

# Second Sunday of Advent

12/08/2024

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

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**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 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**

**GATHERING HYMN:** [ELW#239 "Hark, the Glad Sound!"](#)

*The first and second candles of the Advent Wreath are lit as the following prayer is offered.*

**P** Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call us to prepare your way, for the kingdom of heaven is near. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation.

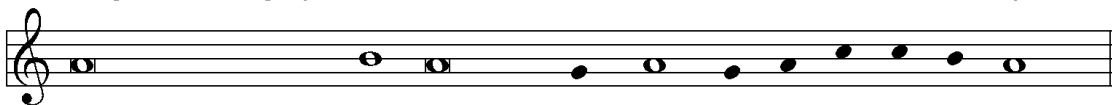
**C Amen**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

**C And also with you.**



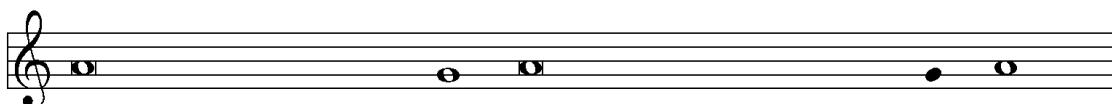
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



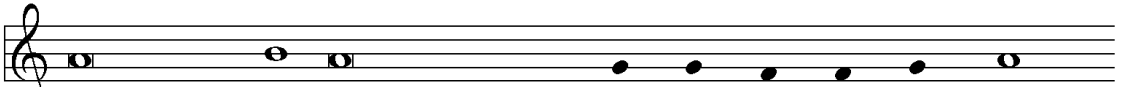
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*Please be seated.*

### **PSALM 126**

**L** <sup>1</sup>When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

**C** <sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."**

**L** <sup>3</sup>The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

**C** <sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

**L** <sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**C** <sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

## ISAIAH 61:1-11

**L** A reading from Isaiah: <sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

<sup>5</sup>Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks; foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be called priests of the Lord; you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. <sup>7</sup>Because their shame was double and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

<sup>8</sup>For I, the Lord, love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my whole being shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW#314 “Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

**SERMON:** ([Sermon Audio Link](#))

<b>Epoch</b>	<b>Books</b>
<b>Creation and Early Humanity</b>	Genesis (1–11)
<b>The Patriarchs and the Covenant</b>	Genesis (12–50)
<b>Egypt, Exodus, and the Wilderness</b>	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
<b>Conquest and Settlement</b>	Joshua, Judges (early parts), and Ruth
<b>Judges</b>	Judges, 1 Samuel (early chapters)
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings (1–11), 1 and 2 Chronicles (1–9)
<b>Divided Kingdom of Israel and Judah</b>	1 Kings (12–22), 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles (10–36), various prophets (Isaiah, Hosea, Amos, Micah, etc.)
<b>Exile of Israel, Exile of Judah</b>	2 Kings (end), 2 Chronicles (end), Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Lamentations, Obadiah
<b>Return from Exile and Restoration</b>	Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

**WE ARE  
HERE**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.  
**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**

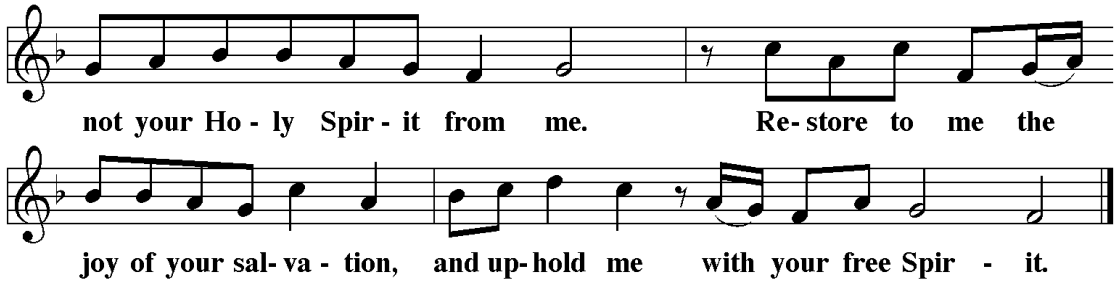
**OFFERING\*:** ([On-Line giving Link](#))

*The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.*

**RESPONSE:** [“Create in Me”](#)

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
it with- in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres- ence, and take

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the response, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**L** As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

**L** Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made. Guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, family and friends of Carole Conors, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Lydia Hendersen, Mark Hughes, Kaitlyn Leedy, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Dottie Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, the Spiegler family, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**L** Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen**

**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 but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

**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**

**SENDING HYMN:** [ELW#256 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"](#)

**P** Go in peace. Love and serve God and neighbor.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

\*Offering to be sent to

Robert Brackbill

10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane

Ellicott City, MD 21042



Epiphany Lutheran Church  
9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS and Upcoming Events**

- Sunday, Dec 8, 2024 - 5:00pm – 7:00pm - Family Craft Night
- Sunday, Dec 22, 2024 – 6 pm, Chocolate and Carols – Firepit Experience
- Tuesday, Dec 24, 2024 - 7:00pm - Christmas Eve Service
- Saturday, Jan 11, 2025 – 10:00am – Taking down the greens
- Saturday, Jan 18, 2025 – 7:00pm – Game Night
- Sunday, Feb 2, 2025 – 1:00pm – Lady Terps Basketball

### **Upcoming Worship**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Liturgical Day</b>	<b>Preaching Texts</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>
December 8	2 Advent	Isaiah 61:1-11	Julie and Dave
December 15	3 Advent	Luke 1:1-25	Ron
December 22	4 Advent	Luke 1:26-56	Monica
December 24	Christmas Eve	Luke 2:1-20	Pastor Greg

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