

*Prayer After Communion:

Pastor: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **C: Amen.**

*The Benediction

Pastor: The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, +bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **C: Amen.**

*Recessional Hymn:

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

LBW 54

*Dismissal

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to God's people on earth!

Pastor: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please keep the following in your prayers:
Dave Lamar Carolyn Pinos Emma Rosman
Cheryl Sherbine Keith Sherbine

Today, Jack Seymour, an authorized lay worship leader in the Allegheny Synod ELCA, will distribute the gifts of bread and wine.

Sunday School will resume next Sunday, following church service.

Christmas decorations will be taken today. Social hour to follow. Thank you all for your help.

Next social hour will be following church on Sunday, February 1. If you would like to bring something, please sign up on the sheet posted on the door in the Narthex. Thank you.

Next Council meeting will be on Monday, January 5th, at 6:30 pm.

Annual Congregational Meeting, January 18, 2026.

If anyone in need of Pastoral care, please call the Allegheny Synod Office, at (814) 942-1042 to make needed arrangements.

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Worship Sunday at 9:00 am

First Sunday of Christmas January 4, 2026



Communion Hospitality

Lutheran Christians believe Christ is truly present in his supper. By faith we receive his Body and Blood "in, with, and under" the forms: of bread and wine for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. All baptized Christians who desire to receive Jesus in his sacrament, are welcome to commune.

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth..

THE HOLY COMMUNION
Setting I

Parish Announcements

Prelude

*= Stand (The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

*Announcements:

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel as you are able.

Pastor: Reconciling God, we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

Pastor: God's grace upon grace flows over you. +Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!. **Amen.**

***Entrance Hymn:** **Angels We Have Heard on High** **LBW 71**

***Pastor:** 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.**

***Kyrie** **p. 57**

***Hymn of Praise: This is the feast ...** **p. 60**

***Prayer of the Day:** **Pastor:** The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14 **L: The word of the Lord** **C: Thanks be to God**
Psalm 147:12-20 **(Read Responsively)**

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14 **L: The word of the Lord** **C: Thanks be to God**

***The Verse** **p. 62**

***Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23** **C: Glory to you O Lord**

C: Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day** **Of the Father's Love Begotten** **LWB 42**

***Nicene Creed**

***Prayers of the Church**

Pastor: **Hear us, O God** **C: Your mercy is great.**

***Passing of Peace** **Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**
The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord; and then be seated.

Offering **The offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.**

***Offertory** **"Let the Vineyards"**

p. 66

***Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **C: Amen.**

Liturgy of Holy Communion

***Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus**

p. 68

*When our congregation gathered for worship, we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown to us in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, and shared in the holy meal of the Lord's Supper. Now, I bring to you this same word of life, and this same bread and cup of blessing, so that we may share in these gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Gathered at the Lord's Table, we celebrated with thanksgiving that "in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, he 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 to for all to drink saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.' This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with the assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are now given here for you.

***The Lord's Prayer** Sung to "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

***Invitation to Communion:**

Pastor: God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

***Agnes Dei** **"Lamb of God"**

p. 72

As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:
"The body of Christ, given for you.' & 'The blood of Christ, shed for you.'
After each, the communicant may say: 'Amen.'

Distribution by Intinction

Communion Hymn: **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

LWB 44

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