#### HOLY COMMUNION

### First Sunday in Advent

**November 30, 2025** 

8:00 am and 10:30 am

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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

#### SILENT PRAYER

**PRELUDE:** "Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 659

J. S. Bach

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here your home. Marvel now, O Heav'n and Earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

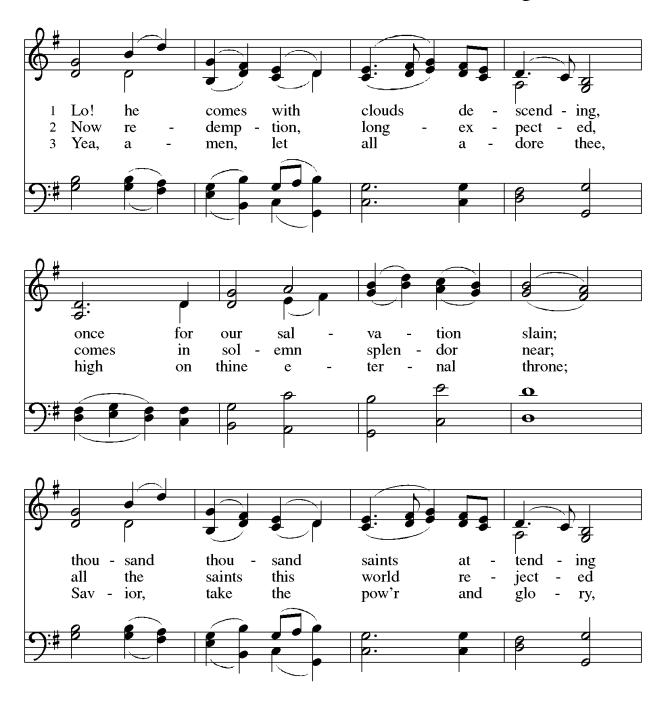
#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

**HYMN:** Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending Printed on the next page.

# Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending





# **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.

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

#### Kneel/Stand

- P Most merciful God,
- 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.
- 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 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.
- And also with you.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### Sit

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Use this blessing when lighting the **first** candle.

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep,

that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

C Amen.

**HYMN:** Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (Stanza(s) 1)

Printed on the next page.



# Later service only:

# **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

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

### **A** reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob,

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares

and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,

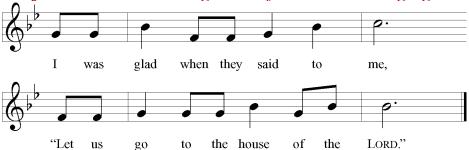
come, let us walk

in the light of the LORD!

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

# Later service only:

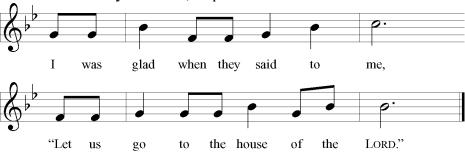
# **PSALM** 122 (Congregation sings the refrain as printed) The **first time** the choir sings the Refrain and the congregation repeats it.



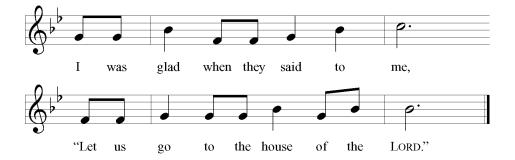
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I was glad when they | said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

- <sup>2</sup> Now our | feet are standing within your gates, | O Jerusalem.
- <sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is built | as a city that is at unity | with itself;
- <sup>4</sup> to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord.



- <sup>5</sup> For there are the | thrones of judgment, the thrones of the | house of David.
- <sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
  "May they pros-per who love you.
- <sup>7</sup> Peace be with- in your walls and quietness with- in your towers.
- <sup>8</sup> For my brethren and com- | panions' sake, I pray for | your prosperity.
- <sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."



#### **SECOND READING**

Romans 13:11-14

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

# **A** reading from Romans.

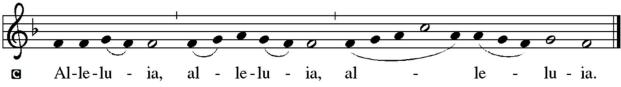
<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;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

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

#### Stand

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The congregation sings the Acclamation.

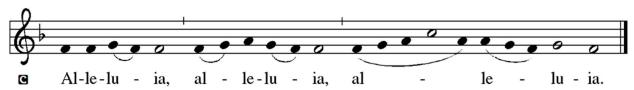


The choir sings the Verse.



Show us your steadfast | love, O Lord, and grant us | your salvation.

The congregation repeats the Acclamation.



GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44

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

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup> "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** 

Sit

SERMON Pastor Weleck

Stand

Later service only:

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying Printed on the next page.

# Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying





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#### 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

- **P** 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

- With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
- 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.
- 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,
- **©** hear our prayer.
- 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.
- 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.
- Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

#### **PEACE**

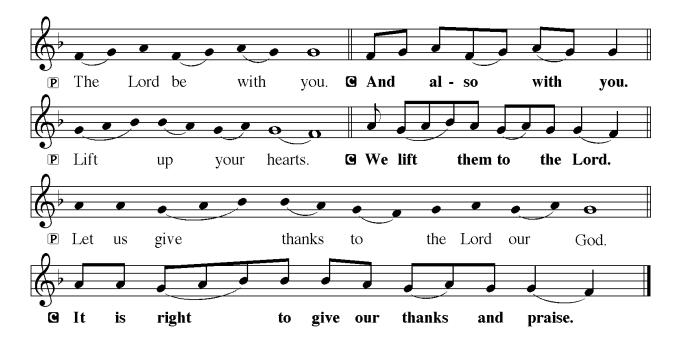
- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** And also with you.

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.

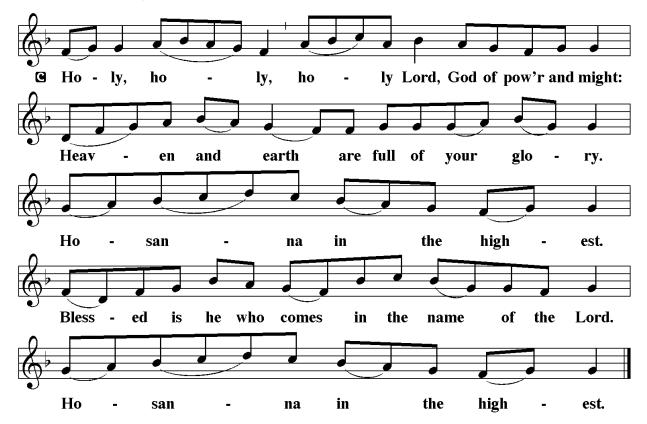




The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE, concluding:

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

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:



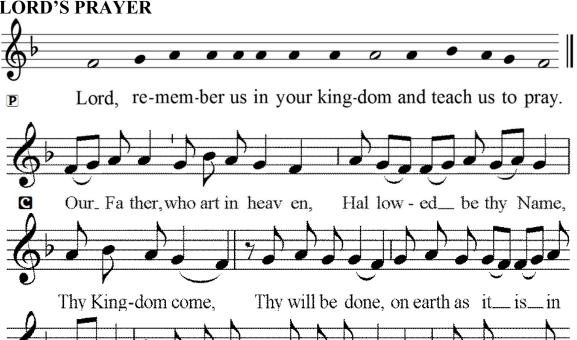
The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.

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.

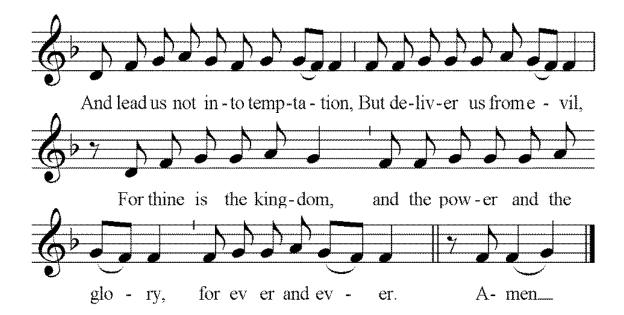
#### LORD'S PRAYER



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



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



#### 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.

#### Sit

#### **COMMUNION**

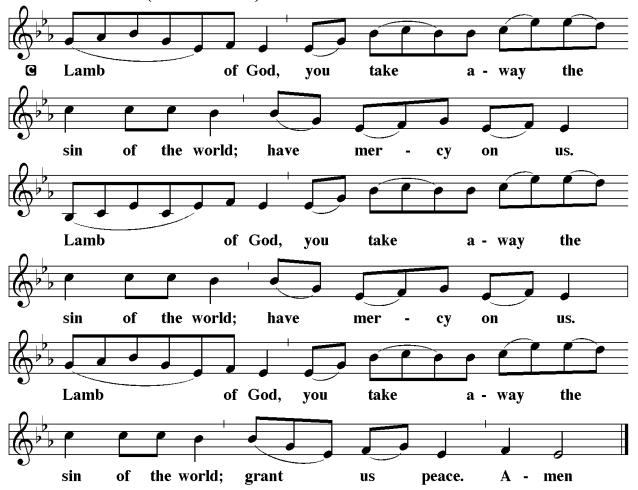
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

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 "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)



**COMMUNION ANTHEM:** "O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines"

C. H. H. Parry

O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release, till by God's grace our warring world shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;

as beasts and cattle calmly graze, a little child shall lead them all. Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord; the hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

# COMMUNION VOLUNTARY: "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" BWV 645 J. S. Bach

Wake, awake! for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying; awake, Jerusalem, at last!

Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices: "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.

The Bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!" Alleluia! Rise and prepare the feast to share; go meet the Bridegroom, who is near."

#### Stand

#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

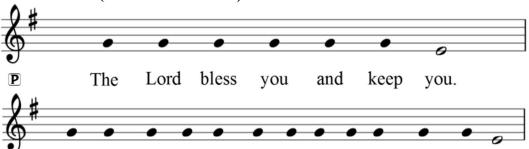
- P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- **G** Amen.

#### 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**

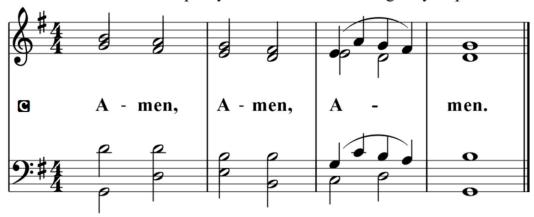
# **BLESSING (BENEDICTION)**



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



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



## **DISMISSAL**

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

**HYMN:** Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
Printed on the next page.

# Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



#### **OFFERING**

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

**POSTLUDE:** "Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 661

J. S. Bach



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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.

+ + +

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Joe Cooney, Karl Stefan, Dick Allebach, and Brooke Rush

Elevator Attendant: Graham Anderson

Lectors:

8:00 am: Debra Augustine

10:30 am: Lessons: Cheryl Camuso Prayers: Rebecca Catagnus

Communion Assistant: Earl Catagnus

Acolyte and Crucifer: Mya Shiller and Shealyn Frazier

Altar Guild: Debra Augustine, Sally Sweeney, and Becky Quirk

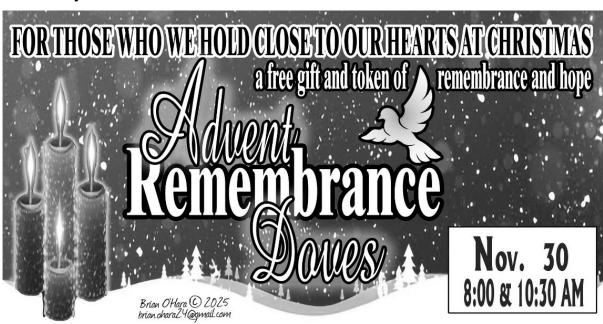
Offering Tabulation: Jennifer Wentworth, Brian O'Hara, and Chilly Lyaro Video Streaming: Jim Lien, Chilly Lyaro, and Shane Elison

<u>The Flowers that Adorn the Altar</u> are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cooney and family in loving memory of father ang grandfather Frederick E. Schubert.

The Sanctuary Candle is given by Joseph and Donna Cooney to the glory of God.

<u>The Worship Bulletins</u> are given to the glory of God by the McClain family with love in honor of our new grandchild.

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



OUTREACH COMMITTEE – ADVENT REMEMBRANCE DOVES: A Pair of Doves spiritually represent love, friendship, and peace. When two doves couple together, they enter into partnership for a lifetime. A pair of doves can signify a union of two or more people or entities with a positive outlook for the future. At Christmas, people tend to remember those that have gone before them. If you are thinking of someone special this Christmas Season, we will be offering you two free remembrance doves in memory of that person. One to keep to adorn your Christmas Tree reminding you of their presence throughout the season, and one to leave at Augustus adorning the Christmas Tree in the nave to remind you that they are with Jesus, the one we are celebrating at Christmas.

# 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

CONTAC COLOR	QUANTITY		TOTAL \$	HILL
RED		@ \$11.00 ea		
WHITE		@ \$11.00 ea		
Check O		v planta aftan tha	e 9:00 P.M. Service 12/24.	
		bute my plants to		
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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 to arrange delivery. For more information about Gemma Services or to make a donation online to support our mission, please visit 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.

