## **HOLY COMMUNION Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 8, 2024** 

8:00 am and 10:30 am

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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

#### SILENT PRAYER

**PRELUDE:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Saxton

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

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

Printed on the next page.

# Prepare the Royal Highway



### **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.

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

Use this blessing when lighting **two** candles.

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.



# Later service only:

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Sit

FIRST READING Malachi 3:1-4

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

## **A** reading from Malachi.

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

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

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

## Later service only:

PSALM Luke 1:68-79 (The congregation's verses are printed in bold font.)

Blessed be the Lord, the | God of Israel;\*

he has come to his people and | set them free.

He has raised up for us a | mighty Savior,\* born of the house of his | servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us | from our enemies,\* from the hands of | all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy | to our fathers\* and to remember his | holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our | father Abraham:\* to set us free from the hands | of our enemies,

free to worship him | without fear,\* holy and righteous in his sight all the days | of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet | of the Most High,\* for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare his way,

to give his people knowledge | of salvation\*

## by the forgiveness | of their sins.

In the tender compassion | of our God,\* the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shad- | ow of death,\* and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and | to the Son,\* and to the | Holy Spirit;

as it was in the begin- | ning, is now,\* and will be forev- | er. Amen.

#### SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11

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

## **A** reading from Philippians.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

#### Stand

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The congregation sings the Acclamation.



The choir sings the Verse.



Prepare the way | of the Lord.

All flesh shall see the salva- tion of God.

The congregation repeats the Acclamation.



GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

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

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

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

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

- **P** The gospel of the Lord.
- **Praise to you, O Christ.**

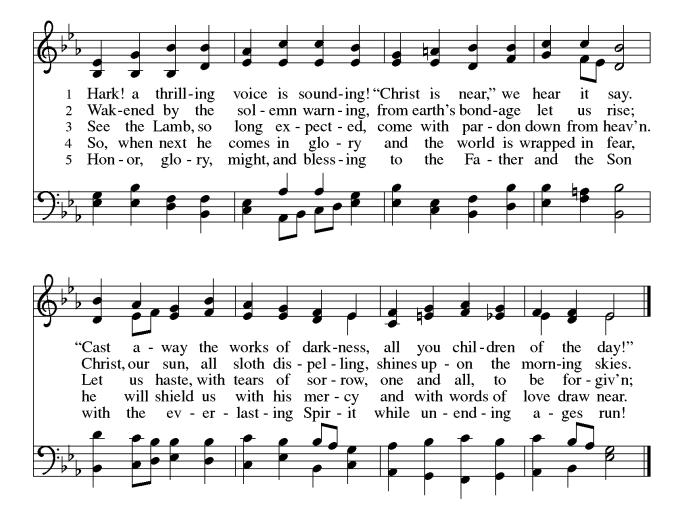
Sit

**SERMON** Pastor Weleck

#### Stand

Later service only:

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



#### 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.
- **Q** And also with you.

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

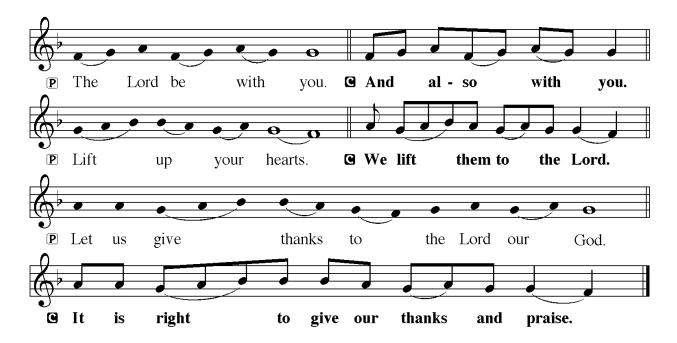
# LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

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



#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

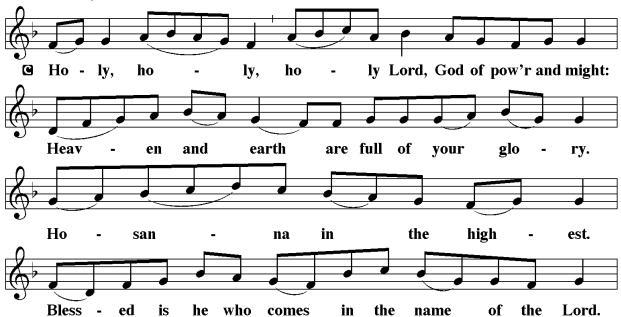
The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:



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,

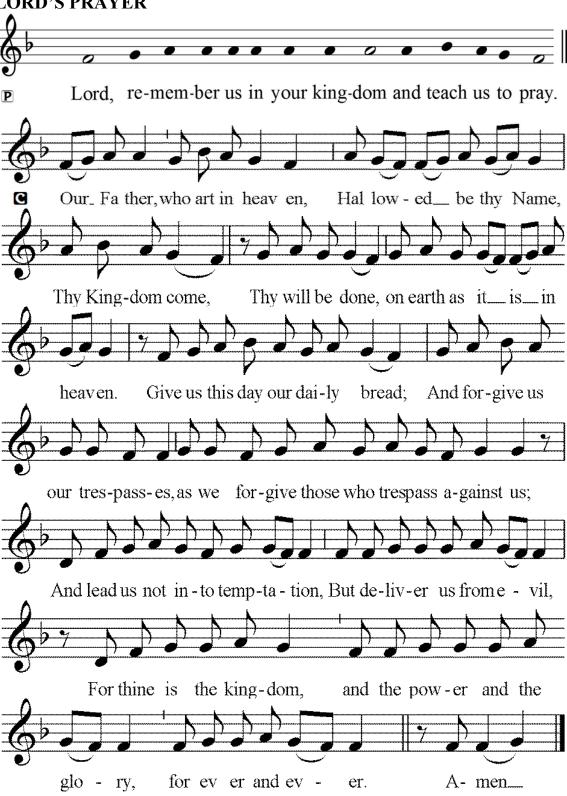
AND GAVE IT FOR ALL TO DRINK, SAYING:

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.

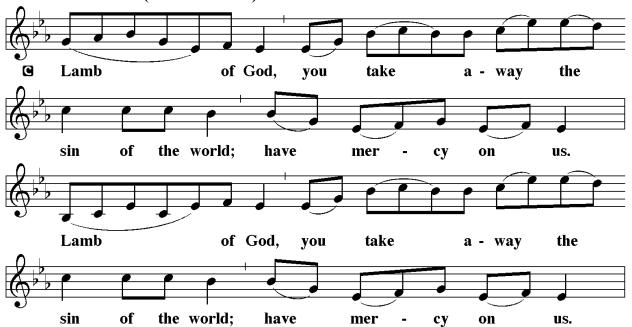
and each person may respond

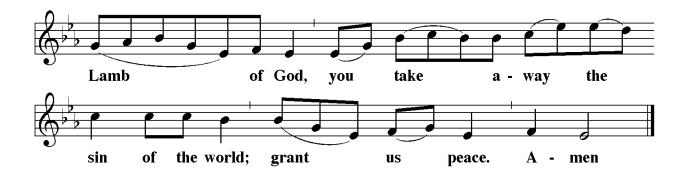
Amen.

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)





## Later service only:

**ANTHEM:** Advent Bell Carol

Wagner

Come now, sweet stranger, we shall make you room.

Bring us from darkness, dispel the gloom.

From highest heav'n to earth you come.

O, make our hearts your home.

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.

Welcome the King, to whom we sing carols of joy, welcome the boy. Alleluia! O, make our hearts your home.

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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

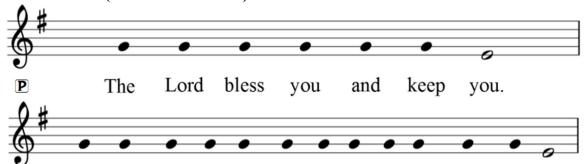
**A** Let us pray.

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:** On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry
Printed on the next page.

# On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



#### **OFFERING**

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

**POSTLUDE:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel Koury (Carols B4/After)

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

Elevator Attendant: Mike Taylor

Lectors: Lessons: Sonya Sowards Prayers: Ali Backlund

Communion Assistant: Sherry Jessee 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 Barbara Rice lin loving memory of husband, Richard.

<u>The Centervase Flowers that Adorn the Altar</u> are given to the glory of God by Sally Lorah in honor of husband Jim's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

<u>The Sanctuary Candle</u> is given to the glory of God by Sherry and Alanna Jessee in honor of husband and father Don Jessee's birthday.

<u>The Worship Bulletins</u> are given to the glory of God by Dot and Rich Opperman in memory of loved ones.

<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.

# It's Augustus Lutheran Music Department Week at Captain's Market!



# Tuesday, December 1 Oth through Saturday, Dec. 1 4th

Please stop by or order online this week!
Captain's Market is located next to the Trappe Tavern
at 430 W. Main St. Trappe

Store Hours: Tues-Fri. 11-6 & Sat. 11-5

# 15% of your total purchase will go back to The Augustus Lutheran Music Department

\*Just mention you're supporting the 15% week fundraiser at the register!\*

We are your Butcher, Baker, & Crab Cake Maker! Featuring Capt'n Chucky's Crab Cakes, Certified Angus Beef, Pellmans Desserts, Marchiano's Stuffed Breads, a full line of charcuterie and so much more!

Call 484-902-8030 or order online at ccstrk.com



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

Christmas Poinsettias: The Outreach Committee is once again hard at work preparing the church for Christmas. We have an opportunity for every member of the congregation to join in this church-wide endeavor. Every year, the Worship & Music Committee provides a vehicle for every congregant to facilitate the decorating of the church for Christmas. We are asking that you prayerfully consider buying at least one poinsettia this year to entrench the sanctuary in red and white. If you can do multiple poinsettias, that would be even more fantastic and appreciated. These embellishments can also be seen by those patrons who are watching our Christmas services at home. Additionally, if you do not wish to take your poinsettia home with you after the Christmas Day service, please let us know on your form. The Outreach Committee will tag any donated plants with the Augustus Logo and a message of hope. The plants are then taken to assisted living homes and distributed to let the residents know that Augustus cares about them. So, every donation is greatly appreciated and nothing goes to waste. We hope that you will join us in this endeavor.

# 2024 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 8, 2024

NAMECONTACT INFO:			
COLOR QUANTITY	-	TOTAL \$	(11)
RED	@ \$11.00 ea		0
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:			



# **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.



