

## HOLY COMMUNION

### Advent II

December 7, 2025

8:00 am and 10:30 am

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

### SILENT PRAYER

#### PRELUDE:

*"Fantasy on 'Veni Emmanuel'"*

Robert C. Lau

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

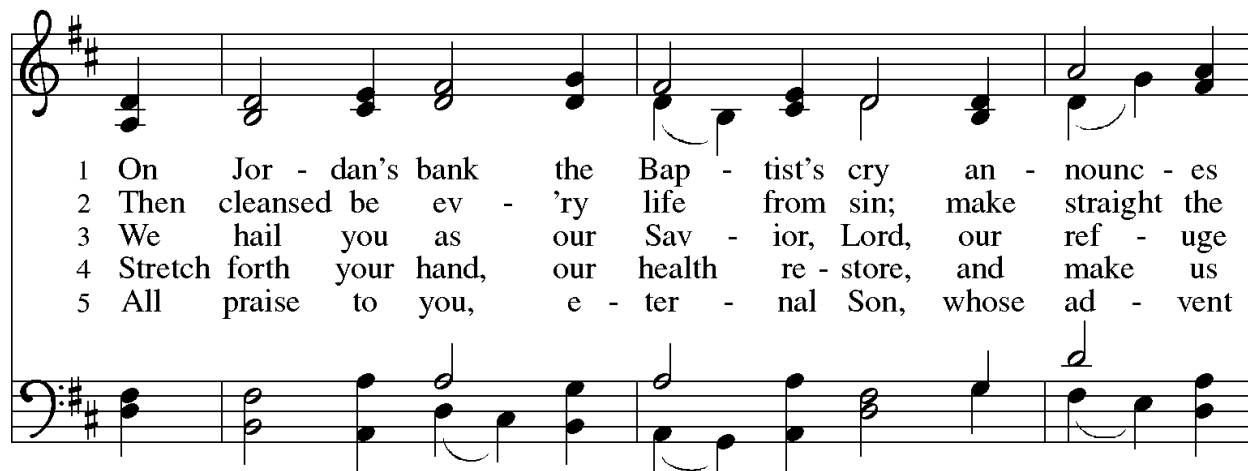
#### GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

***Stand***

**HYMN:** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

*Printed on the next page.*

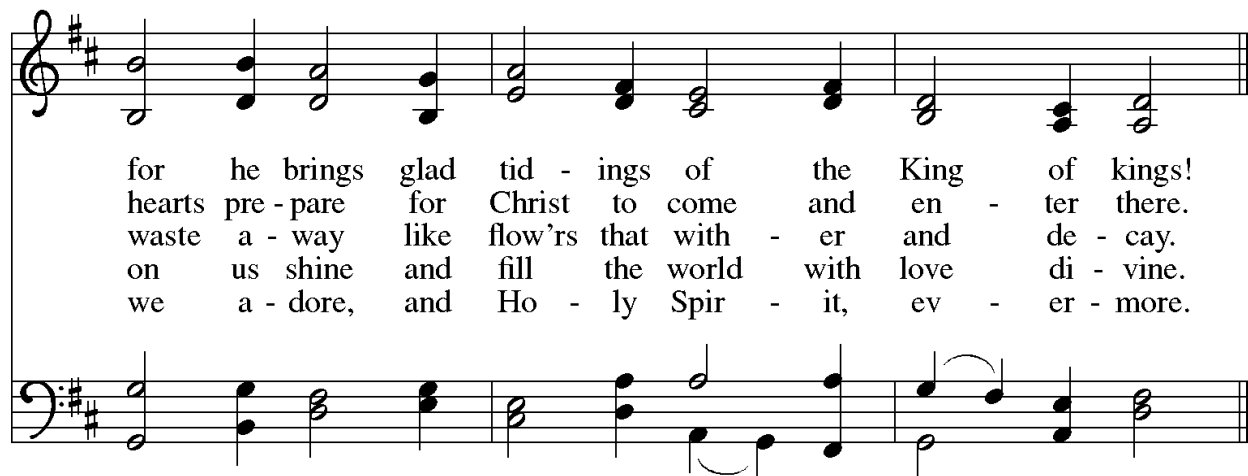
## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

## 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.

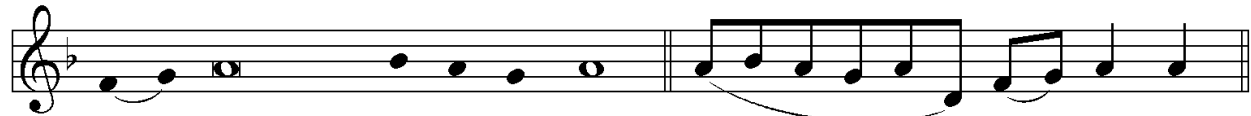
### *Stand*

## 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



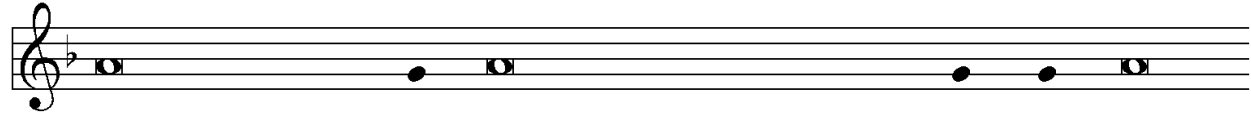
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

## 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.

**C** Amen.

**HYMN:** *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* (Stanza(s) 1, 2)  
*Printed on the next page.*



- 1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
- 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on
- 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's
- 4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer our spir - its by your
- 5 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save  
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re - joice!  
and death's dark shad-ows put to flight.  
and close the path to mis - er - y.



Em-man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

*Later service only:*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

**A** A reading from Isaiah.

- <sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,
- <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.
- <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.
- <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations  
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Later service only:*

**PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19** (*Congregation sings the refrain as printed*)

*The first time the choir sings the Refrain and the congregation repeats it.*



In his time the righ - teous shall flour - ish.

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;  
<sup>2</sup> that he may rule your | people righteously  
and the | poor with justice;  
<sup>3</sup> that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,  
and the little | hills bring righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup> He shall defend the needy a- | mong the people;  
he shall rescue the poor and crush | the oppressor.



In his time the righ - teous shall flour - ish.

- <sup>5</sup> He shall live as long as the sun and | moon endure,  
from one generation | to another.  
<sup>6</sup> He shall come down like rain upon | the mown field,  
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.  
<sup>7</sup> In his time shall the | righteous flourish;  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.  
<sup>18</sup> Blessed be the Lord God, the | God of Israel,  
who alone does | wondrous deeds!  
<sup>19</sup> And blessed be his glorious | name forever,  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. A- | men. Amen.



In his time the righ - teous shall flour - ish.



## SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-13

*God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.*

**A** A reading from Romans.

<sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors <sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles  
and sing praises to your name”;

<sup>10</sup> and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

<sup>11</sup> and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him”;

<sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;  
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

<sup>13</sup> May 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.

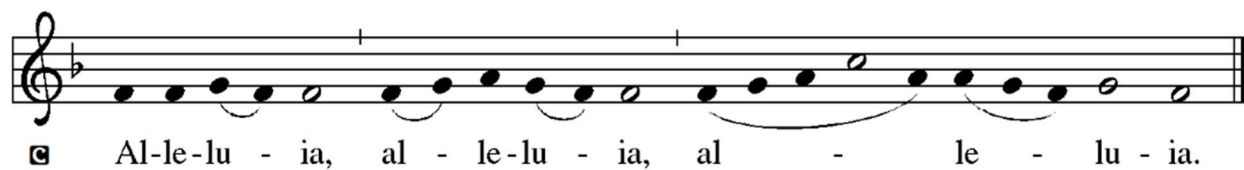
**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

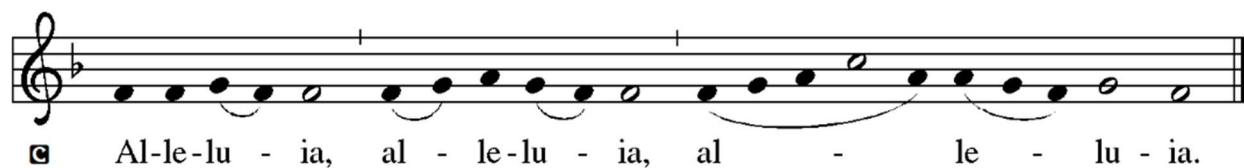
*The congregation sings the Acclamation.*



*The choir sings the Verse.*



*The congregation repeats the Acclamation.*



## GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

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

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

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,  
<sup>2</sup> “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume 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>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

SERMON

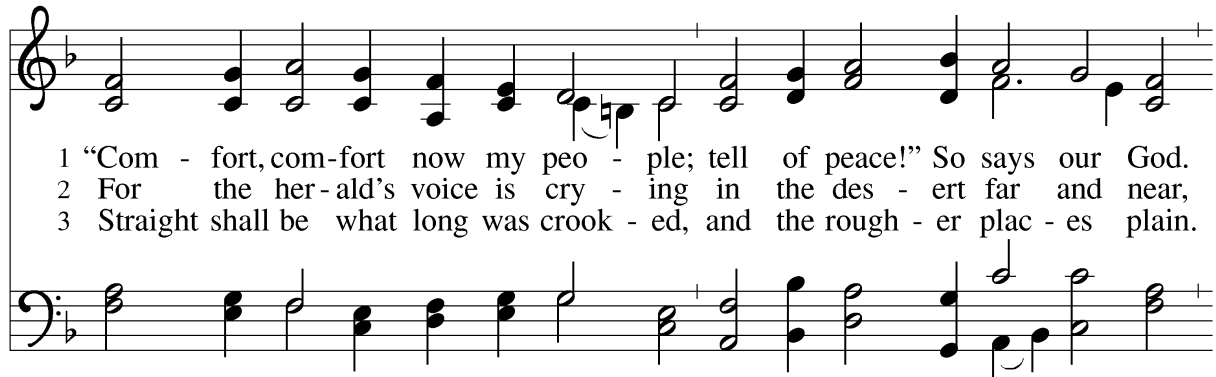
Pastor Weleck

*Stand*

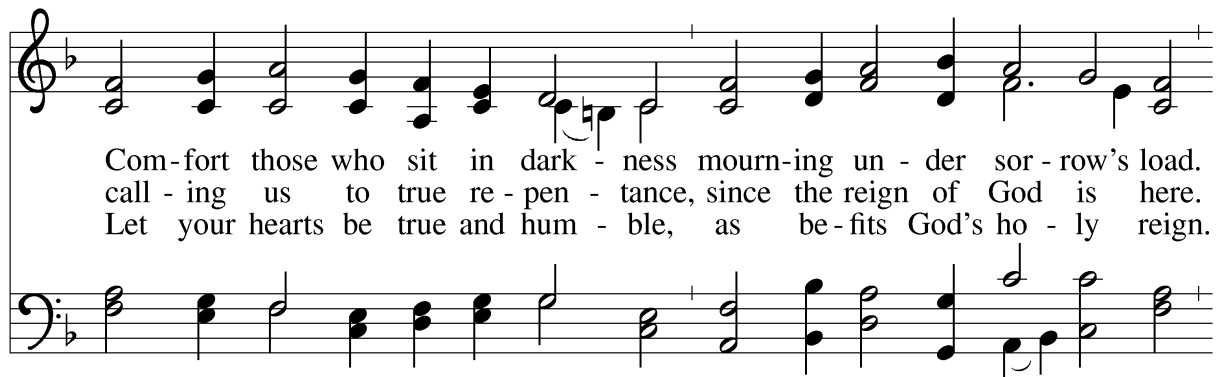
*Later service only:*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Comfort, Comfort, Now My People*  
*Printed on the next page.*

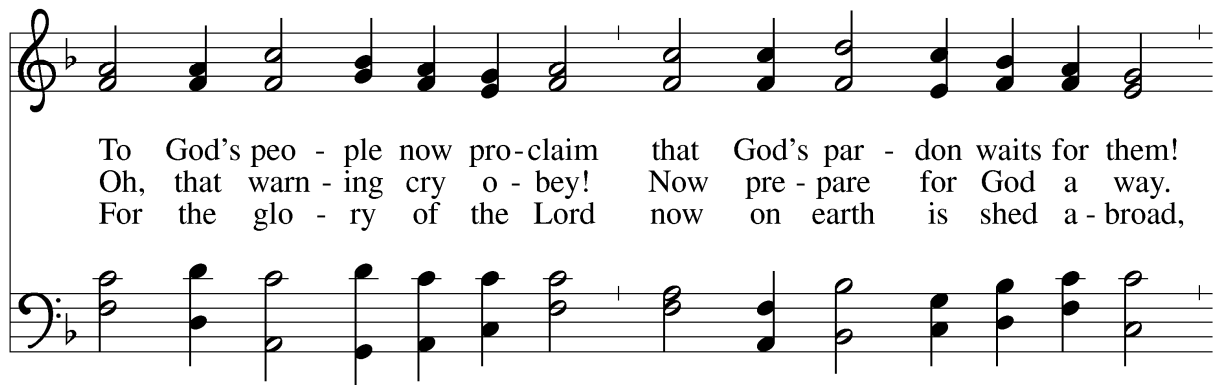
## Comfort, Comfort Now My People



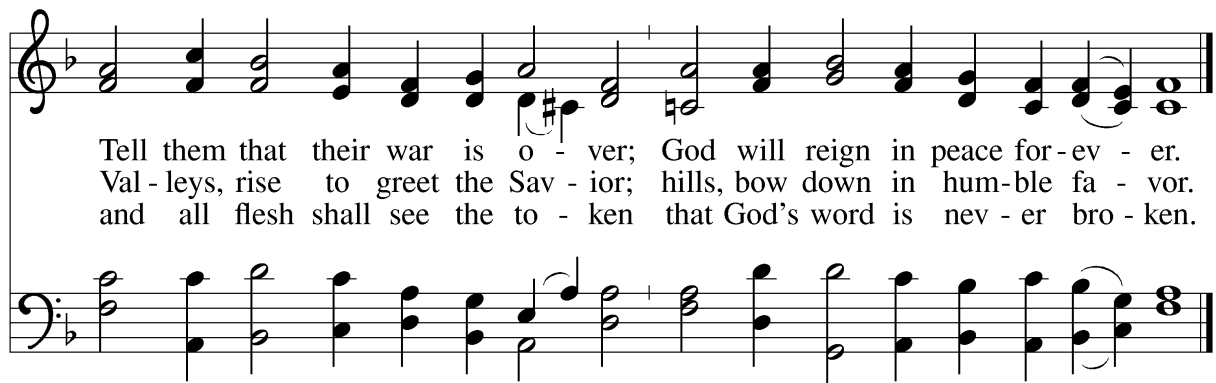
1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

***Stand***

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

**NICENE CREED**

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

**☑** 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.

## 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.**

*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

*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

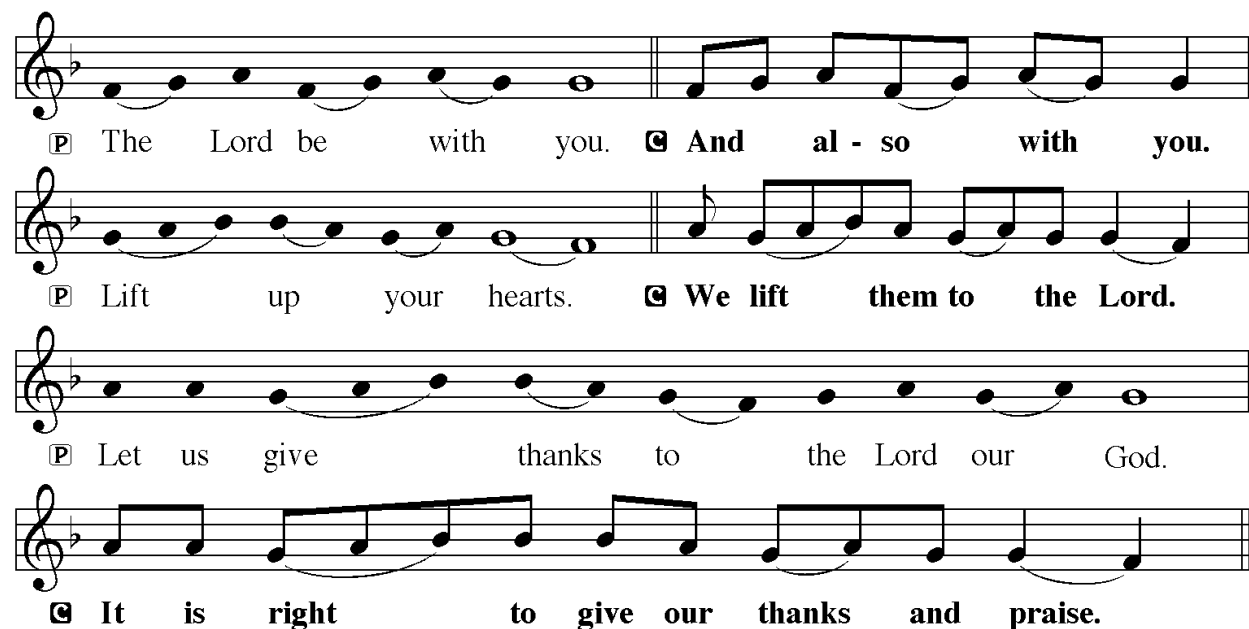
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

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:*



¶ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

¶ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

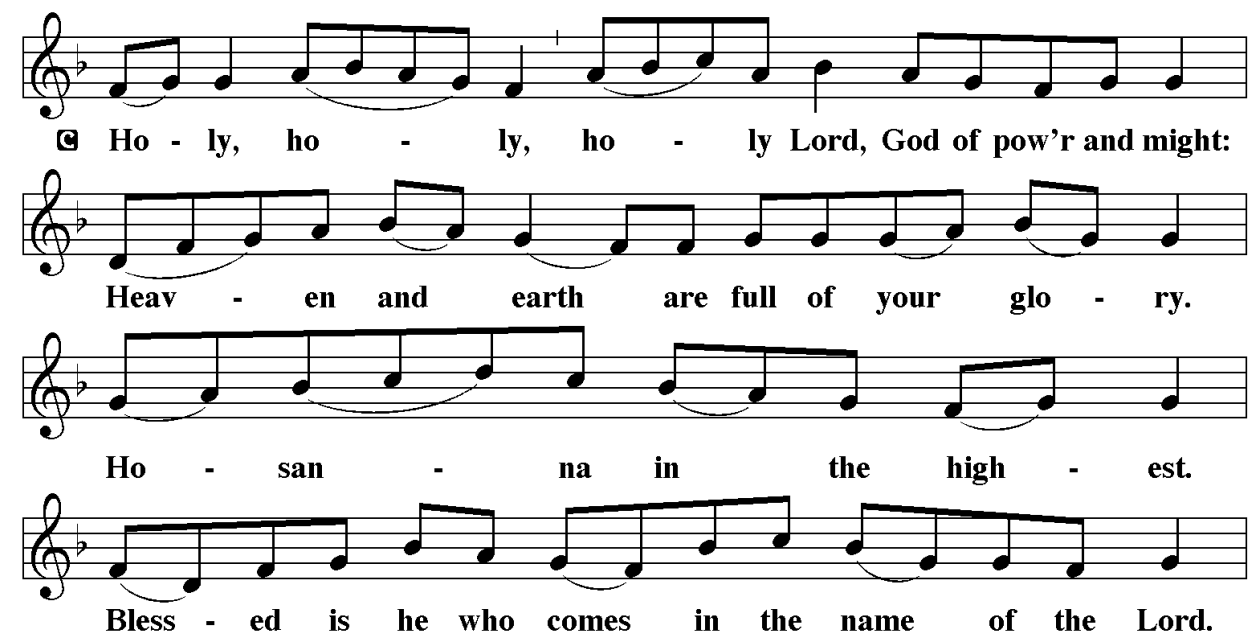
¶ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE, concluding:*

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*The assembly sings the SANCTUS:*



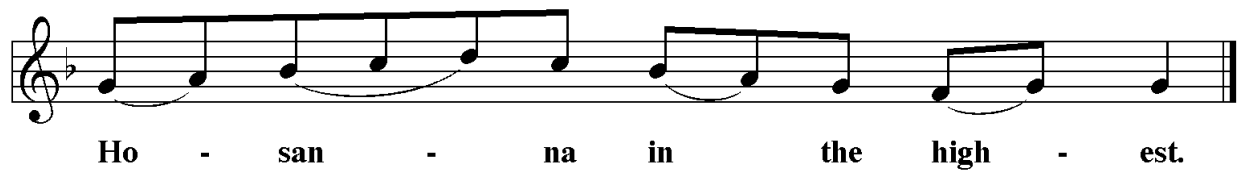
☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

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.





*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.

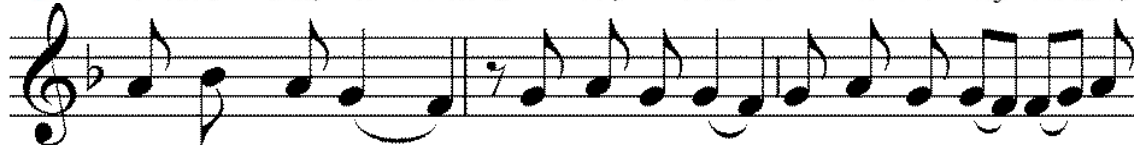
## LORD'S PRAYER



**P** Lord, re-mem-ber us in your king-dom and teach us to pray.



**C** Our Fa ther, who art in heav en, Hal low - ed be thy Name,



Thy King-dom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in



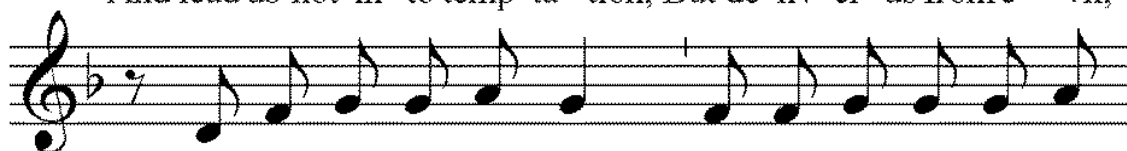
heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread; And for-give us



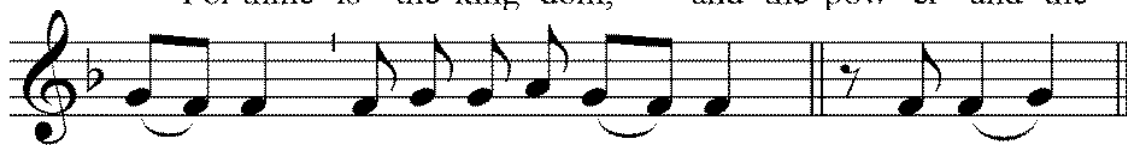
our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who trespass a-gainst us;



And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, But de-liv-er us from e-vil,



For thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the



glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men

## 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)**

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

**COMMUNION ANTHEM: “An Advent Message”**

Martin How

*Come Lord Jesus, Amen.  
O come quickly, come Lord come.  
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Come Lord Jesus, Amen.  
Yea, come quickly, come Lord come. Amen.*

**Alanna Jesse and Jennie Lien, sopranos**

**COMMUNION VOLUNTARY:** *“Comfort, Comfort, Now My People”*

Johann Pachelbel

*“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.  
To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.*

***Stand***

**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** A - men, A - men, A - men.

### DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN:** *Prepare the Royal Highway*

*Printed on the next page.*


## Prepare the Royal Highway



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!

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## OFFERING

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

**POSTLUDE:** “Toccata on ‘Veni Emmanuel’”

Andrew Carter



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**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.

**Christmas is a great twelve (12) day celebration**, beginning on 25 December and ending on the Feast of the Epiphany, 6 January. Outward signs of the celebration of Christmas should remain visible for all twelve (12) days: trees, wreaths and other decorations, music, gift-giving, joy.

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



2025 Vestry		
Member	Special Area	E-mail Address
Gary Wessner	President/Property	gtwess@comcast.net
Dick Allebach	Vice President	Doot44@gmail.com
Alison Fishell	Secretary	alisonhfishell@gmail.com
Jeannie Funk	General Treasurer	jeanniefunk@gmail.com
Sherry Jessee	Trust Fund Treasurer	dsajessee@hotmail.com
John Kochel	Parish Life	John.kochel@thrivent.com
Karl Stefan	Mutual Ministry	kssurf@verizon.net
Chilly Lyaro	Christian Education	chillylyaro@yahoo.com
Brian O'Hara	Outreach	Brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Shane Elison	Christian Education	Selison87@gmail.com
Jennifer Wentworth	Old Church Committee	jawentw@aol.com
Matthew Vera	Cemetery Committee	Matthew vera@verizon.net

#### Worship Assistants

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

Elevator Attendant: Graham Anderson

Lectors:

8:00 am: Debra Augustine

10:30 am: Lessons: Karl Stefan      Prayers: Sonya Sowards

Communion Assistant: Sherry Jessee

Acolyte and Crucifer: Summer Allen and Kaden Menendez

Altar Guild: Debra Augustine, Sally Sweeney, and

Offering Tabulation: Gary Wessner, Matthew Vera, and Karl Stefan

Video Streaming: Jim Lien, Chilly Lyaro, and Shane Elison

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar are given to the glory of God by Barbara Rice in loving memory of husband, Richard.

The Wreaths on the Church Doors are given to the glory of God by The Holcombe Family in memory of loved ones.

The Sanctuary Candle is given by Sherry and Alanna Jessee in honor of husband and father Don Jessee's birthday.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Mr. Robert Hallman in loving memory of wife, Wendy Yohn Hallman's birthday.

The Choir Music is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gail Martin by her family and friends.



# 2025 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

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

ORDER DEADLINE: December 7, 2025  
Make checks payable to Augustus Flower Fund

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: (please print)

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

## **WELCA will accept donations of toys and other items for Gemma Services**

again this year. Collection boxes will be located in the Muhlenberg Center through December 7.

*Each year, Gemma creates holiday joy by providing gifts and gift cards to children and families who they accompany across their programs and Martin Luther School. Thanks to the generosity of many friends like Augustus, they are able to help parents who work hard to provide their families with essentials but do not have extra money to buy holiday gifts. They are also able to help children who are residents of their treatment program with holiday gifts while they are away from their families.*

*You can help make special holiday memories possible! Any gift you provide means a child will have a new toy to unwrap with excitement on Christmas morning. A gift card you donate will help a family buy the perfect present for their child or provide their family with a holiday meal. **Most importantly, your generous support is a tangible reminder that every child and every family matters.***





## 2025 Gift Wish List

### Toys

- Large and medium-sized stuffed animals
- Small and medium-sized Squishmallow stuffed animals
- Weighted stuffed animals
- Games – Checkers, Chess, Jenga, Connect 4, UNO, Scrabble, Trouble, and Sorry are favorites
- LEGO sets
- Pokémon cards and toys
- Superhero action figures
- LOL dolls and Rainbow High dolls
- Remote controlled vehicles (battery operated, please)
- Playing cards and card games
- Rubik's cubes
- Handheld electronic games (battery operated, please)
- Fidget toys – spinners, tangles, cubes, stress balls, pop-its
- 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
- Hairstyling mannequin heads

### Clothing & Personal Care

- Pajama sets for boys and girls – youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-L
- Toiletry gift sets for boys or girls. Dove, Axe, and Bath and Body Works are favorites.
- Personal care items including body wash, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Plastic bottles only, please!
- Plastic water bottles
- Hooded sweatshirts for girls and boys – youth sizes 12-18 and adult sizes S-L. Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Under Armor 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
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Nail stickers, press-on nails, lip gloss, lip balm, and makeup
- Winter coats – youth & adult sizes
- Winter hats & gloves – youth & adult sizes
- Children's weighted blankets

### Arts & Crafts

- Craft kits (sand art, sun catchers, etc.)
- Crayola art kits
- Diamond or crystal art kits
- Paint by number
- Gel pen sets
- Stickers and sticker sheets
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Coloring books and large coloring pages
- Sticker by number books
- Sketch books and drawing paper – non-spiral bound, please!
- Journals – no locks, non-spiral bound, please!
- Small and medium art canvases
- Air dry clay
- Light up drawing pads

### Sports

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

Email [Abryant@gemmaservices.org](mailto:Abryant@gemmaservices.org) to arrange delivery. For more information about Gemma Services or to make a donation online to support our mission, please visit [www.gemmaservices.org](http://www.gemmaservices.org)





### Annual Augustus Family Christmas Party!

Join the Augustus Family in preparing the House of the Lord for the Christmas Season. It takes many hands to get the church ready and we definitely need your help to make it happen! From decorating the tree in the nave, to hanging the garland and wreaths, there is lots to do in a short period of time. All of the holiday enhancements around our campus entice visitors that are looking for the ‘old fashioned family Christmas’. We will also be serving lunch and a light continental breakfast...because a party without food is just a meeting. Look for details in the near future and a sign-up sheet in the Muhlenberg Center. Contact Brian O’Hara or 610-489-0417 for more details. The event is sponsored by the **Outreach Committee** and is open to the entire Augustus Lutheran Church Family.





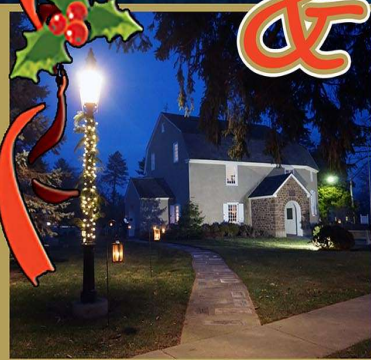
# SUNDAY SCHOOL NATIVITY PROGRAM

Participating youth attend  
Sunday School at 9:00 AM

December 21, 2025  
10:30 AM



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Services & Family Traditions



Brian O'Hara © 2024 brianchara24@gmail.com

### 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

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!

FREE GIFT!!!  
for all attendees

### HEATED BRICK CHURCH

December 24, 9:00 PM Candlelight, Lessons, Carols, & Communion  
Traditionally decorated main Sanctuary

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

