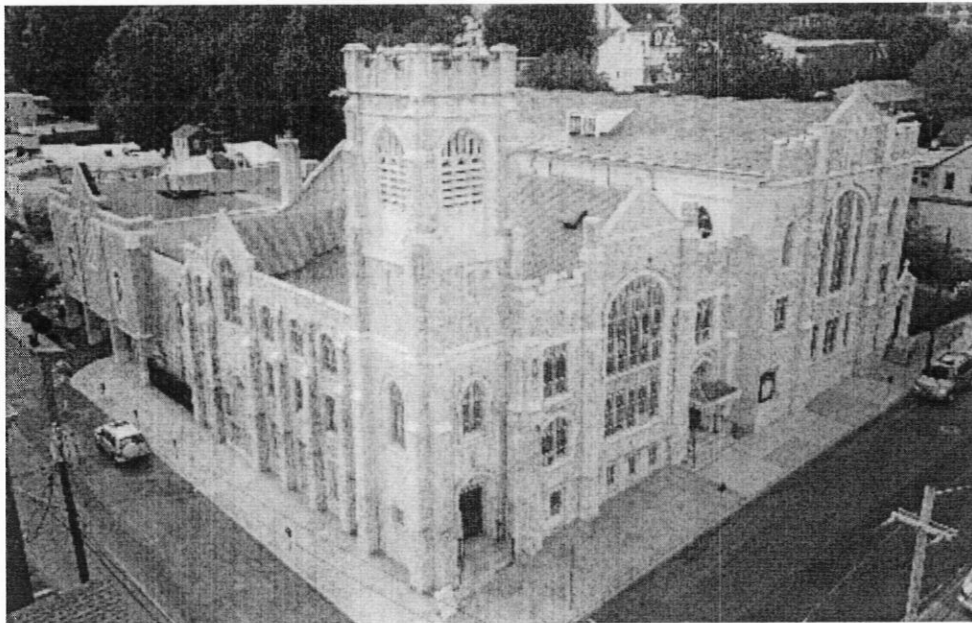


**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**300 West Arch Street, Pottsville, PA 17901**  
**Phone : (570) 622-9910    Fax: (570) 622-7451**  
**Email : [tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)**

**Church Office Hours:**  
**Monday –Thursday: 9-3**  
**Friday: 9-1**  
**Saturday & Sunday: Closed**



***1st Week of Advent***  
***December 2 - 3, 2023***

***Worship can be viewed LIVE on Sunday, November 27th at 9:30 am:***  
**[www.trinitypottsville.com](http://www.trinitypottsville.com)**

**Or we invite you to listen on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am**  
**on the radio stations:**  
**WPPA 1360 AM OR 105.9 FM**

## **Confession**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Vicar: God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin  
to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness,  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor: Most merciful God,  
**Congregation: we confess that we are captive 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.**

**Pastor:** In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake  
God forgives us all our sins.  
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 the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation:** Amen.

**Organ Prelude: Meditation on "Picardy"**

**Lani Smith**

**Entrance Hymn: #259 Fling Wide the Door**

**(next page)**

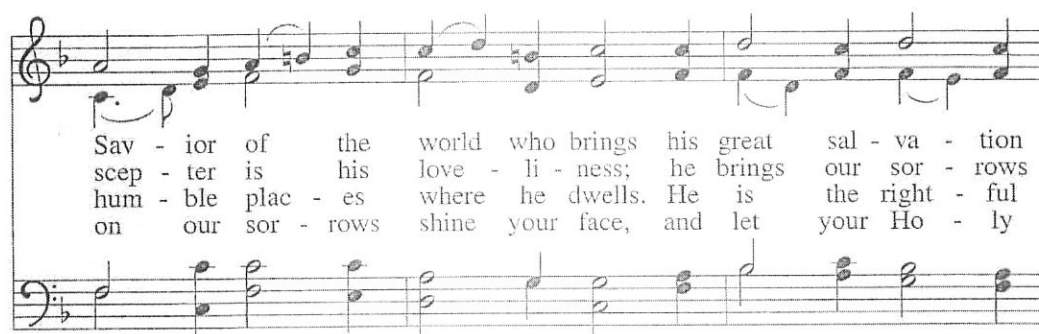
## Fling Wide the Door



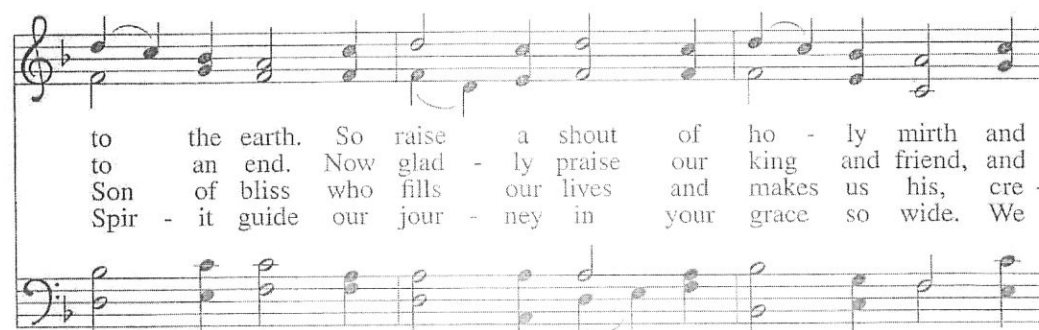
1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry  
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's  
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true  
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



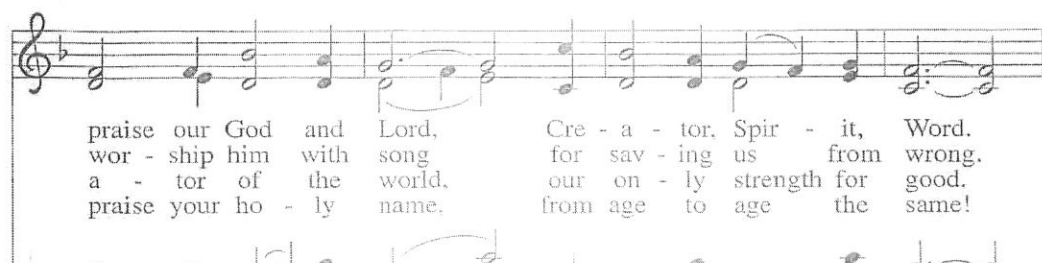
comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the  
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his  
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the  
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion  
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows  
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful  
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and  
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and  
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -  
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.  
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.  
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.  
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!



# Today's Readings

First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

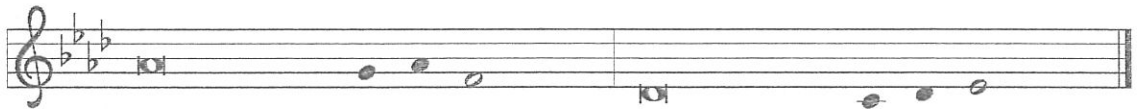
Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens  
and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at  
your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your  
adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at  
your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we  
did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains  
quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;

because you hid yourself we  
transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is  
unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a  
filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take  
us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of  
our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our  
potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry,  
O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

## Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; tone 3



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading  
Joseph <sup>1</sup> like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned  
up- <sup>1</sup> on the cherubim.  
<sup>2</sup>In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin,  
<sup>1</sup> and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength  
and <sup>1</sup> come to help us.  
<sup>3</sup>Restore <sup>1</sup> us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us,  
and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>O LORD <sup>1</sup> God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume  
when your <sup>1</sup> people pray?  
<sup>5</sup>You have fed them  
with the <sup>1</sup> bread of tears;  
you have given them  
bowls of <sup>1</sup> tears to drink.  
<sup>6</sup>You have made us  
the derision <sup>1</sup> of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh <sup>1</sup> us to scorn.

*continued*

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us,  
and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.  
<sup>17</sup>Let your hand be upon the one  
at <sup>1</sup> your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong  
<sup>1</sup> for yourself.

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never  
turn a- <sup>1</sup> way from you;  
give us life,  
that we may call up- <sup>1</sup> on your name.  
<sup>19</sup>Restore us, O LORD <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us,  
and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strength-

ened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel

## Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling  
from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will  
be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell

you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

<sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

TODAY'S READINGS December 3, 2023

Volume 55, Number 1

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8.

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## **Greeting**

Pastor

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.**

**Congregation:**

## **Litany:**

Pastor:

Wherever evil or suffering hold sway; we pray, O Lord

**Congregation**

**Stir up your power and come.**

Pastor:

Wherever war or crime oppress your people; we pray, O Lord,

**Congregation**

**Stir up your power and come.**

Pastor:

Wherever illness or injury cause pain; we pray, O Lord,

**Congregation**

**Stir up your power and come.**

Pastor:

Wherever pride or indifference imprison people; we pray, O Lord,

**Congregation**

**Stir up your power and come.**

Pastor:

Wherever people grieve or hunger; we pray, O Lord,

**Congregation**

**Stir up your power and come.**

Pastor:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength  
and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and  
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**Congregation**

**Amen.**

## **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy**

**(Insert)**

### **Saturday, December 2**

**Reader 1: Ellie Misstishin**

**Reader 2: Madelyn Amburn**

**Lighter: Ryder Novack**

### **Sunday, December 3**

**Reader 1: Elise Gretsky**

**Reader 2: Kylah Stewart**

**Lighter: Kristen Stewart**

**Congregation:**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Pastor:

The holy gospel according to Mark the 13th Chapter

**Congregation:**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel:

Mark 13:24-37

Today's Readings Insert

Pastor:

The gospel of our Lord.

**Congregation:**

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

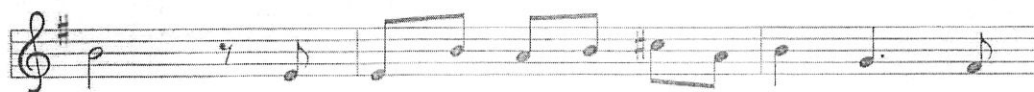
## Hymn of the Day: #252 Each Winter As the Year Grows Older

ADVENT

### 252 Each Winter As the Year Grows Older



1 Each win-ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
2 When race and class cry out for trea-son, when si - rens call for  
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
new our lives a - gain: Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
Music: Annabeth Gay, b. 1925  
Text and music © 1971 United Church Press

CAROL OF HOPE  
96966



### Nicene Creed

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 are made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

### Offering

Anthem:

An Advent Song

Joseph M. Martin

Senior Choir

### Offertory Response: #182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

### Prayer Hymn-#752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

### Prayers

Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

## **Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation:(sung) And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**Congregation:(sung) We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Congregation:(sung) It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: When our congregation last gathered in worship, we heard again of God's mighty acts and the love shown us in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. We shared in the holy meal of the Lord's supper. Now we bring you this word of life, and this bread and cup of blessing, so that you may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

**Congregation:(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Gathered around our Lord's table, we remembered with Thanksgiving the words of the Apostle, Paul. For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

**Hymns during communion:**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.**

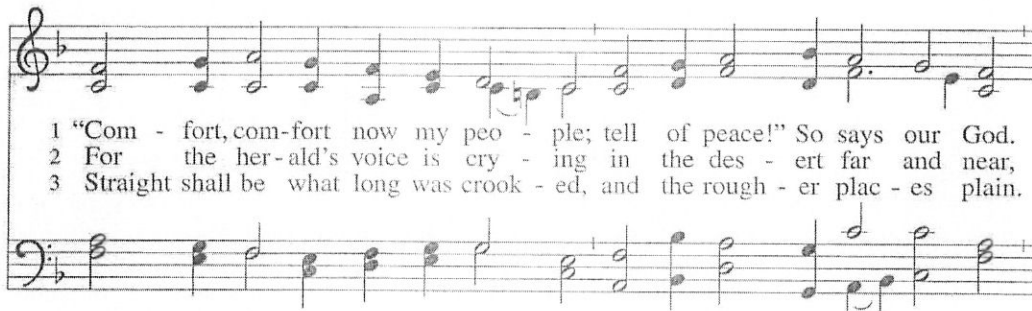
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion Hymn: #256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People**

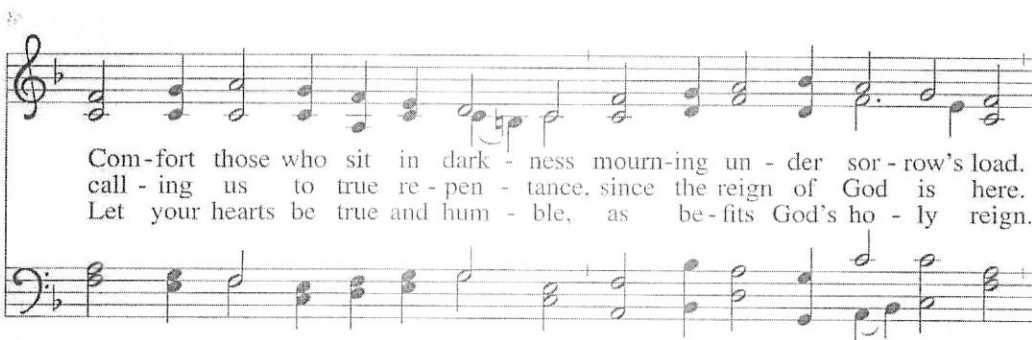
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## Comfort, Comfort Now My People

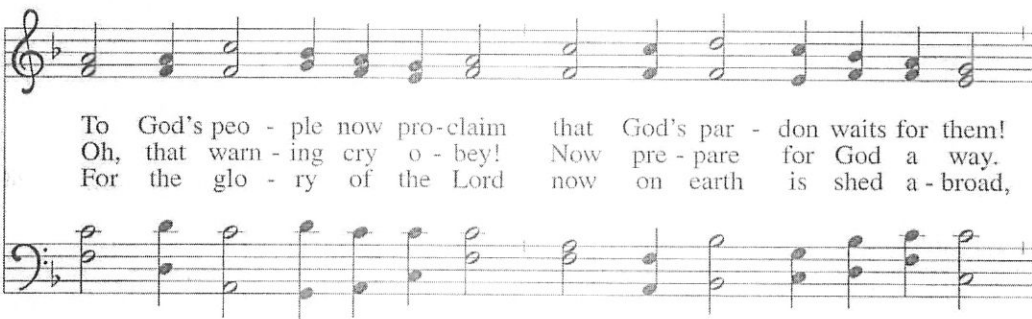
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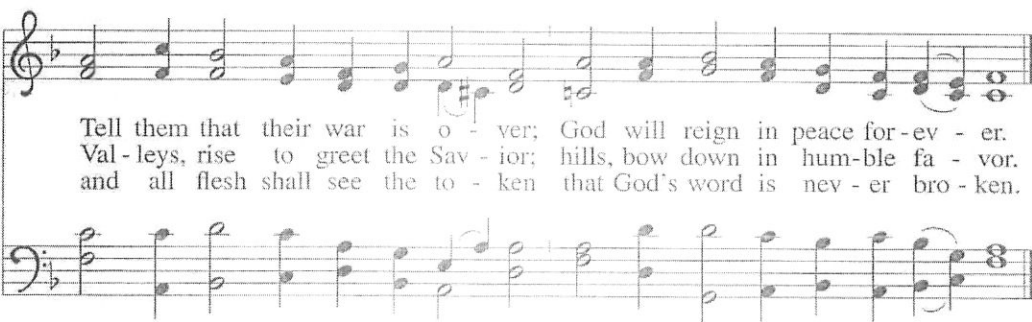
1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



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.

Pastor:

May the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Strengthen You and Keep You in His Grace. **Amen.**

**Post Communion Canticle #204 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise**

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.  
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with  
shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Lord's Prayer**

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.**

**Blessing**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

    The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

    The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

    In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

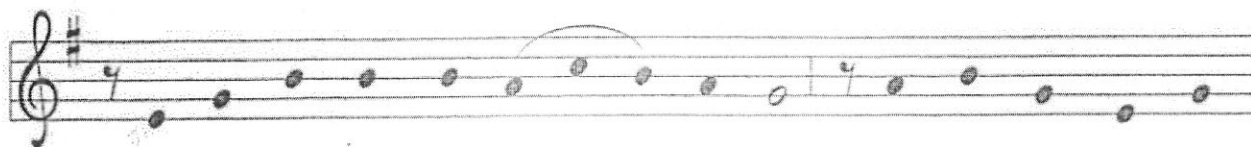
**Dismissal**

Worship Assistant: Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord.

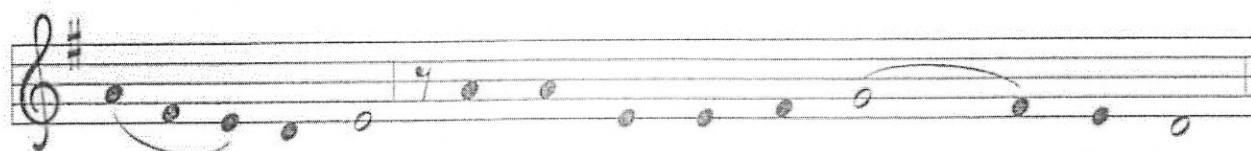
**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Recessional Hymn: #257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanzas 1-4) (next page)**

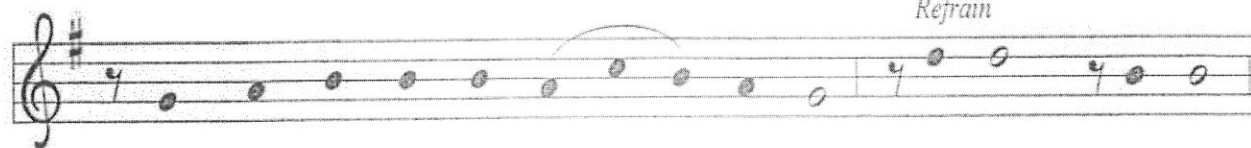
## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



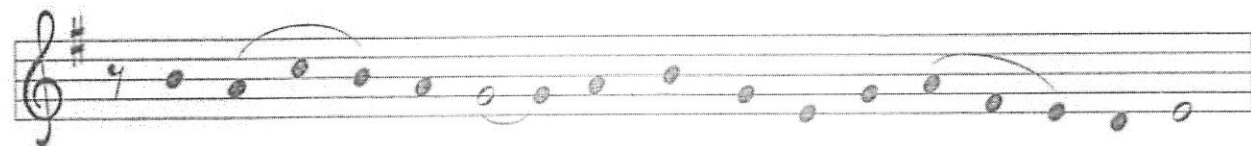
- 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



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

*God be with you till we meet again,  
By His counsels guide uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again.*  
**Organ Postlude**

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**Altar Flowers** are presented to the Glory of God and In honor of my son, Tom Miller on his 64th birthday on December by his mom, Arlene Miller & family.

**Altar Flowers openings:** Please call the church office **Cost=\$30.**

**The Altar Flowers** have been provided this weekend by: **Forget-me-not Florist**

**Bulletins** are presented to the Glory of God and In memory of my father, George M. Pauzer, by Bill, Debbie & Family.

**Bulletin openings:** Please call the church office **Cost=\$30.**

**Children's Bulletins** are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of *deceased class members*, by Craft Class.

**Radio Ministry** is presented to the Glory of God and In memory of Don Burns by his wife Maryann and In memory of Ann Kiehner on her birthday, December 5th, by son, Mike.

**Digital Ministry** is presented to the Glory of God and in memory of *my loved ones that passed away* by a friend of Trinity.

**Digital Ministry openings:** Please call the church office **Cost=\$30**

**E-Mail Addresses:**

Pastor Chris [crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)

Vicar Stephanie Roth [sroth@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:sroth@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)

Danielle Crestuk [dcrestuk@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:dcrestuk@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)

Janet Little [jlittle@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:jlittle@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)

Main email address [tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com)

**"THE CONNECTING LINK"**

*Sunday mornings, WPPA, 1360 AM at 11:00 a.m.*

**Trinity Lutheran Guest Account**

**Password: TrinityWIFI**

**(password is case sensitive)**



### Prayer List

**Members of Trinity with immediate concerns:** Judi Barton, Rene Boylan, Pam Brennan, Ron Brennan, Jodi Denning, Debbie Ebert, Gene Ebling, Joel Ebling, Sharon Fessler, Carolyn Gauntlett, Margaret Gretskey, Pat Haluska, Jarred Heckart, Edward Helman, Arline Hufnagle, Megan Kimmel, Jodi Klein, Andrea Madara, Thelma Mansfield, Margie Mataka, Donald Moyer, Sr., Ray Moyer, Diane O'Leary-Hughes, Nancy Pauzer, Suzanne Rich, Don Roth, Ruth Russell, Ron Schaeffer, Peg Schappell, Kay Shaw, Jack Shuey, Margaret Snyder, Dorothy Thomas, Edna Uranko, Barbara Wagner, Helen Walasavage, Pat Wishousky, Karen Wood, Damon Yost

**Members of Trinity with ongoing concerns:** Ruth Bensinger, Sam Carroll, Barbara Conrad, Carole Coyle, Dennis Fredericks, Betsey Lord, Dennis Lord, Camie McGonigle, Adam Morrow, Chester Moyer, Marilyn Reed, Jill Schaeffer, Albert Schneider, Linda Seiwel, Cindy Seltzer, Sally Spotts, Colin Studlack, Jill Weaver, Brock Weber, Ellen Wesnoski, Kerry Willard, Ivan Willard, Mary Jane Wilson, Sissy Wilson, Haley Wiscount, Sadie Wiscount, Donna Wood

**Shut-Ins:** Merle Amos, Delight & Paul Ashembrier, Jeanette Augustine, Tom & Mickie Bair, Leah Brokhoff, Doug Camodeca, Earlamay Downing, Marsha Ehlers, Mary Evans, Sandy Fessler, Helen Harvey, Robert Heffner, Dolores Hoffman, Richard & Carole Kline, Faye Krasinsky, Terry Pugh, Nancy Schriener, Carolyn Spiess, Ann Spotts, Frances Thomas, Carolyn Wire, Kathryn Wodack, Darlene Zeller

**Nursing Home/Personal Care Residents:** Yvonne Blankenhorn, Hope Fisher, Tom Fredericks, Louise Gradwell, Larry Haffey, Dianna Hutton, Mollie Katchur, Cheryl Kephart, Mary Leary, Shirley Morgan, Anna Stinner, Judy Thomas, Shawn Thomas

**Military Personnel:** Brett Allison, Jacob Barton, Jason Beach, Audrey Burke, Christopher & Savannah Butler, Tim Campbell, Elizabeth Chattin, Andrew Clancey, Ryan Devaney, Jeff and Katie Dittmar, Noah Elison, Brian and Joshua Fetterman, Joshua Fredericks, Kevin Gregory, Sean Grube, Seth Grube, Joshua Hager, Aaron Leshner, Edward Mady, Tom McMurtrie, Ryan Miller, Ashton Muncy, Allison Ney, John Nomland, Aaron Oswald, Eddie Padinski, Kevin Potts, Larry Reedy, Zachary Reichert, Michael and Stephen Reier, Steven Sleva, Nicholas Starner, Matthew Tobin, Jamie Watt



**\*Family Members/Friends:** Karen Alban, Michelle Ambrose, Brianne Barket, John Barnetsky, David Bechtel, Timothy Beissel, Olivia Bensinger, Charlette Bethea, Lauren Boorujy, Linda Borchardt, Ron Boris, Rose Brehony, Doug Broughton, Joan Buehner, Connie Burns, Wayne Conahan, Bill Causf, Irene Conway, Betty Coyle, Donna Dando, Hayden Daubert, Alice Davis, Eliana Denning, Justin Dicello, Joanie Eagan, Marilee Ebert, Gaylene Ebling, Margaret Ebling, Tracey Ebling, Scarlett Eckers, Virginia Ehrich, Dale Felker, Kim Gerthoffer, Nancy Gullob, David Hallman, Nancy Hart, Maureen Hill, John Housknecht, Vicki Jarvis, Warren Jefferson, Bill Jones, Lindsay Kastner, Justine Keefer, Barry Kellner, Cody and Kime Kimberlin, Kaylynn Klunk, Blayke Kopinetz, John Kruss, Butch Lasco, Phil Lasco, Kenneth Leister, Sister Jo Magdalinski, Maria Masteller, Shawn Matz, Melissa Martin, Lenny and Karen McHugh, Joe Matz, Joe McNulty, Alethia Meyer, Ariel Miller, Alyssa Morissey, Vincent Murray, Pastor Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Kathy Pritchard, Jack & Dot Rebuck, Jerry Reed, Tina Robinson, Lisa Schaeffer, Pastor Jim Seifert, Adam Selfridge, Aimee & Ethan Selfridge, Brian Shishlo, Joshua Sophy, Allen and Jack Spotts, Lindsay Spotts, Diane Sumoski, Jack Thomas, Dr. Mark Thomas, Graeme Turner, Charlie Wagner, Barry Ward, Glynn Ward, Emily Wetzell, Anne Schock Womack, Mike Zawaski

**Those who mourn:** The family and friends of Russell Herbein, Jr.

#### ***STATEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL MISSION***

##### ***TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH***

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world.

We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

***Adopted by the Congregation***

***January 25, 1998***

Chris Rothharpt, Senior Pastor

Vicar Stephanie Roth

Robert Thomas, Church Council President, Michael Kiehner, Organist & Choir Director

Danielle Crestuk, Church Secretary, Janet Little, Church Secretary

Jim Honicker, Sexton

**TRINITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Saturday, December 2	8:00 am	Breakfast with Santa
	6:00 pm	Worship: 1st week Advent
Sunday, December 3	9:30 am	Worship: 1st week Advent
	10:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Confirmation
	10:30 am	Decorating after Worship/Live Nativity costume fitting
	3:00pm-7:00pm	Eclipse Youth Volleyball
Monday, December 4	1:00 pm– 6:00pm	Red Cross Bloodmobile
	6:30 pm	Strategic Planning
Tuesday, December 5	10:00 am	Adult Exercise
	5:30 pm - 7:00pm	Special Olympics Volleyball
	6:00 pm	Staff and Records Meeting
	7:00pm-9:00pm	Anthracite Youth Volleyball
Wednesday, December 6	6:30 pm- 8:30pm	Adult Volleyball
Thursday, December 7	8:00am	Pottsville Business Association Mtg.
	12:00 pm	Advent Noonday Service
	12:00 pm	Circle V Meeting/Christmas Party
	5:00pm-7:00pm	Anthracite Youth Volleyball
	6:00 pm	Frieda Hoh Meeting/Christmas Party
	7:00pm-9:00pm	Eclipse Youth Valleyball
Friday, December 8	10:00am	Adult Exercise
Saturday, December 9	10:00am– 2:00pm	Anthracite Youth Volleyball

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pastor/Vicar</u>	<u>Worship Assistant</u>	<u>Lector/Candle Lighters</u>
Saturday, December 2	Pastor Chris	Michael Clancey	1:Ellie Misstishin 2:Madelyn Amburn Ryder Novack
	Pastor Chris	Mike Ward	1:Elise Gretsky 2:Kylah Stewart Kristen Stewart

**TLC December 2 - December 3, 2023**

**YOUTH / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS**

Some of our youth are planning to attend the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA

Please stay tuned for  
events and activities planned for the upcoming months,  
and thank you for supporting our youth!

**Sunday School and Confirmation**

***Our Sunday-Funday fun has already begun, but we've got room for you!***

*If you are a youth in Pre-K through Grade 5, you are welcome to join us Sunday's following worship. We have lessons, crafts, silly songs, and more Sunday School registration forms are available at the Usher's Station, card table in the lounge, and in the Sunday School room. If you have filled out a form please be sure to bring with it you. We encourage all kids and parents/grandparents to join us for a fun-filled time!*

**Next Confirmation class is Sunday January 7th following worship.**

***Our lesson will be Promise: Joseph's Story***

*If you are new to Trinity, or would like to enroll your child/children in our confirmation or Sunday school programs please reach out to Pastor Chris via phone (570-622-9910) or email at [crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com).*

*Looking forward to seeing everyone!!*

**Teachers and parents are urgently needed!**

## FROM THE DESK OF VICAR STEPHANIE



### **Jesus, Jammies & Joy**

Tuesday, December 5th is the last day to donate new warm children's winter pajamas for girls and boys. Sizes including newborn thru children XXL. Please select either one piece or a two-piece set.

Pajamas will again be distributed through Adopt a Child, Schuylkill Hope Center, Safe Berks and Mary's Shelter in time to bring smiles, giggles and a warm hug to children in need this Christmas.

Monetary contributions toward the purchase of pajamas will be accepted.



### **Prayer Group**

A monthly prayer group is meeting the fourth Thursday at 1 pm and the second Tuesday at 11 am (after exercise group) in the large Sunday school room. Everyone is welcome to join us!



### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

A Prayer Shawl Ministry has been started to provide a gift of love and comfort to people in life transitions. Supplies for creating shawls including yarn, knitting needles and crochet hooks are available. We already have over 30 prayer shawls ready to be handed out.

If you know someone who could use prayers and the loving embrace of a shawl to help them navigate life's challenges, feel free to stop by our room off the main Sunday School room to select a shawl. Remember to sign the log so that we can pray for the shawl recipient.

Please direct any questions regarding these ministries to Vicar Stephanie.

## SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

### Harvest Home

The food items collected for our Harvest Home Weekend celebration was delivered to the Pottsville Salvation Army on Monday, November 27th. They were very appreciative since their shelves are literally empty after their Thanksgiving distribution. Thank you all very much for your generosity in this effort.

### In Ian's Boots

We need your help again. The supply of children's shoes is critically low! Look around your home. Ask your friends and neighbors. We are collecting new and gently used children's shoes, boots and athletic shoes. **Let's ensure that our young vulnerable neighbors have shoes to wear!**

### American Red Cross Bloodmobile

Trinity is hosting our next bloodmobile on Monday, December 4th from 1-6pm in our gym. If able to donate please consider scheduling an appointment by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767. The Red Cross has notified us that blood supplies are critically low.

### Active Duty Military Care Boxes

The Pottsville Republican did not publish names and addresses of active military from our community who would not be home for the holidays this year. Since our project to collect items for this purpose was already in process, we have located a military organization who is in the process of sending out care packages to active military. They are very willing to accept our donations to add to their efforts since they have more names and addresses than they were able to fill. We will be partnering with the American Legion Post 927 in Gilbert and Operation Touch of Home in Broadheadsville. Our collection is scheduled to be delivered to them on November 29th. You then can be assured your donations will be received by active military members as originally intended. Thank you for your generous donations for this project as well.

## **UPCOMING GROUP MEETINGS AT TRINITY**

### **FRIEDA HOH**

**Our next scheduled meeting will be December 7th, 2023.**

Christmas Party located at the Blue Tavern at 6:00pm  
Members are asked to bring \$5.00 for the Salvation Army and a gift for the  
crazy bingo.

*Hostess will be Maire Weikel*

*Any questions, contact Marie Weikel at (570) 449-6484*

### **CIRCLE V**

**Our next scheduled meeting will be December 7, 2023.**

Christmas Party/meeting will follow the noonday advent service. Members  
are reminded to bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift for our Christmas gift  
exchange. Members are also asked to bring a small practical gift (gloves,  
hats, socks, scarf) for the Servants for All Christmas bag project. We will  
host the noonday Advent luncheon on December 14th. Each member is  
asked to provide a food item (sandwiches, meat/veggie tray, desserts etc.)

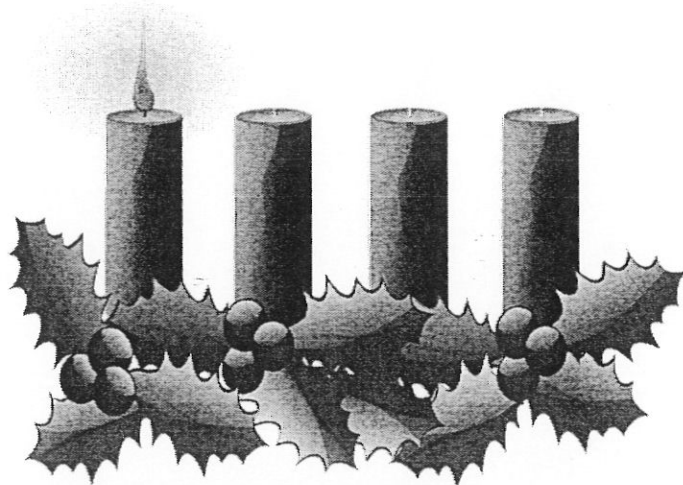
*Hostesses will be Dolores Kindred, and Laura Chattin*

*For more info, details or transportation contact Teresa Stoffregen at  
(570) 622-7918*

### **Adult Volleyball**

Anyone interested in joining adult volleyball on Monday's from  
6:30pm– 8:30pm please contact Deb Miller at 570-622-4390





## **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy**

### **WEEK 1: December 2-3**

**Reader 1:** In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out:

**O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.**

**Reader 2:** In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, "Therefore, keep awake-for you do not know when the master of the house will come".



*Congregation: We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom all around us.*

**Reader 1: We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God's activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.**

*Light the first candle of the Advent Wreath.*