

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 118 State Street ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

PHONE AND INTERNET INFORMATION

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 November 27, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Descend Celestial Dove* Michael Shea
 GATHERING HYMN
Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending ELW 435
 HYMN OF THE DAY
Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah ELW 240
 CHOIR ANTHEM *Long Expected Lord* Marc Jordan
 COMMUNION HYMN
Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW 512
 POST-COMMUNION HYMN
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness ELW 488 vs. 1
 SENDING HYMN *People, Look East* ELW 248
 POSTLUDE *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*
 Arr. by Franklin Ritter

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister The Reverend Larry Hawkins
 Director of Music Daniel W. Deitzel III
 Assisting Minister Wayne Noss
 Cantor Lindsay Mills
 Eucharistic Minister Ken Umbenhauer
 Acolyte Louise Palmer
 Lector Bob Gerberich
 Greeters Lloyd and Shirley Kramer
 Ushers Clair Gunnet and Dick Miller
 Altar Guild Ron Hartzell and Doug Kakuk
 Offering Counters Maria Archer and Wayne Noss



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

Creator of the world, you are the potter, we are the clay, and you form us in your image. Shape our spirits by Christ's transforming power, that as one people we may live out your compassion and justice, whole and sound in the realm of your peace. Amen.

Great and good shepherd, you are enthroned in glory, yet you care for and lead us tenderly. Help us to be ever alert and watchful, recognizing how we encounter you, Jesus, in the midst of everything we do. Open our eyes and quicken our spirits so that we will not neglect to finish the work you have given us. May we always live ready to welcome your return. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Persons with impairments - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

As part of our stewardship of the earth God has created for us, we are using our worship bulletins for a complete season of the church year. Please remove the worship service section and place it in the basket provided in the narthex. You may take this cover and the readings insert. Thank you for helping to conserve our natural resources and allowing the cost of paper to be redirected to other areas of ministry.

An enlarged copy of the bulletin is available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

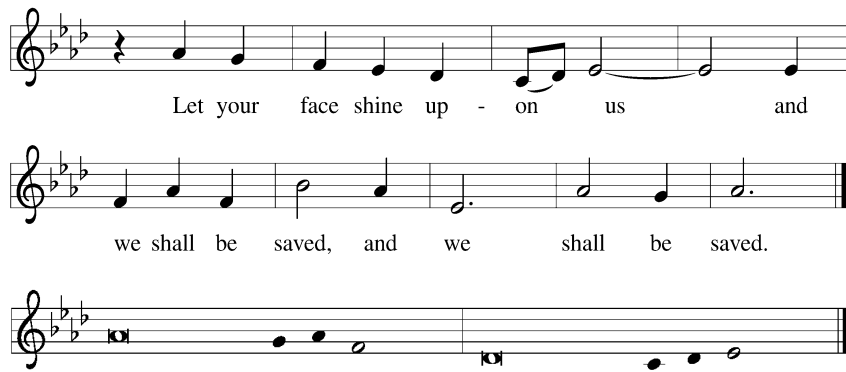
Alleluia. Show us your steadfast ¹love, O LORD,* and grant us ¹your salvation. Alleluia. (Ps. 85:7)

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:25-33

²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung antiphonally by the cantor and assembly, beginning with the cantor. The assembly sings the refrain where marked.



- ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph [|] like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- [|] on the cherubim.
- ²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, [|] and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and [|] come to help us.
- ³Restore [|] us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.
- ⁴**O LORD [|] God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your [|] people pray? R
- ⁵You have fed them with the [|] bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of [|] tears to drink.
- ⁶**You have made us the derision [|] of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh [|] us to scorn.
- ⁷Restore us, O [|] God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.
- ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at [|] your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong [|] for yourself. R
- ¹⁸And so will we never turn a- [|] way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- [|] on your name.
- ¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD [|] God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved. R

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Annual Committee Reports Due	Today
Christmas Wreath Orders Due	Today
Helping Hands	Today at 4:00 p.m.
Advent Evening Prayer	Today at 5:00 p.m.
Office Closed	Monday
Candy Making	Monday at 8:30 a.m.
Office Opened	Tuesday
Candy Making	Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.
Helping Hands	Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
Midweek Dinner and Evening Prayer	Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
Girl Scout Meeting	Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
Christmas Wreath Pick Up	Saturday at 9:00 a.m.
Deadline to order poinsettias	Saturday 10:00 a.m.—noon
Helping Hands	Next Sunday
Advent Evening Prayer	Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.
	Next Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Readings for the *Second Sunday of Advent, December 4*, are:

- Isaiah 40:1-11
- Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13
- 2 Peter 3:8-15a
- Mark 4:37-41

By water and the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ and made members of his church. We remember and rejoice with Jordan Labrana who celebrates his baptismal anniversary on November 30.

‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in’ ... ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Matt 25:35, 40 New International Version) One way to fulfill what Jesus calls us to do, is simply having our doors open for Helping Hands Ministries every Sunday and Wednesday afternoon from 4:00 – 6:00 as a hot meal is served to “the homeless, the downtrodden, and other needy people.” Two members are asked to be present. To volunteer, place your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please speak with Mike Ennis or Lindsay Mills if you have any questions or concerns regarding this congregational ministry. Thank you.

Committee Chairs—2011 Annual Reports are due in the office today. The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 11.

Order forms for Christmas Patties and poinsettias and wreaths to decorate the church are available on the tables in the narthex, and, on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Place your orders before the deadlines.

2012 Sponsorship Charts for Altar Flowers, Bulletins, and Fellowship Hour are on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Sign up now to get the dates you want.

The Advent Tree is sponsored in memory of mother, Beverly McIntosh by Tim and Tina Morgan. Copies of *The Legend of the Advent Tree* are available on the tables in the narthex.

A contribution has been made to the altar flower fund to the Glory of God and in honor of their wedding anniversary by Kevin and Sylvia Hepler.

Bulletins are sponsored to the Glory of God and in honor of Floyd's birthday by Nancy Eberly.

Fellowship hour is sponsored to the Glory of God by the Fellowship Committee.

If you have anyone you would like to have remembered in prayer, please tell Pastor Hawkins, or contact the church office at 234-0092 or churchoffice@stmikehbg.com. Names will be listed in the bulletin for four weeks unless requested otherwise.

We remember the following members and friends of St. Michael in prayer this week: Pat Harm and Diana Pate.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 27, 2011

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil —
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.\