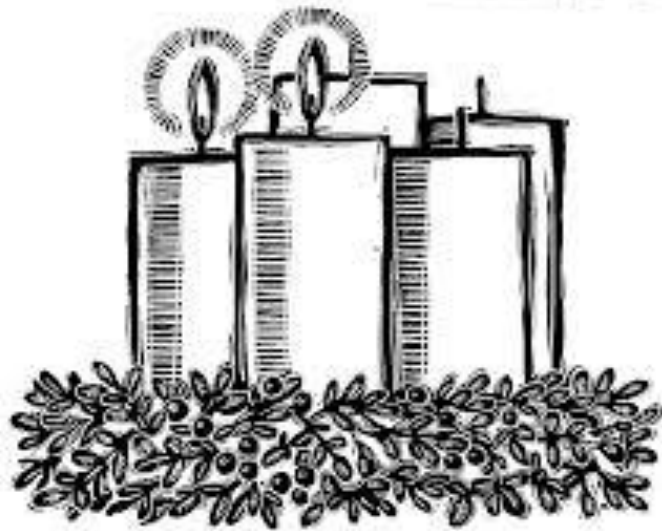


*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*December 10, 2023*

# Second Sunday in Advent



## **WELCOME VISITORS**

*We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave the service today.  
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

*Children are always welcome in church,  
If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery for those age 4 and younger  
located downstairs past the elevator, across the hall from the bulletin board.*

*Large print bulletins for today's worship are available,  
please feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST December 10 – December 17**

<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	7:00 p.m.	ChamberBellFest
<b>Monday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Advent Study & Prayer
	5:30 p.m.	Visioning Team
	7:00 p.m.	Council
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Finance
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	11:00 a.m.	Gertrude Kampmeyer Memorial
<b>Thursday</b>	1:30 p.m.	WELCA Christmas Tea
	6:00 p.m.	Rose Ringers
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
		Cantata
	11:45a.m.	Christmas Lunch & Poisetia Delivery

# Gathering

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given ... and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

*Please stand as you are able.*

### The Advent of Our God



1 The ad - vent of our God shall be our theme for prayer;  
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son in - car - nate stoops to be,  
3 Come, Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly king,



come, let us meet him on the road and place for him pre - pare.  
him - self the ser - vant's form puts on to set his peo - ple free.  
nor let your faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.

6 All glory to the Son,  
who comes to set us free,  
with Father, Spirit, ever one  
through all eternity.

## GREETING

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.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*(Two blue candles are lit on the Advent wreath.)*

- Reader 1: Today we light the second candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of peace. We may be afraid at times, because we live in a world filled with violence. We may become caught up in personal struggles and family quarrels. We need the peace that only Jesus can bring.  
**Lord, grant us your peace.**
- Reader 2: The prophet Isaiah foretold the coming of the promised Messiah, the child who would be called the Prince of Peace. He would rule over all things, and there would be no end to his kingdom of peace.  
**Lord, grant us your peace.**
- Reader 3: Jesus was born to bring us peace, the peace that comes through the forgiveness of our sins, peace that the world can never give, peace that Jesus alone brings.  
**Lord, grant us your peace.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins to God and ask him to have mercy on us.

**Almighty God, even though you grant us your peace,  
we often destroy that peace by causing strife.  
We quarrel with others and condemn them.  
We pursue our own selfish interests instead of showing love to others.  
We turn away from the guidance of your holy Word.  
Have mercy on us, forgive our sins and grant us your peace.**

God sent his Son, the Prince of Peace, to be our Savior. Jesus shed his precious, innocent blood, suffering the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins.

I announce to you that your sins are forgiven

in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Prince of Peace, rule in our hearts with the peace that you alone can bring.**

## **AMAZING GRACE**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;

Was blind, but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me,

His Word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,

And mortal life shall cease,

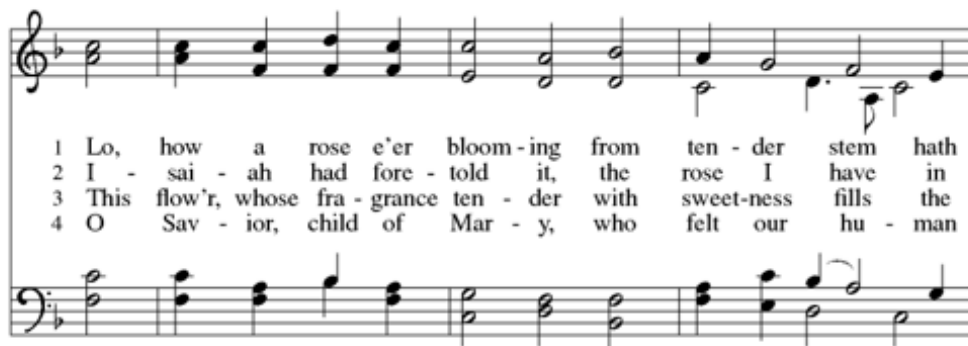
I shall possess, within the veil,

A life of joy and peace.


## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Almighty God, when the time was right, you fulfilled your promise and sent your Son to be our Savior. Even his holy name—Jesus—means that he came to save his people from their sins. Through faith in our crucified and risen Lord, we have forgiveness for our sins and the gift of eternal life. We are buried with him in baptism and raised to walk with him in newness of life. Help us, in that new life, to walk in love as Jesus did and to serve you by serving others. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus' name. Amen.**

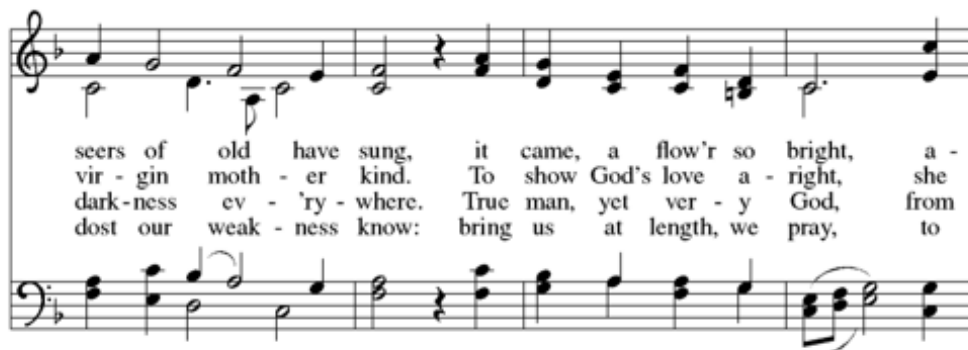
## Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming – verse 1&2



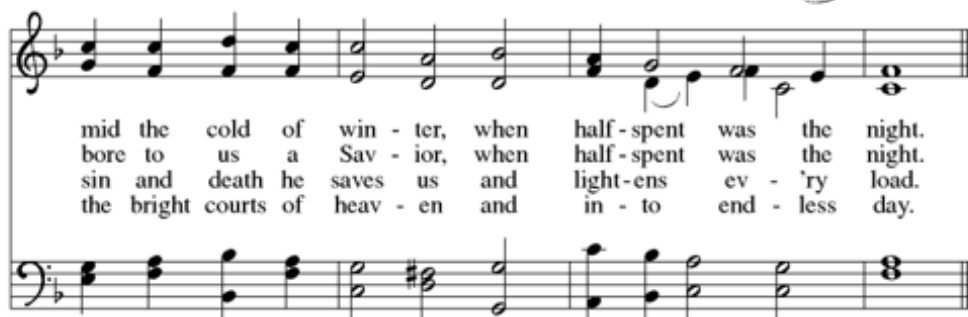
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE with passing of the peace**

### **Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming – verse 3&4** (see previous page)

#### **FIRST READING**

Isaiah 9:1-7

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Colossians 1:13-20

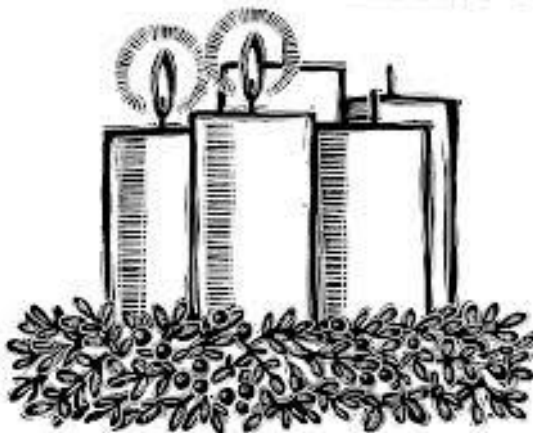
<sup>13</sup>God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

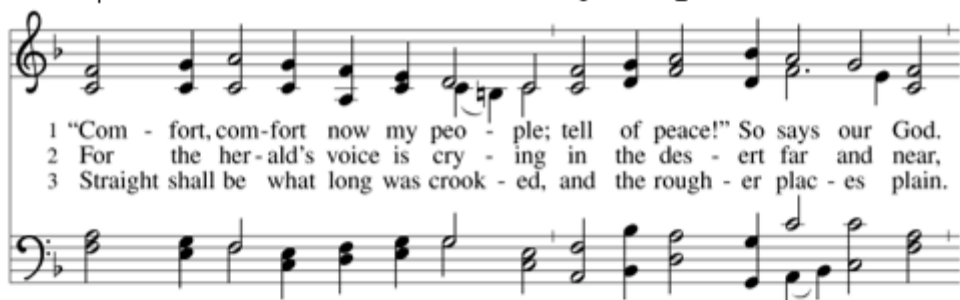
*Please stand as you are able.*

Second Sunday  
in Advent

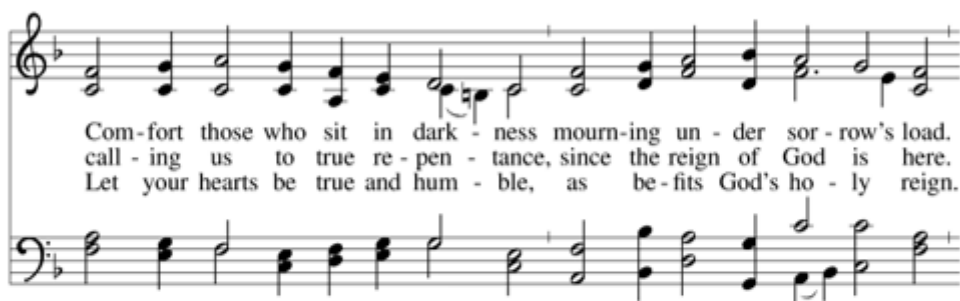




## Comfort, Comfort, Now My People – verse 1



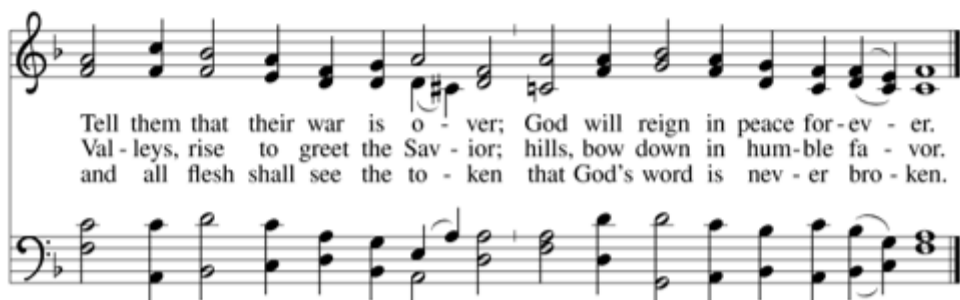
1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

## GOSPEL

John 14:25-27

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus spoke to his disciples saying: <sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**Comfort, Comfort, Now My People – verse 2&3** (see previous page)

## OUR RESPONSE

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,  
including the care of those in need. Online giving is  
available at [felcc.org](http://felcc.org) or through this QR code*



## ANTHEM

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**O God of Amazing Grace, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts we offer. May these gifts help to shine the light of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **APOSTLE CREED**

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

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, fill our hearts with the peace that you alone can bring.**

## **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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Sending*

## **BLESSING**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and hope in believing,  
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in peace.  
**Amen.**

# Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



- 1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
- 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on
- 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's
- 4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer our spir - its by your
- 5 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save  
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 and close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, prepare the way of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Sermon by Michael Hoy. Service by Carol Geisler. © 2023 Creative Communications for the Parish, a division of Bayard, Inc., 1564 Fencorp Dr., Fenton, MO 63026. 800-325-9414. [www.creativecommunications.com](http://www.creativecommunications.com). All rights reserved. Hymns reprinted by permission under One License #A-727079 and CCLI #11318988



Altar Flowers for 12/3 were given to the Glory of God  
in loving memory of Mary Virginia Baer

***Please remember in your prayers ...***

**Healing:** Bonnie (1/5),  
Sarah Haschak (12/27)  
Denise Heinbaugh (12/28),  
Sam Mull (12/14), Joyce Ray (12/14), Garry Shatzer (1/4)  
Amber Stopyra (12/15), Connie Twedt (1/4), Marilyn Yaukey (1/4)



**Long Term Care:** Pat Dent and Joe Pine

**Grief:** The Family of John Baker

**Military:** Tawny & Brad Arnold, Rubens Paul, and Paul Whelan

**ATTENDANCE**      December 3                      71 in person                      11 on line

**HOLY LAND** Lutheran Disaster Response is helping those in the Holy Land. Please designate your gift for “Middle East Crisis.” 100% of your gift is used for those affected by the crisis. The money supports: 1) Augusta Victoria Hospital (Lutheran Hospital) who procures medical supplies and provides accommodations for patients and staff unable to return to their homes in Gaza. 2) The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. The church provides emergency education support for families who have lost income due to the war and are unable to pay school fees. 3) ACT Alliance. Through implementing partners Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, ACT Alliance responds to immediate needs for psychosocial support, shelter, household items, public health centers and direct cash assistance, focusing on the Palestinian communities in Gaza, East Jerusalem and the West Bank.



### **CHARACTERS NEEDED FOR CANTATA** on

December 17. There are several monogues for the people in the cantata that were part of the Christmas Story. It would be great to have "our guests" dress in character as you share that part of the story. See Freda for more information and the dialog you may be interest in.



**WELCA CHRISTMAS TEA** will be held this Thursday, December 14 at 1:30 p.m. There will be a gift exchange and singing. All women of the church are invited for an afternoon of socialization. Please call **Janet Friend (717 360 1977)** if you are able to attend.



**HOMELESS MATTERS DONATIONS** will be collected until December 31. There is a collection bin in Memorial Hall. Checks made out to Homeless Matters may be placed in the offering plate or dropped off at the church office.

**HATS, SCARVES AND MITTEN/GLOVES COLLECTION** is in full swing for the January 13-15 fence hanging at First. There is a donation bin marked for items in Memorial Hall.



**THE ADVENT WREATH** will be lit at worship each Sunday leading up to Christmas. In our congregation we traditionally use blue candles as that is the color of hope. Our Confirmation Students will be leading this portion of our worship.

**ADVENT STUDY AND PRAYER TIME** This new group is forming for 3 weeks on Monday afternoons at 1:00 during Advent (December 4, 11, and 18). We will spend about 30 minutes with an advent devotion and scripture reading and then spend 30 minutes in prayer with one another. The weight of the world feels heavy right now as the pressures of life in our world, in our society, in our family, in our friendships, grow heavy. We pray for the Lord Jesus to come into our dark world and give us renewed hope. Join us in the parlor.





**CANTATA A NOEL CELEBRATION** created by Lloyd Larson will be presented by the Choir and musicians of First Lutheran as our main message at worship on Sunday, December 17. Our bell choir and children's choir will also be providing music. Please invite your neighbors.

**CHAMBERSBELLFEST** You are invited to attend the ChambersBellFest at St. John UCC, 1811 East Lincoln Highway. First Lutheran Bells will be ringing in the season for us this evening. The concert begins at 7:00pm.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH** The **Women's Breakfast Fellowship** will be having a **CHRISTMAS LUNCH** on **December 20** at the **Bob Evans Restaurant -1131 Wayne Ave. at 12:00.** We do need a count of those able to attend so please call **Janet Friend (717 360 1977)** if you are able to attend. **All ladies** of the church are invited for lunch and fellowship with one another.



**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**— will be at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24. We will have Holy Communion and Special Music as we come together to hear the story of the Birth of our Lord in a stable and light our candles while singing glorious Christmas Carols of worship and praise. We hope you will be able to join us.

**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP** Join us on Christmas morning to celebrate the birth of our Savior. The time of worship is 9:30 a.m. and Holy Communion will be served. Come and praise the Lord!

**COREY ROTZ IN A CHRISTMAS CONCERT** will be held at Memorial Lutheran Church in Shippensburg on Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at 34 E Orange St., Shippensburg. For information please call 717-532-4614.

**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS** will present a recital of Advent and Christmas music today at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Paul United Methodist Church, 750 Norland Avenue, Chambersburg, PA. There will be no admission charge, but free will donations to the Organ Guild will be gladly accepted. All are invited to come and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music on St. Paul's spectacular pipe organ!



**CHRISTMAS TREE** you may have noticed that our Christmas tree this year is perfect! The reason for this perfect tree is that it's an artificial tree. This beautiful tree has been given to the church in loving memory of Bob Palmer by his family. Thank you to the Palmer family for this gift that will be enjoyed for many years to come.



### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR LAUNDROMAT EVENT**

on Saturday December 16, 10am until noon. Team members will greet our neighbors in Santa Hats with candy canes along with the laundry card, detergent and dryer sheets. Everyone is welcomed to join us as we visit with our neighbors and share God's love. The laundry team always gets requests for Spanish bibles. Thanks to a donation we will be able to offer those at this event. Thanks be to God!



**HOMEBOUND VISITS** please join us in bringing Christmas cheer and hope to our homebound members on December 17th following worship. A light lunch will be offered with visits to follow. A sign up sheet is located in Memorial Hall. Let's share the joy of the season.



### **A REMINDER FOR END OF YEAR STATEMENTS FOR 2023**

Contributions that you wish to be credited to 2023 must be received in the church office NO LATER THAN December 25, 2023. Any contributions that are received after December 25th will be credited to 2024. Any questions, please contact Carol McCoy.

**HELP NEEDED** the congregation marveled at the gorgeous display of quilts on Sunday, October 8, but if we want to continue this wonderful Lutheran World Relief project we will need more help. Please join us for an hour or two every Wednesday morning. You can plan quilt tops, sew squares together, help construct the quilt "sandwich", tie knots, iron sheets. Everyone is welcome, male or female, young or old. Call Janet Friend (717 360 1977) or Nancy Fricke (717 267 5097) for more information.





## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

	<b><u>December 10</u></b>	<b><u>December 17</u></b>	<b><u>December 24</u></b> <b><u>10:45 Service</u></b>
Lector:	Nancy Fricke	Doris Burdick	Ralph Burdick
Soundboard:	Mark Nicholson	Scott Carbaugh	Rose Wilson
Communion Assistants:			Karen MaClay Marlin Maclay Karen Sloan
Greeters:	Nancy Hamilton Kathy Shoop	Nancy Hamilton Kathy Shoop	Nancy Hamilton Kathy Shoop
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods
Ushers:	Gary Fleegal Rick Gates Nicki Johnson Dennis Love Mark Nicholson	Gary Fleegal Rick Gates Nicki Johnson Dennis Love Mark Nicholson	Gary Fleegal Rick Gates Nicki Johnson Dennis Love Mark Nicholson



43 West Washington Street  
Chambersburg Pa 17201  
[www.felcc.org](http://www.felcc.org)  
[FELCCoffice@gmail.com](mailto:FELCCoffice@gmail.com)  
717-264-2015

Pastor

The Rev. Jane Nicholson

Pastoral Assistant

The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer

Director of Church Music

Freda J. Dorand, Deacon

Parish Administrator

Cheryl Christman

Treasurer

Sally Herritt

Financial Secretary

Carol McCoy

Custodian

Jennifer Flores

Church Office Hours – Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**We welcome visitors this morning.**

Please pick up a **visitor's packet**. They are located at the top of the steps.  
at the rear of the church or on the table at the elevator entrance.

**Our Mission**

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to be the light of Jesus,  
burning brightly and vigorously in our community.

**Sunday Schedule**

Donuts and Coffee at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages at 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:45 a.m.

also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church

and on our webpage at [www.FELCC.org](http://www.FELCC.org)

ALL are invited to hear and receive God's blessing in Jesus,  
and to worship with us.