

Energized by the Spirit!

Humbled by Christ's Grace!

Working for God's Glory!



*Since 1826*

# ZION'S UNION CHURCH MAXATAWNY

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Evangelical Lutheran and United Church of Christ

329 Church Road

Kutztown, Pennsylvania

Rev. Melissa A. Burkhart, Pastor

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*In this shared (UCC & Lutheran) liturgy, congregational responses are printed in “bold” type and the hymns not printed in the bulletin can be found in the **BLUE** hymnal.*

**REFLECTION**

*Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.*

**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

Acolytes

**PRELUDE**

“Sleepers Wake! A Voice is Calling”

J.S. Bach

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Melissa

**ADVENT VIDEO**

**The Liturgy Part I: GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as a people of God.*

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

**OPENING PRAYER**

In this Advent of expectation draw us together in unity, that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives. In this Advent of expectation draw us together in mission, that the hope within might be the song we sing, and the melody of our lives. In this Advent of expectation draw us together in service, that the path we follow might lead us from a stable to a glimpse of eternity.

**Amen.**

**ADVENT 1 – HOPE**

Reader One: (Bob Weller and Liz Erdman)

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

**While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.**

Reader Two: (Bob Weller and Liz Erdman)

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God’s kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

*(Light the candle)*

THE SONG                    “*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*” (vs. 1)                    Blue # 630  
CONFESSION

You speak to us in many ways, through rushing wind or still small voice, in Scripture’s Word or through your Grace and we in turn find many ways to hear the world’s insistent voice break through the silence and take your place. Forgive our sin. Help us hear your voice above the clamor of this world, recognize the difference, and follow only you.

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The good news of Advent is that Jesus Christ has come into the world, has led the way through death that we may have life, and is coming again to make all things new. Hear these words of assurance from Psalm 103: “The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Let us share together the peace of Christ, encouraging one another in love and goodness.

*The pastor and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*Peace be with you.                    Response: Peace be with you.*

*All may be seated.*

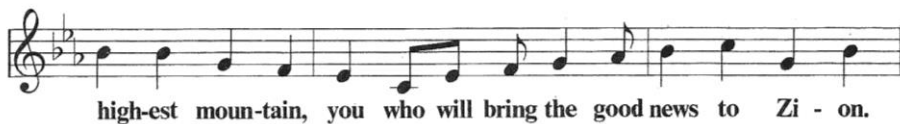
## **The Liturgy Part II: WORD**

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

*In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.*

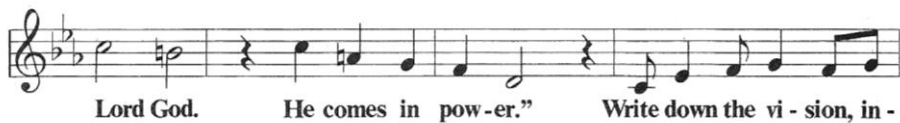




high-est moun-tain, you who will bring the good news to Zi - on.



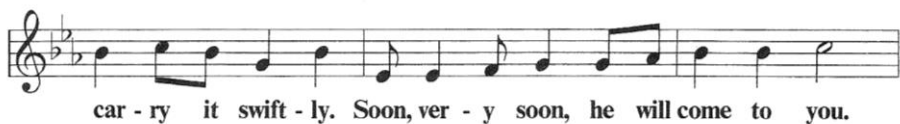
Lift up your voic - es and bold - ly pro - claim: "See the



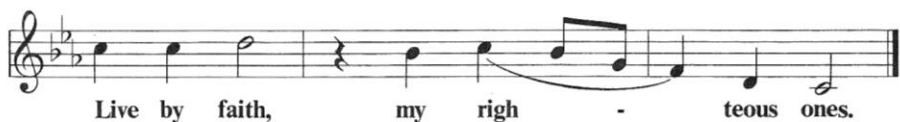
Lord God. He comes in pow-er." Write down the vi - sion, in -



scribe it on tab - lets, read - y for a her - ald to



car - ry it swift - ly. Soon, ver - y soon, he will come to you.



Live by faith, my righ - teous ones.

#### GOSPEL READING: 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.*

The Holy Gospel for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent is taken from the Gospel of Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup> "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. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your

redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

*After the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All may be seated.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SONG

SERMON

*“People, Look East”*

Pastor Melissa

Blue # 626

Pastor Melissa

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, who is Creator,  
maker of all we see and all we don't see.**

**Who is Ruler of the universe: Source of all creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Jesus Christ,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human.**

**He is one with the Creator;**

**the Word made flesh, our Messiah: Savior of all creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit,**

**Breath of God moving among us;**

**Who is one with the Creator; one with the Christ;**

**our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of all creation!**

*All may be seated.*

### **The Liturgy Part III: MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

OFFERING

*The Offering is received.*

CHOIR ANTHEM

*“Advent Song”*

Butler

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

## OFFERING SONG

*As the gifts are presented, the following is sung by all.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise him above you heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**We bring you only what is yours, Creator God, that you might use this offering and the giver for the building up of your kingdom and the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

## COMMUNION

As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is the table of Jesus Christ, a banquet prepared for everyone. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith, all who seek wholeness and compassionate paths to peace and justice, are welcome here.

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift our hearts in prayer.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Prince of Peace, Giver of all life, Source of love that knows no boundaries. Your song of wisdom rang out before the world began; throughout the ages, your song of liberation has impregnated us with your hope for a world where: those considered last and least are first and most; violence is overcome by all siblings working together for peace. You bring our longings to birth, and send prophets to awaken us to your approaching Advent among us.

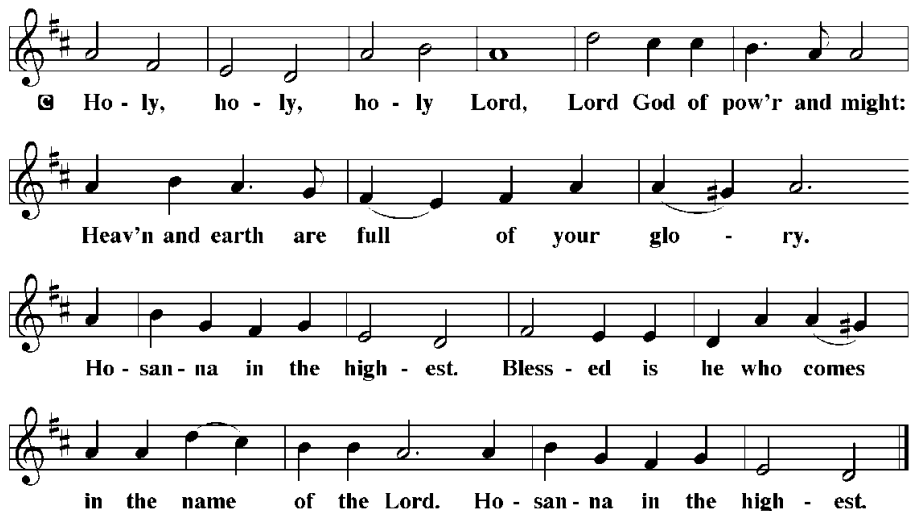
We thank you for those who, like Mary, have the strength and courage to give birth to your love in the world; for those who, like the shepherds, dare to seek out the Child of Bethlehem; for those who, like the wise ones, actively challenge violent and oppressive powers.

We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to us in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in tenderness and compassion.

We join in the Advent prayer of all your people...Holy, Holy, Holy!

And, as we wait and watch for your coming among us, we proclaim your goodness singing:

### SANCTUS



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.

At this time, we also remember all with whom you would have us share your feast.

We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain...  
all who are ill or alone...  
all who are close to our hearts...  
all our brothers and sisters who live with fear, oppression, or hunger...  
all whose lives have been blighted by violence, racism, or poverty...  
for all whom the world counts as last and least.

We pray for the church and its many ministries, for nations as they strive for peace and justice, for an end to violence.

God of hope, make this bread the means of our rebuilding, this wine the medium of our transformation, this table the foundation of our renewal, and this community the place of our rebirth.

**Amen.**

*All may be seated.*

At this time, we remember Jesus, Who on the night before he died, took a loaf of bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant; remember me."

Gracious God, Breath of peace, Source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

**Make us, while many, one.**



**Make us, though broken, whole.**

**Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

And so we join with our siblings around the world in the prayer of Jesus:

#### 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.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us,**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

#### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ,

**the Bread of life.**

The lifeblood of Christ,

**The cup of blessing.**

Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith, and for the sake of the world.

#### HOLY COMMUNION

*Distribution of the bread and wine is done at the altar rail.*

*Please follow the direction of the ushers as they direct worshipers forward by half pew. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant: The body of Christ, given for you.*

*The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.*

*All will return to their seats.*

#### COMMUNION CHOIR ANTHEM

*“Come to the Table of the Lord”*

Although

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and our experiences. We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.**

## **The Liturgy Part III: SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission into the world.*

### **BENEDICTION**

The peace of God be in your heart.

The grace of God be in your words.

The love of God be in your hands.

The joy of God be in your soul and in the song that your life sings.

**Amen.**

**THE SONG**

*“Soon and Very Soon”*

Blue # 744

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

Acolytes

**POSTLUDE**

*“Hark! The Glad Sound”*

Powell

— written by Lisa Frenz, in *Word of God Come Be With Us: An Advent Order for Holy Communion*, and posted on Lisa’s Liturgies.

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Sunday School 9:00

Worship 10:15

Rev. Melissa A. Burkhart

Pastor

Mr. Steven Schucker

Organist/Choir Director

Sharon Leiby and Carol Leiby

Greeters

Nate Haas

Shepherd

Nancy Fulton

Reader

Lori Arndt and Carol Leiby

Bulletins and Offering

Sharon Leiby, Jim Laub, Greg Haas, Traci Gehringer, Lori Arndt

Communion Assistants

Penelope Zoccola and Andrew Schucker

Acolytes

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**MISSION STATEMENT** – In keeping with the life and teaching of Christ Jesus, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people into our community of faith and affirm the worth of all people as unique individuals made in God’s image. We are open to the special gifts that each person brings and invite each one to participate in the life of our church.

**WELCOME VISITORS!** – We joyfully welcome all persons visiting this day. Please take time to fill out a visitor’s card (found in the pew racks) and place it in the plate during the offering, and please also sign our guest register in the hallway when you leave. We pray that you will find your worship experience spiritually fulfilling and that you will join us again.

Here at Zion’s, extending our extravagant welcome includes inviting those interested in becoming a member of Zion’s Union to please see our Board President, Greg Haas, or Pastor Melissa Burkhart for more information.

**SITTING/STANDING** – Zion's Union Church is committed to welcoming folks of all ages and stages. We understand that not everyone has the same abilities with movement, and we strive to create an environment where everyone feels valued and integral in this faithful community. There are times when our traditions request us to stand and other times when particular parts of the service require additional congregational involvement, causing us to rise as we are able. When invited to rise in body or spirit, please follow what is most comfortable for you.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** – Large print bulletins are available in the rear of the church.



**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in celebration of Zachary's, Hannah's and Patty's birthdays be GG and GD.

**BULLETINS** are given to the glory of God in honor of Sam's birthday from Ed and Peggy Morgan.

**FLOWER/BULLETIN SPONSORS NEEDED** – 1 Flower sponsor and 2 Bulletin sponsors are needed for December 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1 Bulletin sponsor is needed for December 24<sup>th</sup>. 2 Flower sponsors and 1 Bulletin sponsor are needed for December 29<sup>th</sup>. 2 Flower sponsors and 2 Bulletin sponsors are needed for January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**FLOWER/BULLETIN PAYMENTS** – All owed money for Altar Flowers and Bulletins for 2024 must be paid by **December 29<sup>th</sup>**.

**NEW FLOWER/BULLETIN BOOK** – The 2025 Flower and Bulletin sponsor book is now available. Sign up for your special dates in 2025. The price to sponsor Altar Flowers will be \$20.00 per vase (\$40.00 for both vases.) The cost to be a bulletin sponsor will be \$10.00 (\$20.00 for both bulletins).

**TODAY AT ZION'S:**

- Thank you to Bob Weller and Liz Erdman for leading the candle lighting this morning.
- Baskets are available in the back of the church and the Gathering Area for any monetary donations for Bethany Children's Home Brighter Future Fund to purchase items for the residents for Christmas.
- Youth members should plan to be at the church this afternoon no later than 4:30 P.M. to prepare for the Advent Social.
- Advent Social at 7:00 P.M. A meal will be served at 6:15 P.M. All are welcome. Sign up on the upstairs bulletin board. The program will be presented by the Youth Members and Women In Zion.

**CARD SHOWER:**

December 3

John Laird

**REJOICING SPIRITS WORSHIP SERVICE** – Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service will be held **today** at 3:00 P.M. at St. Paul’s UCC, 47 S. Whiteoak Street, Kutztown. All are welcome at this no-shush worship service that enriches the lives of all people, especially the differently-abled, their caregivers, families, and friends. The theme is *I Hear You*. The presiding facilitator is Keith Wuchter. Parking is available in the lot behind the church.

**SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM** – Our “Simply Giving” direct deposit program is available on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule and automatic transfers can be made to Current Expenses or Benevolence. Forms to join this initiative are on the Bulletin Board upstairs. Any new forms or changes for 2025 need to be submitted by mid-December to Peggy Morgan so they can go in effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Enrollment in this program can be done at any time throughout the year.

**THIS WEEK AT ZION’S:**

- **Monday** – First Monday Bible Study will be held from 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- **Wednesday** – Plastic Bag group will meet from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. to weave plastic bags into mats. Contact Tanya Schaedel at 484-705-5533 or Carol Leiby at 484-695-8318 for more information.
- **Wednesday** – Mid-Week Reflections at 11:00 A.M.
- **Thursday** – Sr. Choir practice at 6:30 P.M.

**WORSHIP HELPERS FOR DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>:**

Julie Karaisz and Cindy O’Neil	Greeters
Lori Arndt	Shepherd
Diane Herber	Reader
Lara Thomas and Jon Burkhart	Bulletin and Offering
Julia Berger and Barrett Schucker	Acolytes and Offering

**NEXT SUNDAY AT ZIONS:**

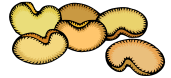
- Youth Choir practice at 8:45 A.M.
- Sunday School practice during the Sunday School hour for the Sunday School Christmas Program. The program will be December 15<sup>th</sup> during the worship service.
- Ada Fegely baptism during the worship service.
- Annual Congregation meeting to elect Board Members and to approve the annual operating budget will be held immediately following the worship service. Please consider attending this important meeting.
- Blue Christmas service at 3:00 P.M.
- Angel Tree gifts are due back. Gifts are to be returned unwrapped, but can be placed in a box or gift bag.



**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** – Copies of the Liberty Lutheran Advent Devotional Booklet are available on the counter in the Gathering Area.

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES** – Copies of the new Membership Directory are available in the Gathering Area. Pick one up for yourself, family, or others that may not come to worship services. They may also be picked up at the church during the week.

**YOUTH GROUP NUT SALE** – Zion's Youth Group is selling 1 lb. bags of Peanuts (salted and unsalted), Cashews, Mixed Nuts, and Dried Fruit. Orders will be taken after the service **today and December 8<sup>th</sup>**. **Pick-up of the nuts will be December 15<sup>th</sup> and the following Sundays.** Extra order forms, which are available for any other people who wish to take orders, must be turned in by **December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Packing of the nuts will be **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.** To make things easier, all payments should be made at time of pick-up.



**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** – Practice for the Sunday School Christmas Program will be **December 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School.** The Program is **December 15<sup>th</sup> during the Church Service.**

**WOMEN IN ZION** – The Women In Zion will meet **December 9<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 P.M. for a meeting, cookie exchange, Christmas games, and ornament exchange.

**SNACK AND CHAT** – Snack & Chat group will meet on **December 11<sup>th</sup>** at 12:15 P.M. at Jaks. Our Zion's shirts could identify us and hopefully generate interest in our church. Notify Nancy Fulton if you will be coming.

**MUTUAL MINISTRY** – Mutual Ministry Committee will meet **December 11<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 P.M.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** – The deadline for any information for the January newsletter is **December 13<sup>th</sup>**.

**DID YOU KNOW???** – Any information for the bulletin or newsletter needs to be submitted in advance so that everything can be processed in a timely manner. For the bulletin, please submit information by 9:00 A.M. Monday morning. For the newsletter, please submit information by the 13<sup>th</sup> of the month. This gives enough time to get everything organized and printed. Any material submitted later than that, will be printed in the next issue. Thanks for your help in providing information for our bulletins and newsletters.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** – When leaving the building, **air conditioning or heat must be turned off (except in the offices), ALL interior doors must be closed (except doors in basement), lights MUST be turned off, and the front door MUST be locked.**

**LIVE NATIVITY** – Zion's Outdoor Live Nativity will be held **December 14<sup>th</sup>** (rain/snow date December 21<sup>st</sup>). Shows will be held every half hour from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. (last show at 7:00 P.M.). Volunteers are needed (sign-up sheet on the bulletin board): actors (no speaking parts) to reenact the Christmas Story, help with refreshments, parking cars, and setting up/tearing down outdoor structures. See Sue Haas with any questions.



**OCC SHOEBOX** – A big THANK YOU to all of you who packed boxes, donated items, contributed funds, or volunteered for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project. In all, 435 boxes were received here during Collection Week, almost 100 from this congregation! WIZ has been most gracious to pay the shipping for Zion Maxatawny's boxes. 435 children around the world will have the opportunity to receive Jesus this Christmas, thanks to YOU. Thank you, again, for helping to spread GOOD NEWS with GREAT JOY!

**KUTZTOWN COMMUNITY CONCERT** – Kutztown Community Choir will present their annual Christmas concert on **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 357 W. Main St., Kutztown. The musical selections include *This Christmas; Go, Tell It on the Mountain; Nutcracker Jingles; Tundra; and Winter Lullaby*. The concert will once again conclude with the *Hallelujah Chorus*, from Händel's Messiah, in which the audience is invited to join the choir. A free-will offering will be taken. Everyone is invited to join the choir for a simple reception of Christmas cookies and beverages following the performance.

**INFORMATION NEEDED** – All information for the weekly bulletin is needed in the church office **NO LATER THAN 9:00 A.M. MONDAY MORNING.**

## **Support OCWM in Your Giving Tuesday Generosity**

Giving Tuesday restores some balance to the flurry of buying sprees around Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Our Conference is part of this Giving Tuesday movement! Using the "Giving Tuesday" button on the PSEC Donate page



<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ53/home>), you can support Our Church's Wider Mission. OCWM supports mission taskforces, disaster response, new ministries, search and call, pastor trainings, justice work, and so much more!

We hope you will share this opportunity with your congregation, and support PSEC on Giving Tuesday or donate early!

## Sign of Things to Come

### Luke 21:25-36

The stone cathedral was dim and dank, with only a few souls scattered among the pews softly singing the hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

With the last note wafting in the air, a candle was lit in a circle of evergreen — the Advent wreath. It was the only sign of the season in the sanctuary. There were no pine boughs strewn from the balcony nor poinsettias gracing the windowsills. They would come later.

For now, it was just the flickering flame of a lone candle urging on a weary world to rejoice.

It was the beginning of Advent, the four-weeks leading to Christmastide. A time for quiet reflection, patient waiting and expectant watching.

But beyond the cathedral’s doors, Christmas joy in full swing with crowds swarming an open-air market — lights twinkling and speakers blaring songs about chestnuts roasting over open fires.

Yes, tis the season — of missing Advent’s message that before celebrating what God has done for us through Jesus, we must first be still. We must watch for the signs of God’s realm drawing near, signs that can be easily missed amid the traditional trappings of Christmas which appear earlier each year.

Now it’s understandable why Advent quickly morphs into Christmas. We are a people who find it hard to wait, and we certainly don’t want to be walking in darkness. We want immediate gratification and light — lots of it.

Another reason Advent doesn’t get the attention it deserves is that it clashes with our cultural expectations of the holidays with scripture readings that are more apocalyptic than jolly. Luke’s gospel is the perfect example of this, as we hear about the signs that will appear in the sun, moon and stars when the Son of Man returns.

Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* means “coming.” And so, we are not just celebrating Jesus’ first coming as the Babe of Bethlehem, but we are anticipating his return as well.

What are the signs to look for today?

Perhaps beyond the artificial holiday lights we might see a sign of God’s true light shining in our communities. Perhaps, if we looked into the eyes of the homeless, the disabled, and the stranger, we would see the sign that God is right in front of us.

Perhaps, if we entered a quiet sacred space this Advent, where the only light burning is that of the first candle around the Advent wreath, we would see the sign that there really is a light in which no darkness can overcome.

*God of Advent waiting and hoping, we pray that You open our eyes to the many signs of a weary world being redeemed. May we remain alert to the very things that matter the most to You. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

### IN OUR PRAYERS:

*We ask God's blessings upon those who are ill, recovering from surgery, homebound, or have asked for our prayers:*

Elaine Heffner, Loretta Flicker, David Herber, Cooper Kellum, Tracey Lutz, Bonnie Haas, Bill & Karen Howard, Irene Isamoyer, Jamey Webb, Liz Jones, Julia Mohn, Owen Shorette, Walter & Doris Dietrich, John & Marlene Costello, Barry & Ann Miller, Marilyn & Bill Bird, Marian Stettler, Gladys Leibold, Donna Slotter, Karen Weaver, Randy Warmkessel, Donna VanDeCar, David Grim, John Laird, Mike & Julia, Helen Noll, Jeanne, Aiden, Brooke, Emory, Bev, Eric, Jenni Juntunen, James Ely, Mason, Jamie Albanese, Alexis, Deb P., Beth S., Jim, Chris Pinkerton, Laurel Rudy, Grayson Rudy, Livvy Rudy, Sherry S., Jeremy Crum, Chad, Chris, Laura G., Keith Egley, Leila, Vera, Bruce Fritzinger, Sherri Gehringer, Ian Miller, Ely, Rosemary LaFratte, Paige Sechler, Joanne Pauley, Owen Lamendola, Sarah Johnson, Chris Szarko, Victoria Slotter, Regen Zimmerman, Karen Ames, Donna Rabert, Tom Seifert, Rayann Roth, Valerie, Lorraine Miller, Christopher Mercardo, Elia, Christy Ryan, Michele Rodriquez, Judy Redman, Frank Knight, Mary, Betsy, family of Laura Youse.

**If any names can be removed from the list, please notify the church office.**

*Other:* Prayer Shawl.

*Churches:* Christ DeLong UCC (Bowers), St. Peter's UCC (Topton), Faith Reformed UCC (Landingville), Friedens Lutheran Church (Bernville).

If you know of other persons in need of prayer and you wish to have a name included in next week's bulletin, please call the church office or leave a message on the answering machine. If you want a name included on Zion's Prayer Chain call Mary Laub at 610-248-2801.

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Pastor Melissa's Phone Number	1-717-951-3016
Pastor Melissa's E-Mail Address	<a href="mailto:pastormburkhart@gmail.com">pastormburkhart@gmail.com</a>
Pastor Melissa's Office Hours	M, Th 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.; T, W 12:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
Zion's E-mail Address	<a href="mailto:zionsunion@verizon.net">zionsunion@verizon.net</a>
Zion's Web Site	<a href="http://www.zionsunion.org">www.zionsunion.org</a>
Church Phone Number	610-683-7485
Church Office Hours	M, W, F 9:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

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### **November 24, 2024 RECORD:      School 27      Church 94**

<b>FEDERATED</b>	<i>Given</i>	<i>Needed Weekly</i>	<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>	<i>Given</i>	<i>Needed Weekly</i>
Current Total	\$ 3,862.00	\$ 4,728.00	Benevolence Total	\$ 270.50	\$385.00
Envelopes	\$ 1,716.00		Simply Giving	\$ 224.50	
Simply Giving	\$ 2,139.00		Envelopes	\$ 46.00	
Loose Plate	\$ 7.00				
Flowers/Bulletins	\$ 290.00		<b>Amount Budgeted for Current for 11 months - \$225,390.00</b>	<b>Actual Current</b>	
Thanksgiving	\$ 40.00		<b>received - \$236,004.25. Over by \$10,614.25</b>		
Reimbursement	\$ 390.00		<b>Amount Budgeted for Benevolence for 11 months - \$18,337.00.</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
Bethany	\$ 85.00		<b>Benevolence received - \$20,982.05. Over by \$2,645.05.</b>		
Memorial	\$ 40.00				

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