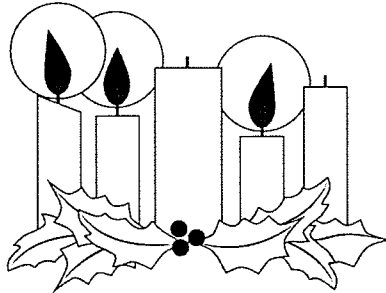


# Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Our Mission Statement

*"A Fellowship of Believers in Jesus Christ dedicated to  
proclaiming God's Love to ALL through Word and Deed."*



THIRD SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

1331 West Main Street  
Ephrata, PA 17522-1313  
(717) 733-6646  
Email: [office@salemephrata.org](mailto:office@salemephrata.org)  
Website: [salemephrata.org](http://salemephrata.org)

**December 17, 2023**  
**10:00 AM**

- P for Pastor's part of the Liturgy  
C for Congregation's part of the Liturgy  
\* Those who are able, are asked to stand.  
+ A time one may use the sign of the cross.

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Book)  
WOV = With One Voice (Blue Book)

## GATHERING

(Joel 2:15-17, Matt. 18:20, Acts 2:1-13)

**THE FIRST PRELUDE** "What Star is This?" Ritter

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE SECOND PRELUDE** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Broughton

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** LBW P. 56

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.**

\* **THE GATHERING HYMN** "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

(Psalm 149:1-4)

**WOV # 633**  
(Blue book)

\* **THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**LBW P. 57**

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.**

\* **THE KYRIE**

P Lord, have mercy.

**C Christ, have mercy.**

P Lord, have mercy.

\* **THE 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 witness 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**

## THE WORD

(1 Peter 1:25, Isaiah 55:10-11, Col. 3:16, Jere. 2:14, 1 Tim. 4:13)

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

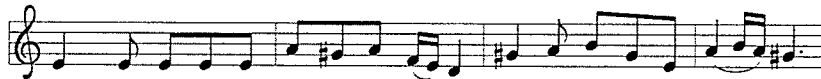
<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup> to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
<sup>8</sup> For I the LORD love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup> Their offspring shall be known among the nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.  
<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to sprout up before all the nations. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

**THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE**  
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

WOV # 630



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el. God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELEDELE, Yiddish folk tune  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*The Psalm will be read responsively*

**PSALM: Psalm 126**

<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 LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

\* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Celtic Alleluia"

**WOV # 613**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.  
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**\* GOSPEL**

**P THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

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

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>19</sup>And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."

<sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.  
(ESV)

**P The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

**THE SERMON**

(Isa. 55:10-11, John 6:68, Psalm 119:41-42)

**\* THE HYMN OF THE DAY** "Hark, the Glad Sound!"

**LBW # 35**  
(Green book)

**C 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;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,**

**and was made man.**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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**



**\* THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

(1 Tim. 2:1-2)

**\* THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

(Matt. 5:23-24, John 14:27, John 20:19, Romans 16:16)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

**THE ORGAN OFFERTORY**

“Savior of the Nations Come”

Powell

(Isa. 58:6-7, Matt. 25:35)

**\* THE OFFERTORY**

“Doxology”

OLD HUNDREDTH. L. M.

LOUIS BOURGEOIS, *cir.* 1510-61  
*Geneva Psalter, 1551*

*With great dignity*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye

heaven - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Thomas Ken, 1637-1711*

**\* THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**LBW P. 87**

**P** Merciful Father,

**C** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MEAL**

**\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**LBW P. 88**

(Lamentations 3:41, 2 Thess. 1:3)

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**\* THE PREFACE**

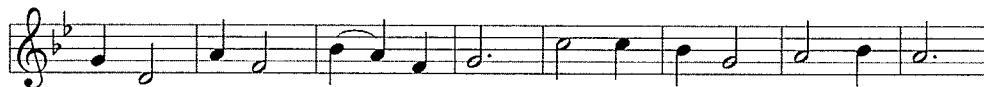
**LBW P. 68**

(Psalm 36:4)

**P** It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”  
(Isa. 6:3, Matt. 21:9)

**WOV # 619a**



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of 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. Ho - san - na



in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: "Sanctus." tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation  
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**LBW P. 71**

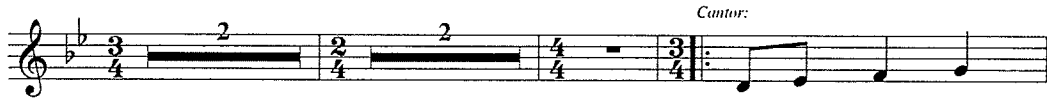
(Matt. 6:9-13)

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
C **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

\* **FRACTION**  
 (1 Cor. 10:16-17)

\* **THE COMMUNION CANTICLE** "Jesus, Lamb of God"  
 (John 1:29, Rev. 5:11-12)



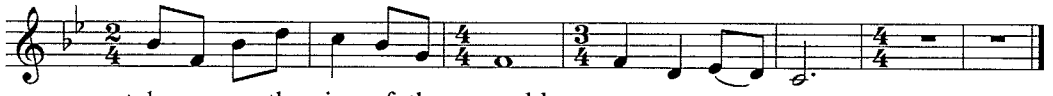
- 1. Je-sus, Lamb of
- 2. Je-sus, Bread of
- 3. Je-sus, Prince of



God,  
 Life, you take a-way the sins of the world: have  
 Peace,



mer-cy on us. Je-sus, Lamb of God; you



take a-way the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

Music: *Mass of Creation*. Marty Haugen. © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

(1 Cor. 11:27-34)

*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Please note: receiving in one kind (only the body or only the blood) is a full Holy Communion.*

### \* THE COMMUNION BLESSING

LBW P. 72

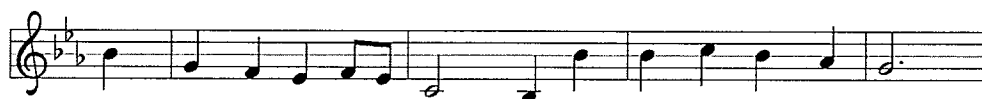
(John 6:53-54)

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen

### \* THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant"

ELW # 313



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n - ly peace,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**\* THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**LBW P. 74**

(Ps. 107:1, Ps. 118:1)

**P** We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would 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**

**\* THE BENEDICTION**

**LBW P. 74**

(Numbers 6:23-27)

**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 Amen** *(Sing in a three fold Amen)*

**\* THE CLOSING HYMN**

“People, Look East”

**WOV # 626**  
(Blue book)

**\* THE DISMISSAL**

(Luke 7:50)

P Go in peace, Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**\* POSTLUDE**

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

Mansfield

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**Keep in Your Prayers:**

Joyce Doster, Cleo Frymyer, Marlene Haines, Laurel Kluck, David Linn, Diane Morris, Dale Stahl, Ash Steffy, Nancy Barton (cousin of Judy Kauffman), Roger Blantz (friend of Mark and Connie Ditzler), Kevin Freeman (Dennis Kluck’s brother-in-law), Dale Manspeaker (Judy Kreutzberger’s brother), Racheal Precise (friend of Diane Morris), Jerry Sheplock (nephew of Ginni DelPiano), Gary Winters (Charlie Winters’ brother), Sally Wise, (daughter-in-law of Earl and Shirley Wise)

**Managing Motherhood:** Items needed this month:

- Diapers in sizes 3, 4, 6
- Pull-ups 2T-3T, 4T-5T
- Baby wipes and baby wash
- Sanitary napkins
- Tampons—regular and super

**2024 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup.**

**Join Jim Kimmel for the exciting second part of this Bible study entitled "Faithful Travel" on Sunday 31 December 2023.** Jim will look at his recent travels to the Vatican and Iceland. Join Jim at 9:00 AM in the Multi Purpose room. We will conclude by 9:45 AM in time for the Divine Service. Coffee and tea are available and the discussion is free flowing and open to all.

**Open House at Salem tonight, 6-8 PM.**

There will be special music throughout the evening in the sanctuary.

At 7:00 there will be a carol sing-a-long in the chapel.

Stroll throughout the decorated halls and enjoy light refreshments and fellowship.

Greeter	Carol Landis and Judy Kauffman
Acolyte	Noah Keller
Usher	Dennis and Laurel Kluck
Lector	Lisa or Sam Borry
Communion Assistant	Jim Kimmel
Altar care set up	Edie Sweigart
clean up	Mary Binder and Connie Ditzler

Today	8:30 AM	Choir
	9:00 AM	Bible study
	6:00 PM	Salem Open House
		Pipeline Articles Due
Monday	5:00 PM	TOPS
Thursday	7:00 PM	Holy Communion
Friday	11:00 AM	Pipeline assembly Rm. 6

The Reverend Jeffrey H. Goodman, Pastor  
 Office: (717) 733-6646 (717) 725-0717 (cell)  
 Email: [pastor@salemephata.org](mailto:pastor@salemephata.org)  
 Church Email: [office@salemephata.org](mailto:office@salemephata.org)  
 Website: [salemephata.org](http://salemephata.org)  
 Theresa C. Lee, Organist  
 Michael Frymyer, Sexton  
 Jean Wilhelm, Secretary

Office hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30 AM—12:30 PM