

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

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Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 8, 2024
8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Make Straight the Way
Eric Kahler, soloist

Blevins/Hansen

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

The second candle calls us to peace.
When conflict seems never-ending, relationships rocky,
when we want to deny and pretend,
God invites us to make space for truth-telling, and we find PEACE.

(Peace candle is lit)

Where in the world do we find PEACE these days?

Let us pray.
It takes courage, O God,
to stand with those who would do your good work.
May we find the strength to offer our support to your good news,
and to work for peace in our world.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Song of PEACE

O come and bring your peace up-on the earth, that e - ven now still
longs for its re - birth. We seek to live and move in your ways. Guide
us to peace and jus-tice all our days. Re - joice, re - joice! Em-
- man-u - el shall come to us and all things shall be well.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Song of PEACE'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line, including a double bar line. The fourth staff contains the final line of lyrics and ends with a double bar line.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

Let us pray.

God of hope and encouragement,

we come in the midst of this season of busyness and preparations:

to find a time and space to slow down,

to reflect on what our true preparations should be.

We need to prepare our hearts to receive the gifts of hope and peace.

We need to prepare our minds to focus on your promise
that a messiah will come and nothing will be the same.

We need to prepare our spirits:

to praise God for prophecy, promises, and preparation;

to find hope and encouragement;

to find peace and joy.

May we do so now, in our time of worship.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

Reading - Philippians 1:3-11

Translation: NIV

A reading from Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel - Luke 3:1-6

Translation: NIV

The Good News from Luke, the 3rd chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
 make straight paths for him.
Every valley shall be filled in,
 every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
 the rough ways smooth.
And all people will see God’s salvation.”

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

We Are Waiting for Jesus

ACS 905



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us,
let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

After each petition:

We are waiting, Jesus;
come and be with us soon.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers
and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Peace

The one who brings the peace that passes all understanding awaits.
Share the longing for this peace as you share signs of Christ's love with one another.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.

Offering Song

Advent Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Chords: Am Bm7 Em Am Em B7 Em A7 D Em
D Bm G C Am D7 G D Em Bm G
C D7 Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em

We rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

As you rescued your people of old, rescue us over and over again.

As you purified the saints like a refiner's fire,

purify our lives this day and bless the gifts we bring before you now.

Through our offering, may those who sit in darkness find their way into the light of your loving arms.

Amen

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As we wait for Christ's return, we lift our hearts.

We lift them to the God who comes to us in every time, and every place.

As we trust the One who comes to us, let us give thanks to the God of Advent.

Peace is the gift of our hearts, praise is the song on our lips.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

We give thanks to you every time, God in Community, Holy in One, even as we pray together, saying:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Invitation to the table

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

Last time

1 For peace in the world, for the
 2 That we may live out your im -
 3 For peace in our hearts, for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
 passionate re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Communion Song

Christ, Our Peace
Repeat as needed

ACS 1037

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

The image shows a musical score for a communion song. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The first system contains the lyrics 'Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;'. The second system contains the lyrics 'Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and some melodic movement.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen

Blessing

We have peeked at the light under the stable door.
Do you have the courage to unwrap the gift the Christmas Christ brings?

Go forth now and open the door to let peace break forth.
Open the gift and give peace to one another.
Open your heart and let hope, peace, joy and love enter in.
Amen

We proceed directly to our Congregational Meeting.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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Frank Mattes, percussion



WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Choir Director

WORSHIP HELPERS

Advent Wreath Lighters

Linda Devine, Pat Butler

Assisting Minister

Ricki Stringfellow

Reader

Diane Evans

Song Leader

Eric Kahler

Communion Assistants

Fran Derhammer, Bill Derhammer

Greeter

Christine Bolen

Usher

Bob Bolen

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler,
Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill,
Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Cindy Clark, Terri Hinderliter, Carol Osenbach, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens,
Lynda Swartz, Julie Timmcke, Jennifer Wetzel

