

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

PHONE AND INTERNET INFORMATION

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 December 4, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Theme from the Unfinished Symphony*
 Franz Schubert
 GATHERING HYMN *Prepare the Royal Highway* ELW 264
 HYMN OF THE DAY
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry ELW 249
 CHOIR ANTHEM *Where is the Savior* John Purifoy
 COMMUNION HYMN
There's a Voice in the Wilderness ELW 255
 POST-COMMUNION HYMN
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness ELW 488 vs. 2
 SENDING HYMN *The King Shall Come* ELW 260
 POSTLUDE *Prepare the Way, O Zion* David Paxton

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister	The Reverend Larry Hawkins
Director of Music	Daniel W. Deitzel III
Assisting Minister	Guy Kehler
Cantor	Kevin Hepler
Eucharistic Minister	Ken Umbenhauer
Acolyte	Will Hawkins
Lector	Karyl Hawkins
Greeters	Sue McDonald and Chris Persson
Ushers	Lisa Kratzer and Dan Tosheff
Altar Guild	John and Susan Wesley
Offering Counters	Mike Ennis and Sue McDonald



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

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

God of hope, you call us from the exile of our sin with the good news of restoration; you build a highway through the wilderness; you come to us and bring us home. Comfort us with the expectation of your saving power, made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, your words are words of comfort and peace to all who turn to you and trust in you. We admit that we are often more quick to stand in awe of the powers of the world that we can see than we are of your Word. Help us to recognize your power, not in fear but in faith. Open our eyes and our lives to what your power can achieve in us. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

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

2 PETER 3:8-15A

⁸But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Prepare the way ¹ of the Lord.*

All flesh shall see the salva- ¹ tion of God. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)

GOSPEL

MARK 4:37-41

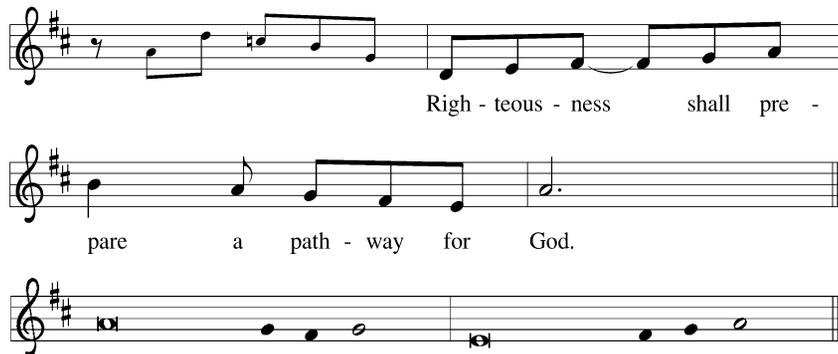
³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.\

PSALM

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

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.



- ¹You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD;
you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.
- ²**You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people
and blotted out | all their sins.**
- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
- ⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land. R**
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
- ¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**
- ¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.
- ¹³**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. R**

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Deadline to order poinsettias	Today
Helping Hands	Today at 4:00 p.m.
Advent Evening Prayer	Today at 5:00 p.m.
Candy Making	Monday at 8:30 a.m.
Interfaith Alliance	Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Candy Making	Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.
Worship and Music Committee	Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Candy Making	Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
Helping Hands	Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
Midweek Dinner and Evening Prayer	Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
Deadline for Worship Assistant Requests	Saturday
Deadline to Order Christmas Candy	Next Sunday
Annual Congregational Meeting	Next Sunday at 11:15 a.m.
Helping Hands	Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.
Advent Evening Prayer	Next Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Readings for the *Third Sunday of Advent, December 11*, are:

- Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
- Psalm 126
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- John 1:6-8, 19-28

By water and the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ and made members of his church. We remember and rejoice with Michael Winegar who celebrates his baptismal anniversary on December 6.

‘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.

The Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon will take place next Sunday, December 11, beginning at 11:15 a.m. Annual Reports are available in the lower narthex. Plan to attend this important meeting to review 2011 and approve the budget for 2012. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

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. The deadline for poinsettias and wreaths is today; the deadline for Christmas Patties is next Sunday.

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 by Susan Will.

Bulletins are sponsored to the Glory of God by Bob Gerberich.

Fellowship hour is sponsored to the Glory of God by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson.

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2011

ISAIAH 40:1-11

FIRST READING

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;