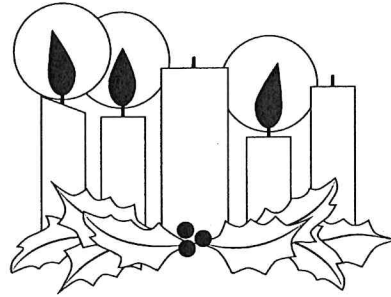


Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Mission Statement

*"A Fellowship of Believers in Jesus Christ dedicated to
proclaiming God's Love to ALL through Word and Deed."*



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

1331 West Main Street
Ephrata, PA 17522-1313
(717) 733-6646
Email: office@salemephrata.org
Website: salemephrata.org

**December 15, 2024
10:00 AM**

- P for Pastor's part of the Liturgy
C for Congregation's part of the Liturgy
* Those who are able, are asked to stand.
+ A time one may use the sign of the cross.

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Book)
WOV = With One Voice (Blue Book)

GATHERING

(Joel 2:15-17, Matt. 18:20, Acts 2:1-13)

THE FIRST PRELUDE "Aus Meines Herzens Grunde" J C Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SECOND PRELUDE "Advent Carol" Besig
Vocalists: Eddie Adams, Faith Shiffer

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** LBW P. 56

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.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.**

* **THE GATHERING HYMN** "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

WOV # 633
(Blue book)

(Psalm 149:1-4)

* **THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

LBW P. 57

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**

see insert

* **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

THE WORD

(1 Peter 1:25, Isaiah 55:10-11, Col. 3:16, Jere. 2:14, 1 Tim. 4:13)

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal

with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you in,

at the time when I gather you together;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes,” says the LORD. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

WOV # 630



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.



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.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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The Psalm will be read responsively

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE: Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might,
and has become my salvation.

³**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

⁴And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;
proclaim that this name is exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, who has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

* THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Celtic Alleluia”

WOV # 613

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
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* GOSPEL

P THE HOLY GOSPEL: **Luke 3:7-18**

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

⁷ He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹ And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³ And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. (ESV)

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

(Isa. 55:10-11, John 6:68, Psalm 119:41-42)

* **THE HYMN OF THE DAY** "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" **LBW # 29**
(Green book)

* **THE NICENE CREED**

LBW P. 64

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic 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**

*** THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

(1 Tim. 2:1-2)

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

*** THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

(Matt. 5:23-24, John 14:27, John 20:19, Romans 16:16)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

THE ORGAN OFFERTORY "Preparation for the King" Corelli/Mansfield
(Isa. 58:6-7, Matt. 25:35)

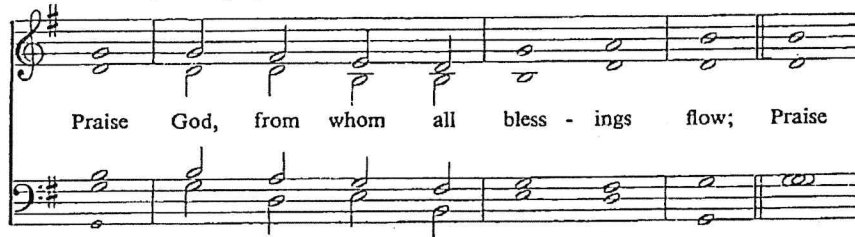
* THE OFFERTORY

"Doxology"

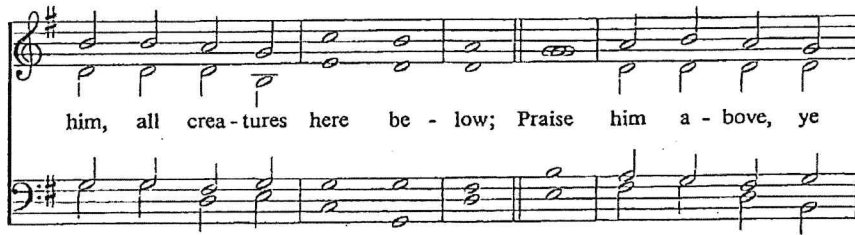
OLD HUNDREDTH. L. M.

LOUIS BOURGEOIS, *cir.* 1510-61
Geneva Psalter, 1551

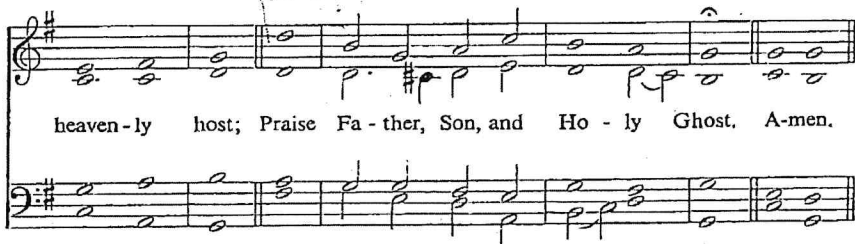
With great dignity



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise



him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye



heaven - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

* THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

LBW P. 87

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL

* **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

LBW P. 88

(Lamentations 3:41, 2 Thess. 1:3)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

* **THE PREFACE**

LBW P. 68

(Psalm 36:4)

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

WOV # 619a

(Isa. 6:3, Matt. 21:9)



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:



heav-en 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.

Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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* 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, 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.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matt. 6:9-13)

LBW P. 71

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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,**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

(1 Cor. 11:27-34)

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Please note: receiving in one kind (only the body or only the blood) is a full Holy Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"People, Look East"

WOV # 626

* THE COMMUNION BLESSING

LBW P. 72

(John 6:53-54)

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

* THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant"

ELW # 313



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune
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*** THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**
(Ps. 107:1, Ps. 118:1)

LBW P. 74

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

*** THE BENEDICTION**
(Numbers 6:23-27)

LBW P. 74

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen *(Sing in a three fold Amen)*

*** THE CLOSING HYMN** "Hark, the Glad Sound!"

LBW # 35
(Green book)

*** THE DISMISSAL**

(Luke 7:50)

P Go in peace, Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*** POSTLUDE**

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

Mansfield

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Keep in Your Prayers:

Sylvia Boyer, Diane Morris, Lorna Ravegum, Noretta Burke (family of Charles Kreutzberger), Keith Dussinger (friend of Mike Herr), Beverly Flickinger (friend of Judy Kauffman), Jeff Kratz (family of Nathan and Deb Hansell), Dale Manspeaker (Judy Kreutzberger's brother), Karen McCuiston (Diane Morris' sister), Dave Musser (friend of Mike Herr), Katherine Calderon Smith (friend of Kreutzbergers), Jaime Rank (family of Mark and Connie Ditzler), Tom and Joanna Ferguson (Judy Kauffman's cousins)

Bible study is Sunday morning at 9 AM in the multi-purpose room.

Class concludes by 9:45 AM.

A Tour of Revelation

22 Dec (Read chapters 20-22 before class-New Jerusalem as the Bride)

29 December No Class

Salem will be hosting the Ephrata Community Meal on Thursday, December 19, 2024. The Meal will be served at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 167 East Main Street, Ephrata, PA. Fruit, individual meat loaves, potatoes and carrots are on the menu. Volunteers are needed to set up, clean up, prepare and serve the meal and to make desserts. Sign up sheets are on the table in the narthex. Doors for guests open at 5:30 pm. Serving time is 6:00 pm. For additional information, please contact Ruth Ulrich at 717-799-1130 or jerryulrich@windstream.net.

Managing Motherhood

Items needed this month:

- Body wash
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Baby wash/shampoo
- Baby wipes
- Sanitary napkins—regular and super
- Diapers size 5
- Pull ups 4T-5T for girls and boys

You are invited to join us this Advent Season tonight, from 6 – 8 p.m. at the church for our Open House. Come and hear special music selections, take a stroll through the church and appreciate the season's decor, sing carols together and enjoy some grilled "brats" and refreshments while sharing warm greetings with one another.

Ladies, we will be meeting at Udder Choice, 1812 West Main St., Ephrata on Tuesday, December 17th at noon. As before, each person is responsible for the cost of their meal. A sign up sheet is on the table in the Narthex until Sunday, December 15th. Please join us for this fellowship!

2024 Offering Statements

2024 Offering Statements will only be printed upon request. If you wish to have your Offering Statement, please contact Dennis Kluck at treasurersalem@yahoo.com before December 31, 2024.

2025 Offering Envelopes

The 2025 Offering Envelopes will be available for pickup on December 8, 2024. Please note that the envelopes are being renumbered this year, and that your envelope number may change from that of previous years.

Book and Puzzle Exchange

The "Take One, Leave One," book and puzzle exchange will start January 12th. We are asking for some donations in order to have a beginning inventory. All sizes of puzzles, and all genres of books are welcome. Two bins will be placed in the library for easy drop off. Questions? Please see Laurel Kluck or Edie Sweigart.

Engage in Mission

This December we have our Engage in Mission table in the lobby. On the table is information about each Committee at the church and their mission.

If you are on a committee and you would like to stay for another year, you do not need to take any action. If you would like to go off of a committee, cross your name out. If you have never served on a committee, please consider engaging in our mission here at Salem for a year.

In January and February committees will re-organize their leadership. For our newer members, this is a great way to get to know people and be a part of a team that makes a difference. Be engaged, Salem Church and lean into the mission our Lord has for us here at 1331 West Main Street.

On Sunday, January 19, 2025, a planning meeting for the 25th trip of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Disaster Response team will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz. This is also the deadline to sign up for the trip. Registration for the trip is only \$150/person. The trip will be taking place, April 6-12, 2025, and will be to western North Carolina. More details will be shared at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but hope to make the trip, please contact Pastor Glenn Beard at gbeard@luthercare.org.

Christmas Schedule

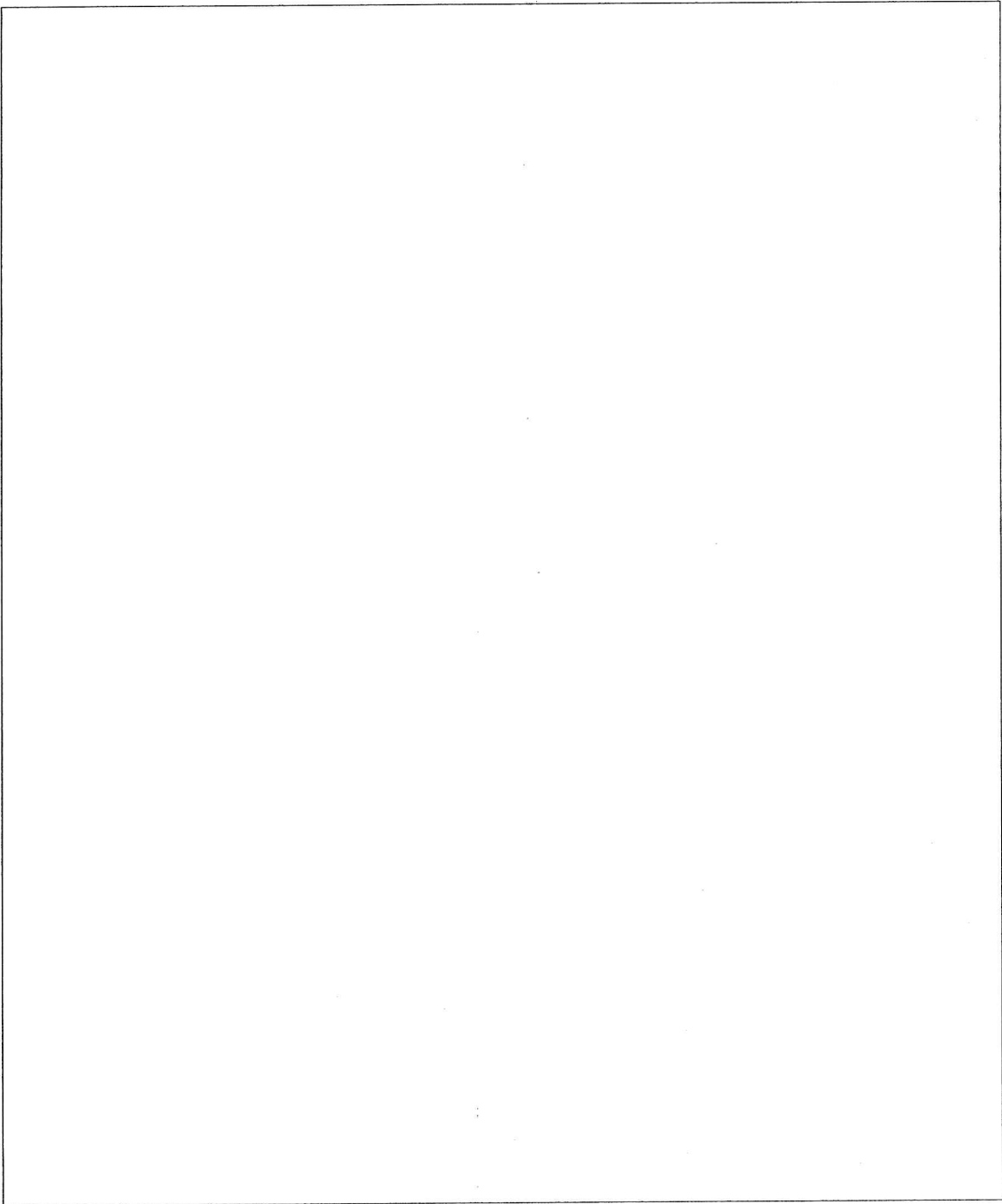
Tuesday, December 24, 2024
4:00 PM and 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Divine Service

Wednesday, December 25, 2024
10:00 AM Christmas Day Divine Service (sanctuary)

Thursday, December 26, 2024
7:00 PM St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr (chapel)

Wednesday, January 1, 2025
10:00 AM The Holy Name of Jesus (chapel)

Thursday, January 2, 2025 (chapel)
7:00 PM



Greeter	Shirley Wise and Andrea Richard
Acolyte	Ruth Ulrich
Usher	Rod Orth
Lector	Stephanie Frymyer
Communion Assistant	Jim Sutton
Altar care set up	Eddie Sweigart
clean up	Andrea Richard and Judy Kauffman

Today	6:00 PM	Salem Open House
		Pipeline articles due
Thursday	7:00 PM	Holy Communion
Friday	11:00 AM	Pipeline Assembly Rm. 6
Saturday	9:00 AM	Managing Motherhood

The Reverend Jeffrey H. Goodman, Pastor
 Office: (717) 733-6646 (717) 725-0717 (cell)
 Email: pastor@salemphrata.org
 Church Email: office@salemphrata.org
 Website: salemphrata.org
 Theresa C. Lee, Organist
 Michael Frymyer, Sexton
 Jean Wilhelm, Secretary

Office hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30 AM—12:30 PM