

LITURGY OF HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesday in the First Week of Advent

December 1, 2021

C – Celebrant

D - Deacon

A - Assistant

L – Lector

R – Response

We are a community of the Triune God, nourished by Word and Sacrament, sent forth by the Holy Spirit into the Grantville community and beyond to share the life-changing news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

GATHERING

***INVOCATION**

We make the sign of the cross in remembrance of our Baptism.

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

C: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R: And also with you.

***PENITENTIAL RITE**

C: 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.

C: Most merciful God,

R: 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.

C: God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

We make the sign of the cross as God forgives us this day.

R: Amen.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

C: Lord, have mercy.

R: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy

R: Christ, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

R: Lord, have mercy.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

C: Let us pray. Lord our God, grant that we may be ready to receive Christ when he comes in glory and to share in the banquet of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

R: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-10a

L: A reading from Isaiah.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples A feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, The web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces; The reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!" For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

L: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

L: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

L: He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

L: You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

L: Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

R: Alleluia, alleluia. Behold, the Lord comes to save his people; blessed are those prepared to meet him. Alleluia, alleluia.

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

R: Glory to you, O Lord.

We make the sign of the cross with our right thumb on our forehead, lips, and heart to symbolize the gospel being present in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 15:29-37

At that time: Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, went up on the mountain, and sat down there. Great crowds came to him, having with them the lame, the blind, the deformed, the mute, and many others. They placed them at his feet, and he cured them. The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the deformed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind able to see, and they glorified the God of Israel. Jesus summoned his disciples and said, "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, for fear they may collapse on the way." The disciples said to him, "Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place to satisfy such a crowd?" Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" "Seven," they replied, "and a few fish." He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, gave thanks, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you, O Christ.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

C: At the beginning of the new church year, let us intercede for others. Our charity shows that we are watching and waiting for the glorious coming of our Savior.

A brief silence.

A: That this season of vigil may find all members of the Church drawn to prayer and penance, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That all world leaders may realize that the destiny of nations is in God's control, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That God's grace may touch hearts hardened by the cares of life, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That we may look to the future, not in fear, but in hope and confidence, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: That the Son of Man may grant his salvation to those who have died, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

C: Graciously hear the prayers of your family, most merciful Father. Amidst all the turmoil and change in our lives, we wait for the coming of your Son, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

MEAL

***OFFERING PRAYERS**

C: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

R: Blessed be God forever.

C: By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

R: Blessed be God forever.

C: Lord God, we ask you to receive us and be pleased with the worship we offer you with humble and contrite heart.

Lord, wash away my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin.

C: Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice of praise and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

R: May the Lord accept our sacrifice of praise for the glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

C: Lord, may the worship we offer in faith and love be a continual sacrifice of praise in your honor and truly become our eucharist and our salvation. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C: Lift up your hearts.

R: We lift them to the Lord.

C: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

C: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**R: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

C: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.
On the night he was betrayed,
he took bread and gave you thanks and praise.
He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my body which will be given up for you.
When supper was ended, he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks and praise,
gave the cup to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and drink from it:
this is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.
It will be shed for you and for many so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in memory of me.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
R: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

C: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share
with us the great and promised feast.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes
as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours,
almighty Father, forever and ever.

R: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**R: 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.**

C: Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep
us from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of
our Savior, Jesus Christ.

R: Amen.

***PEACE**

C: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles; I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live forever and ever.

R: Amen.

C: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R: And also with you.

***LAMB OF GOD**

R: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

***FRACTION**

C: This the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

R: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who acknowledge the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Bread and Wine are welcome to receive the Sacrament. Directions for distribution are found in the announcements section of this bulletin. If you would prefer a blessing come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER *(for those who are watching via live-stream)*

A: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

C: Let us pray. God of mercy, may this eucharist being us your divine help, free us from our sins, and prepare us for the birthday of our Savior, who is Lord forever and ever.

R: Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

We make the sign of the cross as God blesses us this day.

C: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

C: The Worship is ended, go in peace.

R: Thanks be to God.

THOSE SERVING TODAY:

Celebrant

The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, *STS*

Assistant

Gen Whitehaus

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING *(October 31, 2021)*

2021 Approved Budget \$246,000.00

Income: \$186,951.45

Love of Family 2021 Contributions: \$2,565

Expenses: \$183,679.27

Local Food Pantry 2021 Contributions: \$3120

Capital Improvement 2021 Contributions: \$32,356

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:

Beginning with the front pews, form one line and make your way down the center aisle. Please pick up a communion glass from the tray on your right. Receive our Lord Jesus' Body from the Celebrant and, according to where you are seated, receive his Precious Blood from the Assistant and consume both elements. Please place your used communion glass in the tray on the table and return to your seat by the side aisle.

- **Donations from the Noisy offering totaled: \$440.62! Thank you!!!**
- **We will be welcoming new members on the Third Sunday of Advent (December 12 at 9am).** If you have found Shells Church to be the place for your spiritual needs and a beacon to share the Gospel of Christ, please contact the Church Office. **In turn, if you have found another parish to gather with the faithful, we would like to wish you farewell and Godspeed.** Please contact the Church Office to let us know. "Bless now, O God, the journey..."
- **Support Anna and Nora Holler's Girl Scout Troop using the sale boards in the Narthex.**
- **Christmas Poinsettia orders are due by December 10th.** If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Espenshade, 717-469-0895.
- **Christmas Extravaganza at East Hanover Township - Help needed Saturday December 4 from 3 to 8pm.** This event will give us an opportunity to serve our community and let them get to know the people of Shells Church. The event will include serving hot chocolate and cookies, cookie decoration for the children, Santa arriving on a fire truck, a carriage sleigh ride, Christmas tree lighting and caroling. How can you help: providing and serving the cookies, helping the kids decorate the cookies, and helping Father Barnes hand out candy bars with our name and Christmas Eve service times. Please let Father Barnes or Diana Budd know if you are able to help.

- **The Annual Congregational and 2022 Budget Meeting will be held after Worship on December 5th.** Please plan on attending the meeting and staying for our first-annual “**Shells-Giving**” dinner. After the meal the children and youth (and young at heart) will be making altar bread for the Christmas Eve liturgies. Please sign up in the Narthex to bring a side-dish.
- **Youth Group will meet on December 5 from 5-7pm to bake cookies for the Racetrack and homebound members.** Please sign up in the Narthex.
- **Adult Sunday School is again collecting toiletry items for the Racetrack Christmas Project.** We will need 35 of each of the following items. Bath towels, Wash cloth, Soap, Toothbrushes, Tooth paste, Deodorant, Razors, Shaving cream, Combs, Chap stick, Shampoo, and boxes of Tissues. Donations can be placed in the Narthex or in the Social Hall by December 7th. We will assemble kits on December 12 after Worship.
- **Advent Vespers and Soup Supper will be December 1, December 8, December 15, and December 22 at 6:15pm.** Please sign up to bring a soup in the Narthex.
- **Altar Guild will be putting together Christmas cookie plates and gifts for our shut-ins on December 19, immediately following Worship in the Sacristy.** Your cookie donation would be appreciated. Please see Kathy Espenshade with any questions.
- **We will decorate the church for Christmas after Worship on December 19.** Please plan on staying to help!
- **We are going Christmas Caroling to our homebound members on December 19.** Please meet in the church parking lot at 5pm.
- **The 2022 Altar Flower sign up sheet is available in the narthex.** Please remember to fill out a purple form for the dedication.

This week at Shells:

December 1 at 10am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

Wednesday in the First Week of Advent

December 1 at 5:45pm Soup Supper

December 1 at 7pm - Advent Vespers

December 2 at 7pm Senior Choir

December 5 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday of Advent

Children in Worship

Annual Congregational Meeting

Shells-Giving Holiday Meal

Altar Bread baking

5-7pm Youth Group Cookie baking

Worship Assistant Schedule for Advent and Christmas

Advent Wreath

Advent I - November 28: The Frye Family

Advent I Vespers - December 1: Volunteer Needed

Advent II - December 5: Erica Strang

Advent II Vespers - December 8: Volunteer Needed

Advent III - December 12: Riley Gonzales

Advent III Vespers - December 15: Volunteer Needed

Advent IV - December 19: JoAnne Manchester

Advent IV Vespers - December 22: Volunteer Needed

Christmas Eve at 7pm

Assistant: Karen Gussler

Communion Assistant: Megan Frye

Crucifer: Anna Holler

Torch bearers: Emily Duper and Mary Shellenberger

Banner Bearer: Gabe Gonzales

Book Bearer: Jacob Mende

Greeters: Joe and Diana Budd

Ushers: Evelyn Mende, Douglass Howard, Anna Vincenza, and Lillian Margaret

Lector: Riley Gonzales

Prayers: Emily Duper and Mary Shellenberger

Christmas Eve at 10:30pm

Assistant: Karlene Jaggan

Communion Assistant: Louise Murphy

Crucifer: Luke Holler

Torch bearers: Ellie Roush and Evan Dupler

Banner Bearer: Gen Whitehaus

Greeters/Ushers: Rick and Linda Blair

Lector: Brenda Frye

Christmas Day at 10am

Assistant: Karelene Jaggan

Lector: Gen Whitehaus

Please contact the Church Office if you are unable to serve in this capacity.



If you would like to order poinsettias for Christmas, please complete this order form. Each plant will be choice of red or white plant and cost \$10.00 each. Please make check out to “Altar Guild”. Orders will need to be placed in the offertory plate or mailed to the church by **December 10**. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Espenshade at 717-469-0895.

Given by: _____

Number of Plants: _____

Color: Red or White

In honor or memory of: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE: TAKE flowers after service –OR– DONATE & deliver to a Shells member. *Thank you.*

SHELLS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA

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Email: fatherbarnes3@gmail.com

Barbara Dupler, Director of Music

Email: scdbjd@aol.com

Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

Email: shellsadmin@shellschurch.org

Visit us on Facebook and “like” our church page:

Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church

We have WiFi!

Network Name: **ShellsLutheran**

Password: **GodIsAwesome** (*case-sensitive*)