

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
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The Rev. Dr. Joel D. Petruschke, Pastor
pastorjoelp@comcast.net
Mitchell Sensenig, Organist
Barbara Johnson, Administrative Assistant

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3, 2023
Worship 9:00 am

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION * BLUE pp. 10-11

SHARING OF THE PEACE *

OPENING HYMN * *Fling Wide the Door* RED #259

¹ Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; the King of glory comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the Savior of the world who brings his great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth and praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.

² He is the rock of our belief, the heart of mercy's gentle self. His kingly crown is holiness; his scepter is his loveliness; he brings our sorrows to an end. Now gladly praise our king and friend, and worship him with song for saving us from wrong.

³ Oh, happy towns and blessed lands that live by their true king's commands. And blessed be the hearts he rules, the humble places where he dwells. He is the rightful Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, creator of the world, our only strength for good.

⁴ Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; our hearts are open wide in trust. Oh, show us now your lovely grace, upon our sorrows shine your face, and let your Holy Spirit guide our journey in your grace so wide. We praise your holy name, from age to age the same!

APOSTOLIC GREETING * BLUE p. 28

KYRIE * BLUE p. 28

HYMN OF PRAISE * BLUE pp. 29-30

Glory to God ...

PRAYER OF THE DAY * See Celebrate

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *

CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN * *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* RED #257
(stanza 1)

¹ *O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.*

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Children dismissed for Sunday School.)

Word

FIRST READING (*Response: Thanks be to God*) See Celebrate

PSALM (*Chanted responsively by whole verse.*) See Celebrate
Psalm Tone #9 RED p. 338

SECOND READING (*Response: Thanks be to God*) See Celebrate

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (BLUE p. 31) & GOSPEL * See Celebrate
(*Responses: Glory to you, O Lord. / Praise to you, O Christ.*)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY * *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* RED #436

¹ Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying; awake, Jerusalem, at last. Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices: "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past. The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!"

Alleluia! Rise and prepare the feast to share;
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

² Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her
heart with joy is springing. She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down all-glorious, the strong in
grace, in truth victorious: her star is risen, her light is come.
Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall.

³ Gloria! Let heaven adore you! Let saints and
angels sing before you, with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to
bliss beyond all dreaming, with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thundering might
of such glory. There we will go: what joy we'll know!
There sweet delight will ever flow.

NICENE CREED *

BLUE pp. 32-33

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION*

See Celebrate

Meal

OFFERTORY VERSE *

BLUE p. 35

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER *

BLUE p. 35

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *

BLUE p. 36

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

BLUE p. 37

LORD'S PRAYER *

BLUE p. 39

LAMB OF GOD *

BLUE p. 39

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

*All baptized believers are welcome, including visitors, to the Table
of the Lord! Wine (red) or grape juice (clear) is available.*

COMMUNION BLESSING *

BLUE p. 40

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE *

BLUE p. 40

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *

BLUE p. 41

Sending

BLESSING * (*Response: Amen.*)

BLUE p. 41

CLOSING HYMN * *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!*

RED #246

¹ Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.

"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"

² Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

³ See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heaven.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiven;

⁴ So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
he will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.

⁵ Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son
with the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!
DISMISSAL * (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

Help us keep an updated prayer list. If you have placed an individual on our prayer list, please remember to notify the office when that individual can be removed. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Marianne McCann, Joan Silvers & family (Nedda Pollock's sister & family), Betty Nickle, Carol Gerig, Sally Kelly (Malane Digon's aunt), Robin Walker (friend of Margo Whittaker), Marilyn Hocker, Linda Freed, Betty Hammell, Jason Ziegler (friend of T.J. Johnson), Denise Calamia (friend of Sue DeArmitt), Malane Digon, Pastor John Schaertel, Miriam Reinard, Larry Wilt, Sue Kistler (friend of Andrea Faber), Patsy Bauman, Dottie Koppenhaver, Tracy Burigana (Jesse's father), George Schreffler, John Piazza (Dawne Veet's co-worker), Katherine Keister (friend of Nancy Pinko), Tina Stark (friend of Linda Schreier), Eileen Cera (friend of Linda Freed), John Digon (Malane Digon's brother-in-law), Sara Dooley (Logan family member), Kaden Stevenson (relative of Otis Martin), Jacqueline Neil (Brad's mother), Nancy Staab (Joan Bateman's sister), Patti Spirk (Logan family friend), Linda Fake (friend of Marilyn Hocker), Janice Mixell (Jesse Burigana's grandmother), Fran & Kitty Kuntz (family of Lauralee Kunz), Tommy Weldon, Scott Schneider (Herb Logan's co-worker), Joyce Hrestack (Joel Hain's ex-wife), Yolanda Barron, Linda Freed, Liam Brotherton, Grace & Leroy MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's parents), Mike Boyer (friend of Buriganas), Richard Walker (friend of Margo Whittaker), Deb Nickle (Betty Nickle's daughter-in-law), Marion Tosheff, Mary Louise Shuler, MaryPat & Aaron MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's family members), Abby & Brady Keith (Marilyn Hocker's family), Todd MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's nephew), Lisa Tosheff (Marion's daughter-in-law), Russ Kolacek (Tom Snyder's son-in-law), Tiffany Crosby, Annabelle Paul, Cheryl Digon (Malane Digon's daughter-in-law), Betty Giovaninello (friend of Linda Schreier), Sondra Andrews (Bob & Jean Lisse's daughter), Barbara Hammell (Betty's daughter), Bishop Dunlop.

Pray for our military, especially Ian Bowling, Robert McCann, Jason Nunez, Maxwell Reilly, Myles Reilly, & George Schreffler, III.

Pray for our shut-ins, especially Shirley Kaltreider, Dottie Koppenhaver, Jean Lisse, Miriam Reinard, Ed Seneca, Tom Snyder.

Prayers of remembrance for Rosa Rivera (Riscardo Vega's grandmother),

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, a caring congregation dedicated to the word of Christ welcomes all people to worship and grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children and ourselves.

Family Promise Host Week.

Our Saviour, along with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, will be hosting Family Promise Sunday, evening, January 7 through Sunday morning, January 14, 2024.

Won't you **please** consider providing a meal, driving the van, or sleeping overnight at the Church?

Sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex.

Other weeks in 2024 that we and Good Shepherd are scheduled to host Family Promise are as follows:

Week of April 7

Week of June 9

Week of November 3

This program can only exist with the help of our volunteers. Your volunteering does make a positive impact for these families!

If you have any questions about the mission of Family Promise or would like more information on volunteering opportunities through Family Promise, please feel free to talk to me.

Thank you.

Nadine Martin
(717) 497-1200

NadineLMartin@verizon.net

Manna Food Pantry

Our "2nd Sunday" food collection is still ongoing. During this time of continuously rising food prices & the start of the winter heating costs, food pantries are seeing a greater demand of their services. If you would like to donate you may bring your items into the church & place them on the table in the Narthex at any time. There is a list of suggested items now on the table. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelopes "Manna Food Pantry", and place it with your regular giving envelope.

WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOUR TODAY

- **Welcome pads are on the pews** at the center aisle; please sign and pass to your neighbor. Please include any changes.
- Please put your cell phones on quiet mode.

The bulletins today are sponsored in loving memory of her mother, Mary Mae Sholly by Marilyn Hocker.

ASSISTING TODAY

9:00 am	Reader	John Zimmerman
	Ushers	Penny & John Zimmerman
	Communion Assistants	Kathy & Bill Sheetz
	Counters	Jim Lubrecht, Penny & John Zimmerman

NEXT SUNDAY, December 10, 2023

9:00 am	Reader	Herb Logan
	Ushers	Kathy & Bill Sheetz
	Communion Assistants	Deb Flage
	Counters	Herb Logan, Nadine & Otis Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today	9:00 am	Worship w/Children's Sunday School 1 st Sunday Social
Advent 1		
Monday, December 4		Pastor Joel @St. Stephen's** office closed – vacation day for Barb
Wednesday, December 6	6:00 pm	Advent Midweek Soup & Worship @Good Shepherd
	6:30pm	Advent Midweek Soup & Worship @St. Stephen's
Saturday, December 9	1:30 pm	Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 10	9:00 am	Worship
Advent 2		

**** On Mondays, while Pastor Joel is working in the office of St. Stephen's, he may be reached on his cell #717-798-0416.**

In Our Narthex

There is still 1 copy of the magazine *"The BURG"* available on a table in the Narthex. On page 16 there is an article of interest by Susan Ryder, Family Promise Staff, regarding hidden homelessness.

Mid-Week Advent Services

You are invited to attend Midweek Advent services either at Good Shepherd or St. Stephen. Both churches will hold their series of Midweek services on Wednesdays, December 6th, 13th, and 20th. Good Shepherd will have their soup supper at 6:00pm followed by worship at 7:00pm. St. Stephen will have their soup supper at 6:30pm followed by worship at 7:00pm. Both churches will be using Holden Evening Prayer. Pastor Kathy Baker will be leading the services at Good Shepherd and Pastor Joel will be leading the services at St. Stephen.

Upcoming Christmas Caroling Event

The Social Ministry Committee is inviting church members to go to several nursing homes for Christmas caroling **THIS SATURDAY!!**, December 9, 2023. We will meet at the church at 1:30 and car pool together. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Any questions, please see Donna Miller.

Christmas Brunch & Pageant

On December 16, 2023 at 10:00 am Our Saviour will be hosting a Congregational Brunch and Christmas Pageant. The Pageant format is casual and includes lots of Christmas Carols. All are welcome to attend and participate in both singing and/or acting out the Christmas story. We will have some extra costumes available for anyone interested or you are welcome to come dressed the part. Participation is encouraged, but not required. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex, so please sign up if you plan to attend or would like to contribute to the brunch. We hope you can join us and get into the Christmas Spirit!

Susquehanna Chorale to Perform Traditional *Candlelight Christmas Concerts*

The Susquehanna Chorale, a nationally acclaimed adult chamber ensemble of 40 auditioned singers, will present its *Candlelight*

Christmas concert series on Dec. 15-17, under the direction of Linda L. Tedford.

The series begins on Friday, Dec. 15 at the Calvin and Janet High Center for Performing Arts, Messiah University, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 16 at Leffler Chapel, Elizabethtown College, 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 17, at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, 4 p.m.

This year's *Candlelight Christmas* concerts will include Pachelbel's *Magnificat, Gloria* by Randol Alan Bass, the music of Bob Chilcott, John Rutter, Mack Wilberg, and Stephen Paulus, as well as delightful settings of traditional carols including *Jingle Bells*. A pre-concert recital by Susquehanna Chorale accompanist, Daniel L. Dorty will be presented 15 minutes prior to each performance.

For tickets, information about group discounts, and our new livestream option, visit www.susquehannachorale.org/performances or call the Messiah University Box Office at 717.691.6036 and choose option 1.

Donations Please!

The Welcome Committee is asking for donations for our 1st Sunday Socials. If you would like to donate baked goods please sign up on the sheet that is on the Welcome Committee bulletin board directly beside the main entrance door in the Narthex. Thank you!

Updating Our Prayer List

Please look over our prayer list & if you have someone that is on the list but is no longer in need of prayers, please inform the church office (phone call or e-mail) or you may take today's bulletin, cross their name off & place it in Barb's church mailbox (top row, left hand side).

Jesus Said, "Let the Little Children Come to Me."

We have Children's Sunday School on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month during the service. At each session the children complete a craft and enjoy a snack. **Classes for December will be held on Sundays, December 3rd and 17th!!** Children will be excused for their lesson after the children's message. Please share our news with anyone you know who may be interested. We welcome every child to join us and learn!