

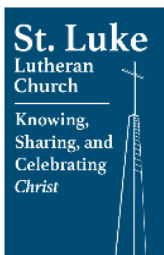
First Day of Advent

November 30, 2025

Welcome to 9:30 am Worship



The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.



ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

35 Wilson Ave., PO Box 338

Gilbertsville, PA 19525

610-367-9738

www.stlukegilbertsville.org

MUSIC & COPYRIGHTS
November 30, 2025

PRELUDE

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

setting, Michael Costello
©2023 Birnamwood Publications

GATHERING

ELW 260 The King Shall Come

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925; Music: A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003, Arr.©1969
Concordia Publishing House

KYRIE

ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope; Music: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947, Text/Music ©Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion
Pope

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS949 Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Text/Music: African American spiritual

OFFERING SONG

Create in Me (ELW 186)

SENDING HYMN

ELW 246 Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, Music: William H. Monk, 1823-1889

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,
**we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.**
Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.
† You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.
Amen.

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.

KYRIE

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

ELW 247

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ūi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Let us pray
Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
You call all nations to walk in your light
and to seek your ways of justice and peace,
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.

Rouse us from sleep,
 that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes
 and welcome him into our hearts and homes,
 for he is our light and our salvation.
 Blessed be God forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Light One Candle

ELW240



- 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.
- 4 Light four 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.
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

READING:

A reading from Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk

decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks Be to God

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

² **Now our feet are standing**

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built as a city

that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,**

the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,

the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**

“May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls

and quietness within your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,**

I pray for your prosperity.

⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek to do you good.”

Please rise in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Matthew 24:36-44

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Message

Min. Bobbie Hoffman

Please rise in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning ACS 949

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your

lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps

trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain
Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;
chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

CREED

Together, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' 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.**

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation.
Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world
around us.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast
out words of hate and transform them into words for building up
community. Remake implements of war to sow peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and
companions who are ill or despairing *and those affected by HIV and AIDS
as we remember World AIDS Day*). Surround all with care and consolation.
God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down,
and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture
therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the
last, bring us with all the saints to your holy city where peace and
goodness make a home.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

**Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.**

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please rise in body or spirit.

OFFERING SONG

We present our offering to God during worship as sign of our gratitude for His goodness, mercy & generosity.



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

Nourishing God,

you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,

that we may rejoice and be for the world

signs of your kingdom come.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
With the church on earth and hosts of heaven,
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

All are welcome to the table. If you will be coming to the altar for communion, please follow the ushers' instructions. Those who are choosing to stay in the pew, using the prefilled cups, and those who need to have the pastor bring the elements to them should wait for instructions from the pastor. Children are most welcome to accompany their parents to the altar for a blessing.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

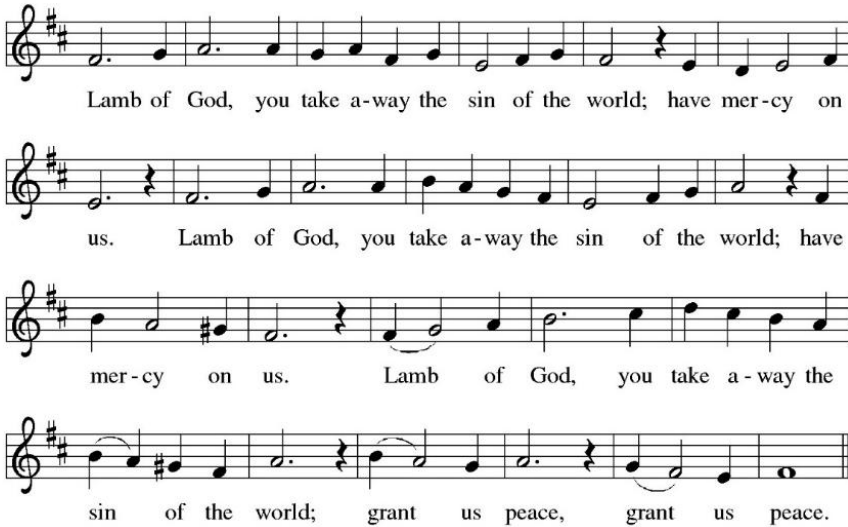
Give us today our daily bread.

**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.**

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are gift tags in the Narthex for Christmas gifts for children. Please select a tag and return the gift to church next week. Boyertown Area Multi Service has a program for low-income parents to help make Christmas morning special for their children.

On December 14th we will be preparing cookies to take to the residents of St. Luke Knolls & teachers at the Elementary schools in our community. Please bring cookies in then to share with our community.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please rise in body and spirit.

BLESSING

May God who comes among us,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!

ELW 246

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE