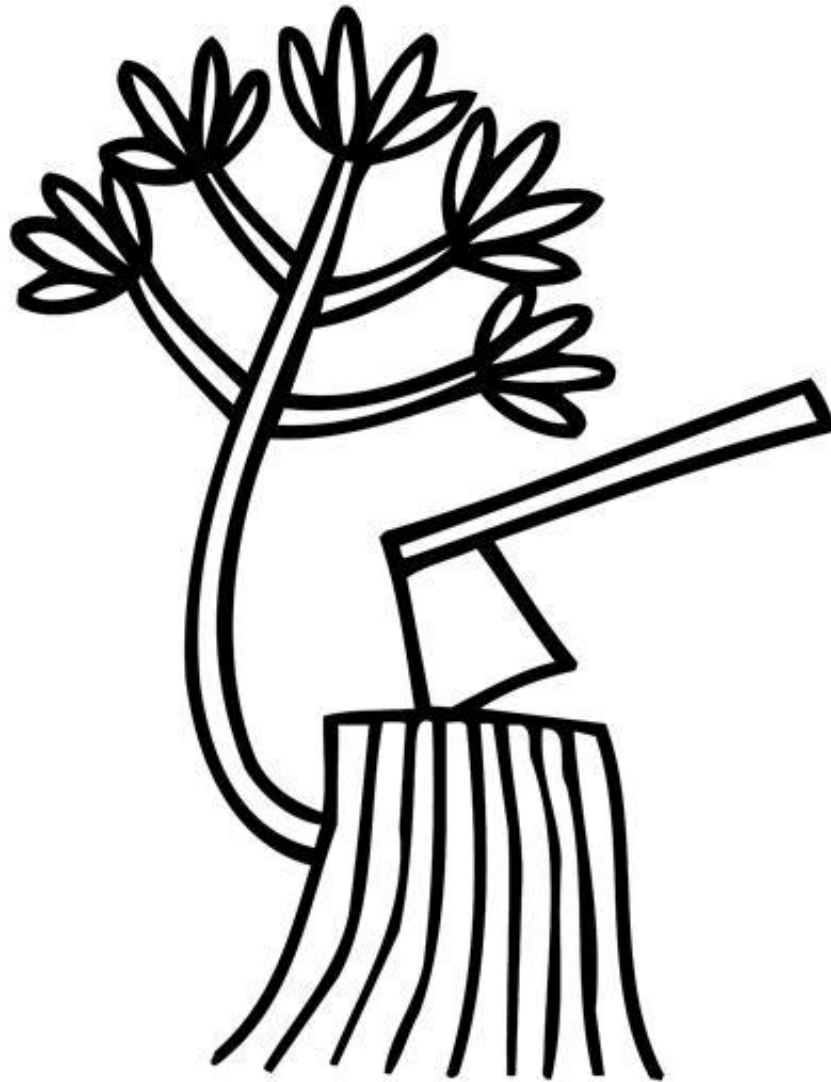


SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2025



MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578
717-336-8800

Pastor's Contact Information

Rev. Timothy L. Craven

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Director of Music

Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575

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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Linda Netzley, Shannon Brown, Johan Spotts, Ruth Hollinger, Shirley Sweigart, Mike Leed, Betty Cordes, Amy Weik, Molly Brown, Carl Mohler Jr., Jay Weaver, Dave Haldeman, Vivian Gehr, Tom Parrish Sr, Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller, Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Roy Latshaw, Marty Leed & Family and Fay Weitzel.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand Brethren Village: Beverly Sweigart
Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer
Gardens at Stevens: Pat & Nevin McQuate
Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen
Luther Acres Personal Care: Judy Meckley
Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla
Penn State Hospital; Lancaster: Sharlene Miller
Johns Hopkins Hospital: Bob Farr

Cocalico Builders of Hope (finding a house for housing program), Steven Fassnacht, Vickie Kissinger, Barb Mertz, Elsie May Sensenig, Cory Sensenig, Rachel Landis, Carol Schaeffer, Lorna Buohl, Richard Sockriter, Liz Roman-Reich, Mike Messner, John Rachal, David Taimuty, Keith Freeman, Paul Reefer, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Dave Bentz, Doug Cody, Fred Leathery, Karen Velez, Ron Neidigh, Kara Trowbridge, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Bolotine, Bea Hassler, Karen Leonhard, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Fetter, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Margaret Weller and Cynthia Peters.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Maggie Kiralfy, Dale Firestone, Yvonne Walters, Larry Rabold, Zach Caflin, Bob Weaver, Pastor Conrad Youse, Karen Krater, Vesta Reber, Jean Shober, Joyce Boyer, Joan Wentzel, Jeff Moyer, Anna Weinhold, and Kenton Shaffer.

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *"Pastorale Symphony"*

- G. F. Handel

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*GATHERING HYMN:

#242 *"Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn"*

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

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

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and 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 of the Holy Spirit.

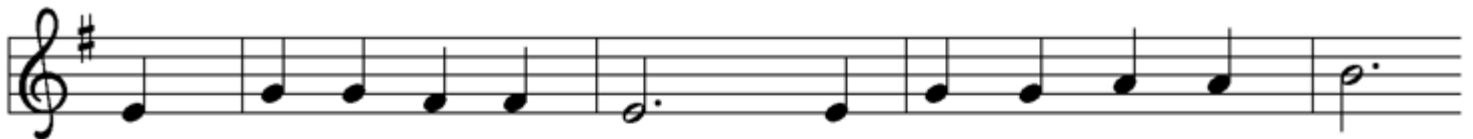
C: Amen

***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.

***THE KYRIE**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

ADVENT READING

Pat Haller: Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send Divine love and light into our dark world. Last Sunday we began in darkness and the first candle of Hope was lit. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus, in the Person of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Today we light the second candle of Peace...

(the candle is lit and the song is sung)

(the reading continues....)

Today God's messengers still appear in the wilderness of our lives to prepare the Way of the Lord. May we be willing to repent of our sins and to get ready for God's Kingdom. May we welcome God's Baptism of the Holy Spirit's fire and love in our hearts.

Let us pray: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and with great might come to be among us. Let Your bountiful Grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us, through Jesus Christ Our Savior and Lord. Amen

† GOD'S WORD †

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 11:1-10

Lay Reader (Martha Brubaker): A reading from Isaiah the 11th chapter. *Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19



May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

**² that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;**

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.

**⁴ Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R**

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.

***⁶Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.***

*⁷In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no
more.*

***18 Blessed are you, Lord God, the | God of Israel;
you alone do | wondrous deeds!***

*¹⁹And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen. **R***

CHILDRENS SERMON

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: *Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE: *“As The Waters Cover The Sea”*

-Pastor Tim Craven

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Creator of the Stars of Night”

- Plainsong

***THE NICENE CREED**

C: 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 were 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 Christian 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

† Prayers of Intercession †

***P: 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.

P: With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease (*especially*). Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.
Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith (*especially Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, whom we commemorate today*). Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

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

C: Amen

***THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

***OFFERING HYMN: “Emmanuel”**

*Words and Music by
Bob McGee*

♩ = 80

C/E F F/E Dm7 G7 C Gm6/Bb A7 A7/C#

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, His name is

6 Dm Dm/C G7/B G C E7 F F/E Dm7 G7

called Em - man - u - el; God with us, re - vealed in

12 C Gm6/Bb A7 A7/C# Dm Dm/C G7/B G C

us! His name is called Em - man - u - el.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Merciful Father,

C: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts towards those who hunger in any way, that all may know you care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER †

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The musical notation for 'The Great Thanksgiving' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

*THE PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation for 'The Sanctus' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is more complex than the previous section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: 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 and 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.

***TRADITIONAL 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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. Pick up an empty cup. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you. Please notify an Usher.

Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.

During Communion

Hymn #256: *“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”*

Hymn #241: *“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”*

Hymn #254: *“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”*

Hymn #616: *“Jesus Remember Me”*

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

***Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210:** *“Blessed Be God”*

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,
The spirit of mercy.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

C: Amen

† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

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

C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)

***SENDING HYMN: #239** *“Hark the Glad Song”*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *"Hail To The Lord's Anointed"*

-Henry Balcombe

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Martha Brubaker

Communion Assistant: Tess Freeman

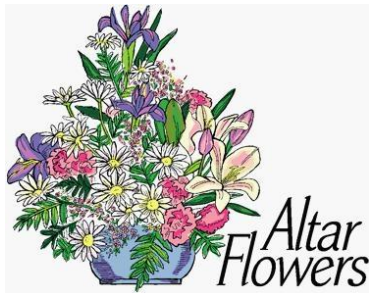
Advent Reader: Pat Haller

Candle Lighter: Mike Haller

Videographer: John Biles

Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Lowell Yost, Troy Adair & Alternate Randy Brubaker



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are
dedicated to the Glory of God
by the Hogan Family
in Memory of Ali Roth

Weekly Receipts Report as of 12/04/25	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	64
Online Attendance	122
General Receipts	\$2,996.00

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Attendance: 31 Offering: \$265.00 to Swamp Lutheran's Food Pantry



On December 1st the food and household items collected in November for Peter's Porch was delivered. The total amount of goods delivered was 371. Great job to help our community!

Decorate the Church



*Hanging of the Greens &
Congregational Christmas Party
Sunday, December 7, 2025,
following Worship Service*

*Lunch will be served at 11:00 am Chicken Corn Noodle Soup,
Pork BBQ, Hot Dogs, a Cake and Drinks*

*The Congregational Meeting will be held on
Sunday, December 14, 2025, following
Worship Service*



*We will be discussing the Annual Budget and
conducting an election of new Council Members.*



Christmas Gifts for Children

You choose the gift of your choice for newborn up to the age of 15 years old. Return new and unwrapped gifts to the church by Sunday December 14th.

Suggested gifts include coloring books, puzzle books, body wash/lotion, diapers and lotions for newborns, toys etc. There will be boxes in the Narthex to put them in.

Thank you and God Bless, Social Ministry.