



## HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

+ *Hope Always* +



December 15, 2024 10:00 AM

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Leshner, Deacon

## WELCOME TO HOPE CHURCH

We are a community gathered together in the name of Jesus in the Episcopal Church in Central Pennsylvania. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your faith journey, we are so glad you are joining us for worship, community, and fellowship.

Please take a moment to go through the announcements in the bulletin, and familiarize yourself with the many ways there are to connect with us in worship, music, creation care, Bible study, outreach, GriefShare, and regional youth ministry.

We hope that you will find something in our church that speaks to you. Should you have any questions, or like to learn more, let's have a conversation. Please either call the church office at 717-665-6311 or email us at [office@hopeepiscopal.org](mailto:office@hopeepiscopal.org).

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit +Romans 15:13*

## ADVENT

The 1st day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church) calendar and begins a four-week period of preparation in anticipation of the nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world. It is a time for faith communities and families to remember the true meaning of Jesus' birth, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds. Advent invites us to step away from what can be a frenzied time of parties and shopping to consider how we commemorate the birth of Jesus. We look forward to the triumphant return of Jesus at the second coming.

Since approximately the 13th century, the usual liturgical color in Western Christianity for Advent has been violet. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, rose may be used instead, referencing the rose used on Laetare Sunday, the 4th Sunday of Lent. A rose colored candle in Western Christianity is referenced as a sign of joy (Gaudete) lit on the 3rd Sunday of Advent. In some denominations, blue, a color representing hope, is an alternative liturgical color for Advent, a custom traced to the usage of the Church of Sweden (Lutheran) and the medieval Sarum Rite in England. In addition, the color blue is also used in the Mozarabic Rite, which dates from the 8th century. This color is often referred to as "Sarum blue". Worship identify purple or blue as appropriate for Advent.

## CHILDREN

Children are always welcome at Hope Church. Jesus wanted the little children to come to him, and children's voices and presence are an important part of our worship here at Hope Church.

To be added to our mailing list, please fill out a pew card, place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also fill this out online by using the QR code.



Scan here for The Big Way of Love children's resources for following Jesus



# Third Sunday of Advent

## HOLY EUCHARIST II

The symbol ☩ indicates when to stand if able.

The symbol ✠ indicates where to make the sign of the cross.

Prelude

Welcome + Good News & Announcements

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Prayer

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Silent Procession

### Advent Wreath Lighting

*Reader:* Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ, and we lit the candle of Peace, remembering God's dream of a peaceful world. *(Light Candles)*

In Advent, we are in a time of waiting. Like the Israelites who wandered through the Wilderness, waiting to come into the Promised Land, we wait for the coming of the Joy of Ages. We wait for the day where we can join our voices with the angels to sing "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!" We wait for the day when everlasting joy will be on each of us.

We will light this candle in Joy.

*People:* **My heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.**

We light this candle in Joy. *(Light the Candle)*

On this day, we remember the Spirit who breathes joy into our lives.

♠ Processional Hymn

#100 - "Joy To The World!"

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 \*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Opening Hymn

Christians often begin their services of worship with music. The opening hymn gives us an opportunity to raise our voices in song while worship servers and clergy process into the sanctuary following the cross. It allows us to enter into worship together as a community.

♠ The Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Collect for Purity

Christians have prayed this prayer for more than a thousand years. It is a prayer that orients our hearts and minds to God and prepares us for the praise and thanksgiving that is at the heart of our worship. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit we ask to be transformed so that our lives, our love, and all of our worship may reveal the glory of God and our love for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## The Collect of the Day

This prayer gathers together the scriptural themes of the readings and the season. The collect follows a consistent pattern: We address God, naming something about God's nature (i.e., Almighty God); we ask God to work in a particular area of human living; and we acknowledge that we ask all of these things in the name of Jesus.

## ✠The Collect for Purity

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## ✠The Gloria - *Traditional tune.*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## ✠The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

## *Celebrant*

**S**tir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## ✠The Collect for Shaped by Faith - *said by all*

**God of Wisdom and Love, in whom we find our joy: Help us to listen for your Word and to discern your way forward for our Church. Give us the insight to hold on to what is true, the courage to explore new ideas, and the boldness to create with you. Let us be Shaped by Faith for your mission; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Lessons

*The congregation may be seated for the readings.*

### First Lesson

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of the Zephaniah.

**S**ing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; 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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalter *A Song of Praise*

*Canticle 9 - Isaiah 12:2-6*

*Reader:* We will read the Canticle responsively.

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*

**and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*

**from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day you shall say, \*

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

**see that they remember that his Name is exalted.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*

**and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*

**for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## The Lessons

The next portion of the liturgy focuses on the readings of Holy Scripture that are appointed for the day. The readings have a thematic unity that ties together the message of the Old and New Testaments.

## The Psalter

The Psalter, or the Book of Psalms, is the great song book of the People of God. In Jewish and Christian worship these hymns or songs are ordinarily sung and many of them form the lyrics of hymns in our hymnals. At each celebration of Holy Eucharist we read one of the Psalms, or a portion of a Psalm, that is selected to reinforce the theme of the lessons for the day.

## The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Reader A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

**R**ejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## ♣ Gradual Hymn

#65 - "Prepare the Way, O Zion"



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

### Refrain



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

## ✠The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. ✠✠✠

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**J**ohn said 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? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev. Bradley Mattson

## The Gospel

We customarily stand and face the Gospel Book as the Gospel of the Lord is read. It is a sign that the Word of the Lord is living and we honor its presence among us.

## The Sermon

The purpose of the sermon is to help us understand the meaning of the word of God in Scripture and to make it real in our lives.



## The Nicene Creed

The Nicene Creed has been used by Christians of all traditions for over 1700 years and reminds us of the basics of our faith. The Creed is not a definition of Christianity, but briefly states the essentials of Christian teaching. We say it together to respond to the Word of God in the Scriptures and the sermon. We are saying in effect, "Yes! This is the faith that we believe and live!"

## ✠The Nicene Creed

*To be read in unison.*

**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 People

*The people kneel or stand as able. The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray especially for those we name out loud or silently in our hearts.

*Silence*

**Amen.**

*The Priest says*

Loving God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**

## The Prayers of the People

The prayers of the People follow the form of a litany, with the Leader offering petitions to God and the People responding or affirming the petition. These are the prayers of the entire community where we offer to God our concerns for the Church and the surrounding world. Prayers of the People always follow a particular order: prayers for the Universal Church, its mission and its members, for the Nation and all in authority, for the welfare of the world, for the concerns of the local community, for those who suffer or are in any trouble, for life's blessings, and for the departed.

*The Deacon says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**The Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

After the Prayers of the People, the Priest extends Christ's peace to the congregation and the congregation shares the peace with one another. The Peace is real and also symbolic. It is real because in the forgiveness of our sins we are restored to Christ's peace. It is also the way we remind ourselves that because we have received the gift of God's forgiveness we can and must be reconciled to one another.



✠ **The Peace**

*Deacon*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*             **And also with you.**

**The Offertory**

*The offering will be taken at this time.*

*Please take this time to make an offering to Hope Church:*

- 1. Online: <https://hopeepiscopal.breezechms.com/give/online> or scan the QR code in the margin of your bulletin*
- 2. Text: “[AMOUNT]” to (717) 999-5991 to make a donation to the General Fund. If it is your first time using text giving, a link will be sent by return text to complete the donation.*
- 3. Offering plate: cash or a check payable to “Hope Episcopal Church”. You may designate any ministry in the ‘memo’ line.*

*Thank you very much for your contribution to advance the mission of Hope Episcopal Church! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!*

Offertory Music

#115-"What Child Is This"

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

## The Holy Communion or Holy Eucharist

Eucharist means “thanksgiving.” This celebration of thanksgiving with its bread and wine is at the heart of the Christian faith. The Eucharist can also be called Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper, or the Mass. In Holy Eucharist Christians give thanks for the gift of salvation given to us in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ Jesus and the gift of new life that comes from it.

### Gathering Together for the Meal of Christ

**Offertory:** At the beginning of the Eucharist we offer gifts to God, which are really just a return of the gifts God has given us—bread and wine for the Lord’s Supper, our financial gifts, and our lives.

**Ablutions:** The Priest comes to the front of the altar and wash his or her hands. This symbolic washing cleanses the Priest on behalf of all of the People so that we might all come to the holy meal refreshed. It is a reference to Psalm 26:6-12 which starts, “I wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession around your altar.”

**Sursum Corda:** Literally, “we lift up our hearts.” Here in the *Sursum Corda* the People affirm that they have turned wholeheartedly to God.

**Sanctus:** Sanctus means “holy.” We sing this hymn that the angels and archangels sing in heaven as a reminder that our worship here is an echo of the heavenly worship of God (Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8).

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Doxology

*The congregation stands*

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

### ✠The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer 2*

*The people stand.*

### The Sursum Corda

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Altar, the Celebrant proceeds*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

### ✠Sanctus - Holy, Holy, Holy

*The people kneel or stand.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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.

### **Praise for the Work of God the Father**

Preface: The opening prayer of the Eucharist is a prayer of blessing, praising God and giving thanks for his mercy to us. This opening prayer of blessing ends with a section that refers to the death and resurrection of Christ and focuses our prayers for the remainder of the liturgy.

### **Praise for the Work of God the Son**

The next portion of the prayer of thanksgiving remembers the gift of salvation that came through Jesus Christ. It is followed by the Institution, the words of Jesus that explained the bread and the wine to His disciples at the Last Supper (Matthew 26:26-28).

### **Praise for the Work of God the Holy Spirit**

This prayer asks that the Holy Spirit be present and bless and sanctify the bread and wine so that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. It also asks for blessings on the People that we might be holy. At the end of the prayers the People say, "Amen" which means, "So be it," or "So it is."

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." ✠

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." ✠

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

## ✠The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**Notre Père..., Padre nuestro..., Vater unser...,**

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre;  
venga tu reino;  
hágase tu voluntad  
en la tierra como en el cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden.

No nos dejes caer en la tentación  
y líbranos del mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino,  
el poder y la gloria,  
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the people of God.

## Communion

*Communion is received at the altar rail. All are invited to receive communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.*

## The Prayer of Spiritual Reception of the Sacrament

*Lord Jesus Christ, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.*

## Music During Communion

## The Lord's Prayer

The last prayer of the Eucharist is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. The Priest and the People say it together (Matthew 6:9-13).

## Breaking of Bread

The Priest breaks the bread so that it might be shared among the People. It is seen as a symbol of the breaking of Christ's body on the cross and an invitation to each of us to enter into the life of Christ.

## The Communion

In 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17, St. Paul says, "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread". In receiving Communion week after week, Christians are sacramentally united with Christ in His life, death, and resurrection.



Post Communion Hymn #91 - "Break Forth, O Beauteous Holy Night"

Break forth, O beau - teous heaven - ly light, and ush - er in the  
morn - ing: O shep - herds, greet that glo - rious sight, our  
Lord a crib a - dorn - ing. This child, this lit - tle  
help - less boy, shall be our con - fi - dence and joy, the  
power of Sa - tan break - ing, our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

The musical score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

**Prayer after Communion**

In this prayer of thanksgiving for the gifts of grace we are given in the Communion we ask God to send us out into the world as ambassadors of the good news of the Gospel. It is important to remember that the gifts we have been given during worship are gifts given to us to share with all the world.

**The Thanksgiving**

*The congregation stands*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# ♣ The Blessing

## The Recessional

## #76 - "On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry"

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

# ♣ The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## Three-Fold Amen

## Postlude

## The Blessing & Dismissal

In the blessing and dismissal we are reminded that we carry the peace and love we have received from Christ into the world. We are challenged to live out the Gospel in our lives outside the walls of the church so that others may see and be drawn into new life in Christ.

The flowers on the Altar are given by Sandi Imboden in celebration of Stan's 65th Ordination to the Priesthood on December 16, 1959. He was ordained at St. Paul's, Manheim but at that time St. Paul's and Hope were yoked parishes so he was Rector of both at the same time.

#### **This Month's Birthdays:**

1st - Max Brown  
2nd - Anna Gail Fenn  
2nd - Patty Gokey  
4th - Braiden Keating  
5th - Charlie Geib  
5th - James Catigano  
9th - Missy Gebhard  
12th - Tia True  
15th - Yvonne Herbst  
16th - Janelle Weckerly  
16th - Jennifer Gruber  
19th - Jeff Gebhard  
23rd - Alessandra Fiore  
28th - Jimmy Harrington

#### **This Month's Anniversaries:**

17th - Dave & Amy Dissinger

If you'd like to sign up to provide lunch, there is a sign-up list on the whiteboard in the parish house. The entire year is listed on the sign-up pages. The last Sunday of the month is a Pot Luck, so plan to bring your favorite dish!

## *Worship Servers*

**December 15, 2024**

Ushers - Jeremy Brown, Steve Norton  
Lectors - Missy Gebhard (1st), Stephanie Seaman (Psalm), Steve Palmer (2nd)  
Prayers of the People - Damaris Perez  
Lay Eucharistic Minister - Bob Sims  
Altar Guild - Bob Sims  
Acolytes - J.D. Hynick, Keegan Brown

#### **Please remember in your prayers:**

Elizabeth Grace & the Mattson Family, John, Marian, Michael, Bob, Barbara, Angie, Katie, Jerry, Paul, Braiden, Diane, Nancy, Judith, Lydia, Jeff, Lester, Susan, Beth Ann, Mose, Ed, Daphne, Peg, Stephanie, Bertha, Janice, Lily, Carol, Steve, Lori, Patrick, the Solis Family, the Leibley Family, Betsy, Bud Dissinger, Emily Garber and family, and our Grief Share, Creation Care, Outreach, Property and Yarn Ministries.

Those suffering from all illnesses and those who caring for them;

Those impacted by natural disasters and violence;

The People of Ukraine and all those supporting them;

Those living in nursing homes, group homes, and prisons;

The People of the Diocese of Navajoland and all indigenous peoples;

Those serving in the military;

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Trinity Episcopal Church, Jersey Shore  
Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

*To add people to our Parish Prayer List, including those in the military please call the church office so they can be added to our prayer list.*

#### **Copyright Information:**

*The liturgy in this worship bulletin is taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979 according to the use of The Episcopal Church, ©The Church Hymnal Corporation, New York. Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907),*

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come, #100 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).*

*Prepare the way, O Zion, #65 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Copyright © 1982, Charles P Price. Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697; harm. Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan, 1939, alt.*

*Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, #91 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Johann Rist (1607-1667); ver. Hymnal 1982. Music: Ermuntre dich, melody Johann Schop (d. 1665?), alt.; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).*

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry, #76 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: Winchester New, melody from Musicalishes Hand-Buch, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.*



## *A Jubilee Parish*

A parish of The Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania  
The Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop, Episcopal  
Church in the United States of America  
The Right Rev. Audrey Cady Scanlan, Bishop of Central Pennsylvania

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### **Worship at Hope Church**

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist and live-streamed on YouTube.

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### **Our Clergy and Staff**

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector	<a href="mailto:bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org">bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
The Rev'd Nancy Leshner, Deacon	<a href="mailto:nlesher@hopeepiscopal.org">nlesher@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
Katie Brown, Parish Administrator	<a href="mailto:office@hopeepiscopal.org">office@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
Gail Edgell, Principal Organist	<a href="mailto:music@hopeepiscopal.org">music@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
Terry Heisey, Adjunct Organist	
Doug Beach, Adjunct Organist	
Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden	<a href="mailto:srwarden@hopeepiscopal.org">srwarden@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden	<a href="mailto:jrwarden@hopeepiscopal.org">jrwarden@hopeepiscopal.org</a>
Gwen Norton, Sexton	
Bob Sims, Verger	
J.D. Hynick, Jr. Verger	

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### **Our Vestry & Parish Officers**

Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden; Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden; Gail Edgell, Secretary; tbd, Treasurer;  
Tom Brown, Steve Palmer, Steve Norton, Brandon Peach  
Mary Sims, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jo Steffy, *Delegate to Convention*

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### **Supporting Volunteer Staff**

Lynette Brown, *Altar Guild*; Nancy Wesley, *Card Ministry*; Bob Sims, *Cemetery*; Janelle Weckerly, *Special Events*;  
Lucy Longo, *Finance Committee*; Kathleen Peach, *Outreach Committee*; Jeremy Brown, *Property Committee*  
tbd, *Creation Care Committee*; Gail Edgell, *Garden of Hope*, Stephanie Seaman, *Livestream Coordinator*

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### **Visit Us Online and In Person**

[www.hopeepiscopal.org](http://www.hopeepiscopal.org)                      [office@hopeepiscopal.org](mailto:office@hopeepiscopal.org)

**Facebook | YouTube**

In case of a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Bradley Lodge Mattson  
Mobile: 215-869-4781 Email: [bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org](mailto:bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org)  
**2425 Mountain Road    Manheim, PA 17545    717-665-6311**