HOLY COMMUNION Third Sunday in Advent

Children's Christmas Program

December 15, 2024

10:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: The Angel Gabriel Danced

arr. Nishimura

Ali Backlund, flute

ANNOUNCEMENTS

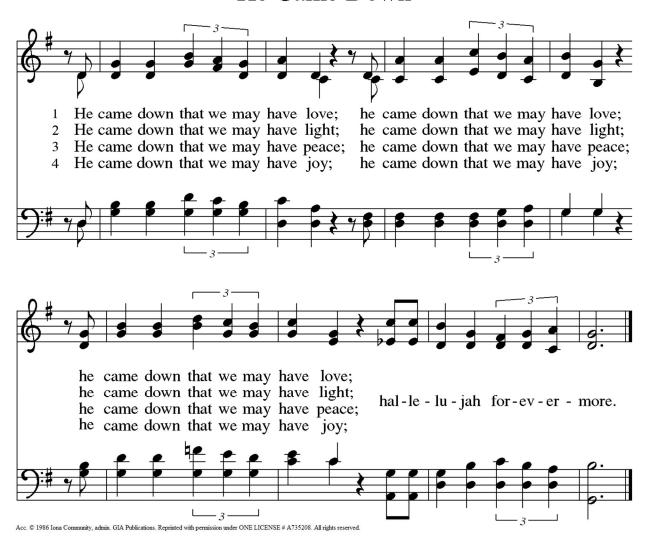
GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: He Came Down

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He Came Down



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,
- 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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may be witnesses to Christ's coming and so prepare his way; through 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

Use this blessing when lighting three candles.

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

Your prophets spoke of a day

when the desert would blossom

and waters would break forth in the wilderness.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Strengthen our hearts

as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.

May he give water to all who thirst,

for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

C Amen.

HYMN: Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (Stanza(s) 1, 2, 3)

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Gavin Elison, soloist

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.

There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning, a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation. There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who await the day of His appearing.

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel within our hearts, the yearning.

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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Congregation, please sing when you hear each organ introduction.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above your deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light, The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O morning star of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today! We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell. O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

SILENT NIGHT

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright. Round you virgin, mother and child Holy infant so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies; With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

THE FIRST NOEL

The first noel, the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, noel, noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head, The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

THE FIRST NOEL

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far.
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, noel, noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

THE FIRST NOEL

Then entered in those wise men three, Full rev'rently upon their knee, And offered there in his presence Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense, Noel, noel, noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

CHORUS: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere, Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. [Chorus]

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. [Chorus]

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. [Chorus]

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,
- **e** 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.
- **Q** And also with you.

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

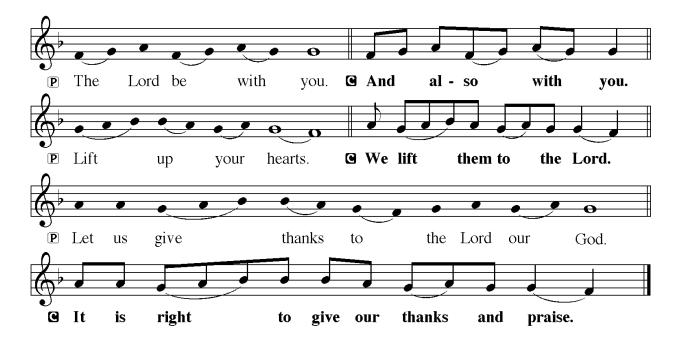
LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

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



GREAT THANKSGIVING

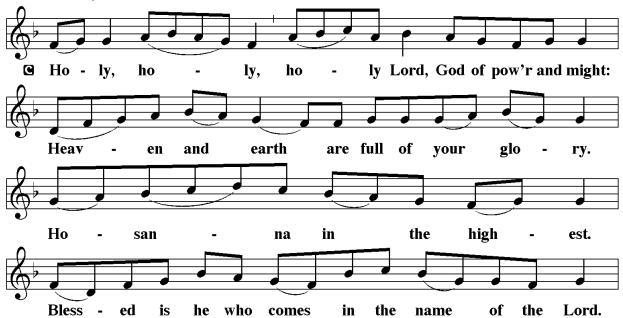
The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:



The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

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

The assembly continues with the SANCTUS:





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



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

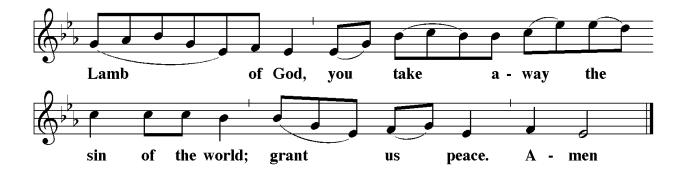
Amen.

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)





ANTHEM: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Miller

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come. While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come. Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come. O Jesus, come.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne. Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come. While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come. Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come. O Jesus, come.

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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

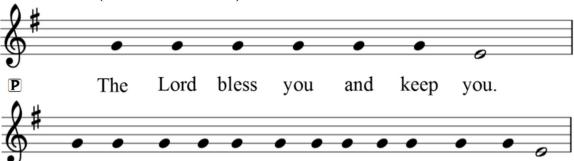
A Let us pray.

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

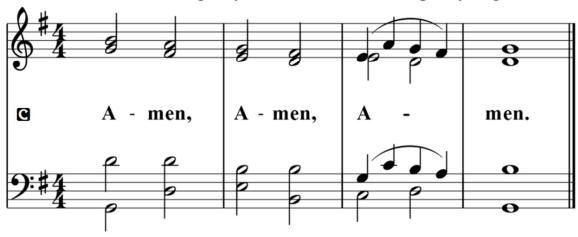
BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



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.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

HYMN: People, Look East

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People, Look East



OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: People Look East arr. Peterson

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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.

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

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Worship Assistants

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

Elevator Attendant: Mike Taylor

Prayers: Vicki Gallagher

Communion Assistant: John Kochel Altar Guild: Linda Romano & Carol Gerhart

Offering Tabulation: John Kochel, Alison Fishell and Shane Elison

<u>The Flowers that Adorn the Altar</u> are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Allebach in loving memory of the December 15 birthday anniversary of Mother, Blanche J. Allebach.

<u>The Sanctuary Candle</u> is given to the glory of God by Sonya Sowards in thanksgiving for all our Sunday School teachers, helpers, parents, and children.

<u>The Worship Bulletins</u> are given to the glory of God by John and Lois Robinson in thanks for blessings received.

<u>The Wreaths</u> that adorn the Chapel Doors are given to the glory of God in memory of loved ones by Debra Augustine and Sally Sweeney.

<u>The Wreaths that adorn the outside doors</u> on our campus are given to the glory of God by the Holcombe Family.

Sunday School Christmas Program Cast

Narrator: Abraham Van Alstine

Angel: Brielle Pribbernow

Mary: Ainsley Leigl Joseph: Turner Collins

Donkey: Landon Pribbernow Innkeeper: Rory Collins

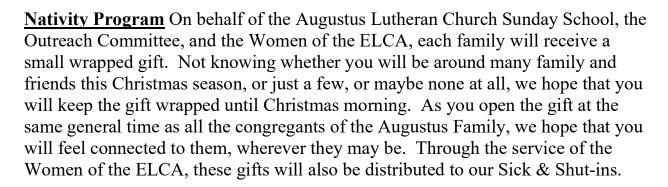
Shepherds: Edwin Van Alstine, Rory Collins

Sheep: Lillian Catagnus, Madison Catagnus, and Sofia DiGregorio

Magi: Vince Brown, Tommy Brown, and Elle Ralph

Camel: Luke Alessandrini

Star: Aubrey Collins



Whether you join us for Christmas Eve or not, the staff and volunteers of Augustus would like to extend warm, blessed, and merry Christmas Greetings to the church congregants and their families. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13)"

OUTREACH COMMITTEE would like to extend much gratitude and appreciation to all those who came out yesterday to help prepare the facilities for the upcoming Christmas season, including the Youth Group, Property Committee, Old Church Committee, WELCA, and those who facilitated with decorating the campus and assisted with preparing & delivering the WELCA Christmas gift bags to the sick and shut-ins and staff. The committee would also like to express their gratefulness to the congregants who supported their efforts by purchasing poinsettias. No effort went unnoticed; the campus looks fantastic and our homebound congregants appreciate being remembered. It is amazing what the congregation can do when they pull the combined efforts of all their resources to achieve a common goal. Small things like improving the aesthetics of the campus for special occasions and the distribution of gifts entices the community to connect and find comfort with an 'Old Fashioned Christmas' in an ever-changing world. Food, fun, and fellowship were had by all!





NO TICKETS NECESSARY
FREE WILL OFFERING
717 W. MAIN ST., TRAPPE, PA 19426





