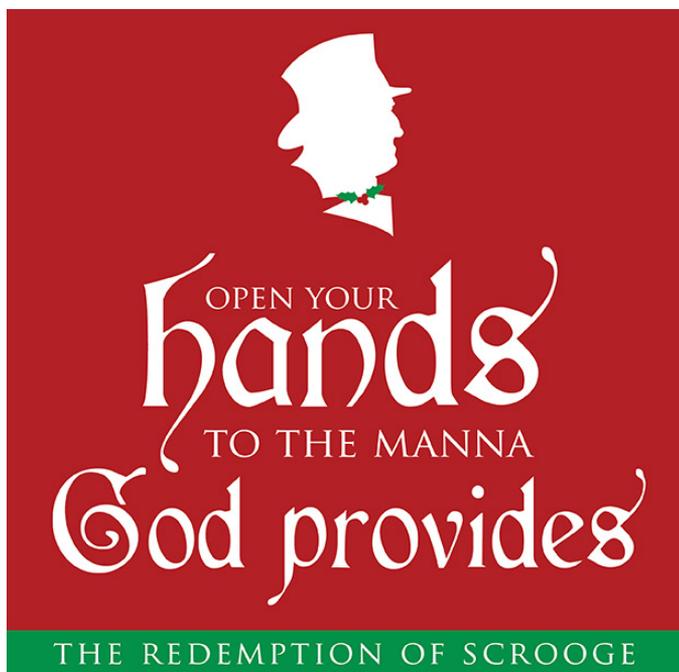


St. Paul's Lutheran Church



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **“Living in God’s Economy”**

November 21, 2021
9:00 a.m.

The Reverend Pamela M. Illick, Pastor
6839 Wertzville Road, Enola, PA 17025
(717) 697-9675 StPaulsEnola@yahoo.com
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Building Disciples ~ Growing in Faith ~ Serving in Christ’s Name

Welcome to all – especially visitors!!!

It is no accident that you are here today!

You are an answer to our prayer. We have been praying for you, and believe that God has brought you here because God wants to touch your life. We welcome you in the name of the Risen Lord!

*Please remember to write any prayer requests for today
in the prayer book in the Narthex.*

PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,
in the presence of one another,
we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

**We forget that we are your children
and turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One,
and assure us again of your saving grace.**

Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

✙ your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High,
inheritors of the eternal promise,
and recipients of divine mercy.

God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

A: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the first candle on this wreath,
rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord
when he comes with all the saints and angels.

Enlighten us with your grace,
and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

¹Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
the notables of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel resorts!

⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;

⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;

⁶who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

³Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**⁴When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

**⁶who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

⁷who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**¹⁰The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!**

SECOND READING: Galatians 6:7-10

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (spoken)

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house — ²⁸for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Pamela M. Illick

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Filled with Hope and Gratitude"
Keith Gilbert, soloist

APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us join our voices together as we confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: 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 PRAYERS

A: In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A: God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities, that together we can work toward peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind especially... *(the Assisting Minister will pray the names for the*

week) and those we now name in our hearts. (*pause*) Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters and for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

Pastor and Assisting Minister receive the offering and elements for communion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Please join me in prayer:

**C: God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.**

**Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
Amen.**

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was handed over,
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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.
Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Brought together by the Holy Spirit from all the spaces we are
right now, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC

“There's a Longing in Our Hearts”

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve us in eternal life.

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Most High God,

you have come among us at this table.

By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNITY TIME

BLESSING

The God of hope

fill us with all joy and peace in believing,

so that we may abound in hope

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

God rest ye merry gentlemen

Let nothing you dismay

Remember Christ our Saviour

Was born on Christmas Day

To save us all from Satan's pow'r

When we were gone astray

**O tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy**

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Large print bulletins are available – please see an usher.

After worship, please move to the Upper Sunday School Room to kick-off our Advent Study! We will watch the movie “Scrooge,” and enjoy a soup lunch and discussion.

Bulletins are presented to the glory of God.

Immediate Prayer Requests should be written in the prayer notebook in the Narthex prior to the service. These will be included in the prayers during worship. Long-term prayer requests are listed at the end of the bulletin.

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS in honor or memory of someone and your flowers will adorn the sanctuary over Christmas. One dedication per flower, please. Pick up your flowers either after service on Christmas Eve or 12/26. Mail/drop off your order and payment or put them in the offering. **Orders and payment due December 2, 2021.**

NEW HOPE MINISTRIES’ CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Printed lists are available in the Narthex. The last day for donating gifts is **December 5.**

Thank you to those assisting with worship:

Assisting Minister: Keith Gilbert

Lector: Vicki Barnhart

Ushers: Vicki Barnhart, Mike Stoner, Stew Trout, Steve H.

Building Lock-up: Vicki Barnhart

Guest Pianist: McKenna Rahn

	Asst. Minister	Lector	Ushers
12/05	Mason Miller	Steve H.	Mike Peck Tim Morgan Darrell M. Drew Kugler
12/12	Nick Cekovich	Denise Casella	
12/19	Keith Gilbert	Seana Miller	
12/24	Denise Casella	Ann Gilbert	
12/26	Mary Jane McMillan	Vicki Barnhart	

Advent Midweek Services

A Musical Journey from Advent to Christmas

Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

Join your Lutheran siblings for a musical journey from Advent to Christmas. We'll examine several of our favorite – or, perhaps, unfamiliar – Advent hymns and Christmas carols. This is a wonderful opportunity to pause for a few precious minutes during this season of hoping, waiting, yearning and preparing to regroup and refresh. Each service will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and will be live via Zoom and/or Facebook Live or recorded and available on YouTube. Look for the links to each service weekly.

12/1: Zion Lutheran, Enola & Pastor Gwenn Trout

Joy to the World & Once in Royal David's City

Zoom at the link below as well as at Zion Lutheran Church –Enola Facebook GROUP (there are lots of Zion Lutheran Churches, so be sure you have the correct one!)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86966278789?pwd=YUV3QUQvd2lhYm8yWENBUm9pV2lOUT09>

By phone: 1-301-715-8592, when prompted type in the meeting ID and passcode: Meeting ID: 869 6627 8789; Passcode: 443782

12/8: St. Mark, Mechanicsburg & Pastor Marleen Griffith-Stull

People Look East & O Little Town of Bethlehem

12/15: St. Paul, Enola & Pastor Pam Illick

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence & O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

12/22: Trinity, Lemoyne & Pastor George Scott

The Longest Night Service (in person and online)

ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS

Please let the church office know when names can be removed.

Levi Stoner (Stoners' grandson)	Ann Getz	Paul Currie - brother-in-law of Carole J. Sutch
Clyde Barnhart (Seana Miller's Grandfather)	Kaylin Vardzik	Kathy Hare - cancer/treatment (co-worker/friend of Steve H.)
Zelda Coleman (Trudy Getz's Mother)	Mason Miller	Angelia Compton – heart problems (cousin of Trudy Getz)
Jim Gebhardt (Seana Miller's Father)	Jean Seiple	Pat Brinser – surgery complications (Seana Miller's aunt)
Marge & Jerry Rettig	Pat Martin	Mary Valvenzuela (Vicki Barnhart's cousin)
Nicole Hoffmaster	Arla Hunter	Gilbert Campbell (Gary Stitzel's step-father)
Jordan Boehm	Claris Lutz	Earl Fogal – cancer/treatment (Ann Gottlieb's father)
Loretta Freyser	Katie Vardzik	
	Kody Getz	
	Dee Downs	
	Kim Getz	
	Gerald & Joann Meek	

Mark your calendars!

12/1: Advent Midweek Service (Pastor Gwenn)

12/5: Advent 2 Worship – “Jesus, the Redeemer of Our Past”

12/5: **“The Redemption of Scrooge”** – Christmas Past, 10:15am

12/8: Advent Midweek Service (Pastor Marleen)

12/12: Advent 3 Worship – “The Greatest Gift”

12/12: **“The Redemption of Scrooge”** – The Life of Christmas Present, at 10:15am

12/15: Advent Midweek Service (Pastor Pam)

12/19: Advent 4 Worship – “Accepting Christ's Invitation”

12/19: **“The Redemption of Scrooge”** – The Hope of Christmas Future at 10:15am

12/22: Longest Night Service @Trinity Lemoyne at 7:00pm

12/24: Christmas Eve, 7:00 pm

12/25: Christmas Day

12/26: Lessons and Carols

The Rev. Pamela M. Illick, Pastor
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Pastor's email: pam.illick@gmail.com
Find her on Facebook as Pam Illick

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