pokémon cards and toys
- Minecraft toys
- Superhero action figures
- LOL dolls and Rainbow High dolls
- Barbie dolls
- Remote controlled vehicles
- Beyblades and Beyblades arenas
- Playing cards and card games
- Rubik's cubes
- Fidget toys – spinners, tangles, cubes, stress balls
- Dream Lites or other soft night lights
- Books for children and teens
- Wireless headphones/earbuds
- Small Bluetooth speakers
- Matchbox or Hot Wheels cars & racetracks
- Puzzles
- Play-Doh

### Clothing & Personal Care

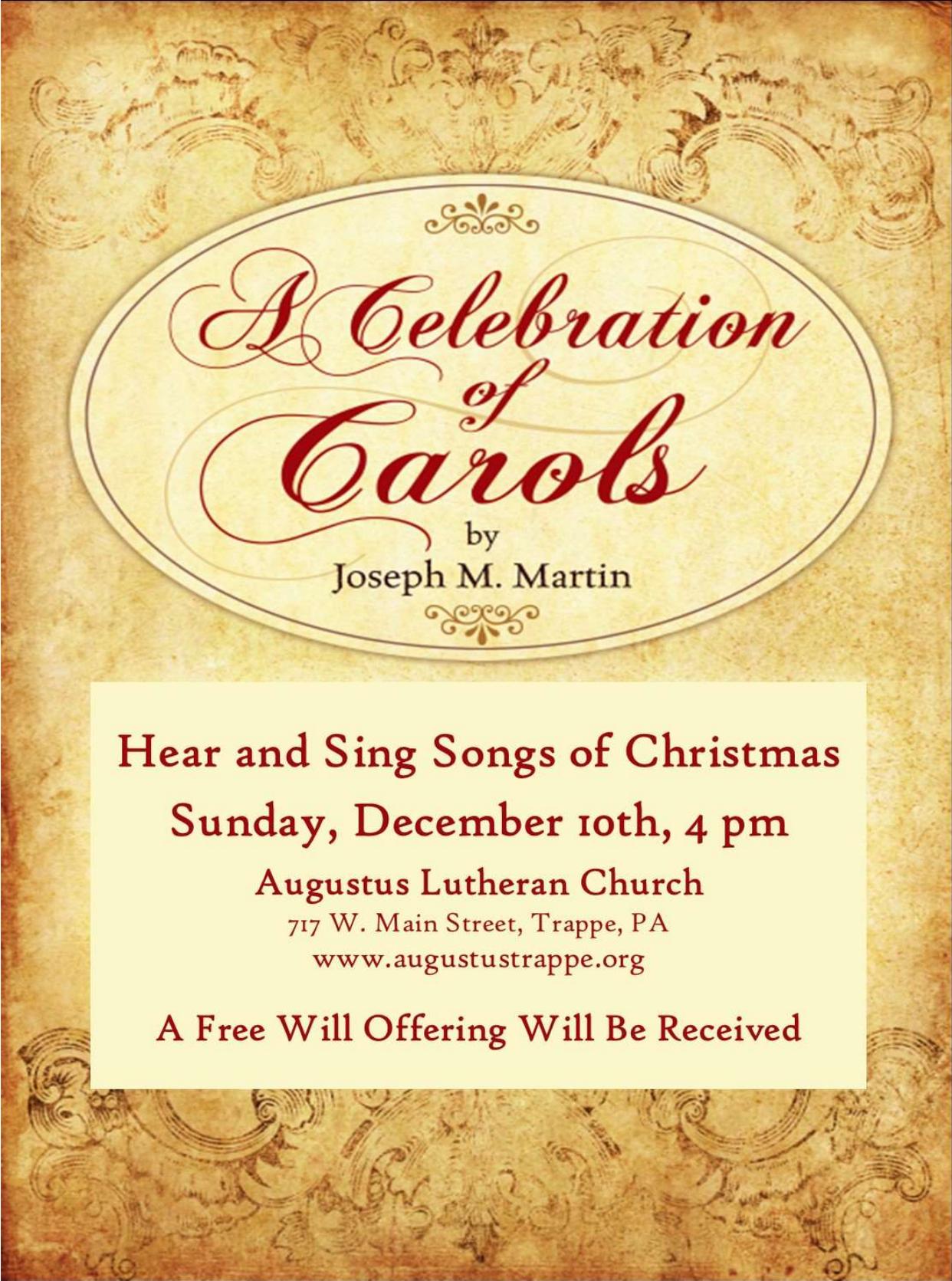
- Pajama sets for boys and girls – youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Hooded sweatshirts for girls and boys – youth sizes 12-18 and adult sizes S-L. Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Fila are favorite brands
- Adidas or Nike slide style sandals – youth and adult sizes
- Crocs and Crocs-style sandals – youth and adult sizes
- Jibbitz or charms for Crocs-style sandals
- Adjustable baseball hats – Nike and Philly sports teams are favorites
- Athletic socks – Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Fila are favorites
- Athletic tights – youth sizes L-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Nail polish, lip gloss, lip balm, and makeup
- Toiletry gift sets with body wash, shampoo, conditioner, & deodorant. Dove, Axe, and Bath and Body Works are favorites. Plastic bottles only, please!
- Plastic water bottles – Contigo and Camelback brands are favorites
- Winter coats – youth & adult sizes
- Children's weighted blankets

### Arts & Crafts

- Craft kits
- Crayola art kits
- Gel pen sets
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Velvet posters to color
- Coloring books and large coloring pages
- Sketch books and drawing paper – non-spiral bound, please!
- Journals- no locks, non-spiral bound, please!
- Origami kits and origami paper

### Sports

- Footballs and basketballs
- Over-the-door basketball hoops
- Football gloves – youth and adult sizes
- Basketball shooting sleeves – youth and adult sizes
- Fitness watches



*A Celebration  
of  
Carols*

by  
Joseph M. Martin

**Hear and Sing Songs of Christmas  
Sunday, December 10th, 4 pm**

**Augustus Lutheran Church**

717 W. Main Street, Trappe, PA

[www.augustustrappe.org](http://www.augustustrappe.org)

**A Free Will Offering Will Be Received**