

Welcome to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Obelisk)
3206 Big Road
Zieglerville, PA 19492
Web: www.stlukeslutheran.church
Email: office@stlukeslutheran.church

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November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

P: Pastor C: Congregation

Prelude "Give Thanks" Henry Smith

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God for whom we wait,

C: 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 our selves. 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.

P: 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

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eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C: Amen.

Greeting

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God, grace, mercy, and peace 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

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.

Light the first candle.

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the

God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)

¹To I you, O LORD,
I lift I up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be I put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph I over me.**

³Let none who look to you be I put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame I who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your I ways, O LORD,
and teach I me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your I truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all I the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- I sion and love,
for they are from I everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and I my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- I ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- I right, O LORD;**

therefore you teach sinners I in your way.

⁹You lead the low- I ly in justice
and teach the low- I ly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast I love and
faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and
your I testimonies.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

There are many ways to remotely continue giving to St. Luke's:

- Go to the church's website: stlukeslutheran.church. At the top of the webpage click on the "Online Giving" button. Fill out the online giving form.
- Use your personal bank's auto-pay function.
- If you have a PayPal account you can send money to St. Luke's using the email: payables@stlukeslutheran.church.
- Mail a check to the church: St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 3206 Big Road, Zieglerville, PA 19492

Your continued and weekly offerings are needed to continue the Little Church with a BIG Mission.



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4
 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621