

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 17, 2023**



**St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
2695 Luther Drive | Chambersburg, Pennsylvania | 17202

***“SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”***

## WELCOME

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

### PRELUDE

*People Look East*

Stephen L. Aber

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

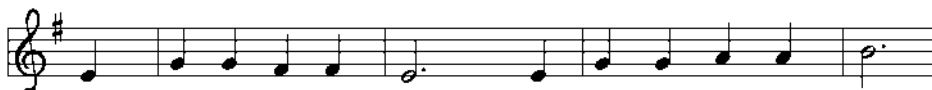
Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

## OPENING HYMN *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

ELW 242

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a-way our sin.
- 3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de-part.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin.  
Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth;  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise,  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

*Response after the reading:* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 126

*Spoken responsively by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

## SECOND READING

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

*Response after the reading:* Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The Holy Gospel according to Mark:  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Glory to you, O Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW 815

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** ELW 228  
Avery Grace Ocker

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## ANTHEM

*We Shall Prepare*

by Carl J. Nygard, Jr.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Edward Broughton

**OFFERTORY HYMN** *He Came Down*

ELW 253

## OFFERING PRAYER

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should  
at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff ends with a whole note, the second with a half note, the third with a half note, and the fourth with a double bar line.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the table! Please join us by coming up the center aisle and receiving the bread from the Pastor. Then you may choose to receive the wine from the common cup, or by picking up an empty cup and receiving the wine from one of the two pouring chalices. Filled cups of grape juice are available alongside the empty cups.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*Sister Mary Had-a But One Child*  
*Soloist: James Martin*

ELW 257(vs. 5 & 6), 510, 793, 843  
by Roland Hayes

## BLESSING

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## BENEDICTION

## SENDING HYMN

*All Earth is Hopeful*

ELW 266

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

Lyndell Leatherman



**ST. LUKE**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church

Presiding Minister: Pastor Christopher Frye

Assisting Minister: Heidi Frye

Lector: Meghan Chestnut

Communion Assistants: Sue Pettyjohn  
& Carol Angstadt

Acolyte: Luke Davies

Greeters: Carl & Joanne Forrester

Altar Guild: Dolly & Paul Oyler

Ushers: Dudley & Karen Gayman

Offering Counters: Dick & Sandy Foster

A/V: Tiffany Frazier  
& Gail Cox

Advent Candle Lighter: Vanessa Hepfer

**Pastor:** Christopher Frye cakfrye@gmail.com  
717-253-0322

**Parish Administrator:**  
Shelly Davies 717-372-9579  
diredu@stlukechambersburg.org

**Organist:** Sherry Fahnestock

**Choir Director:** James Martin  
choirdirector@stlukechambersburg.org

**Custodian:** Vanessa Hepfer

*Sundays - 10:00 am Holy Communion*  
*Wednesdays - 11:00 am Holy Communion & Healing*  
*-7:00 pm Prayer & Share via Zoom*  
*Faith Formation/Christian Education - Sundays, 8:45 am*