

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

The Rev. Douglas M. Heagy	Pastor
The Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull	Pastor
Mr. Jack Delk	Vicar
Mr. Marvin J. Huls	Director of Music

CHRISTMAS EVE, 2009, 11:00 P.M.
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Preludes Silent Prayer

Processional Hymn # 283
 “*Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*”

The Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R/ AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Hymn of Praise “*Angels We Have Heard on High*”
(verses 1,2) # 289

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **R/ AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

The Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

The Sermon

Hymn “*Joy to the World*” # 267

Nicene Creed

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified,
who 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 Church **R/ Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Offering

Offertory Anthem “Were You There?”
“Come Join the Angels” Choir

Offertory Response
“Angels We Have Heard on High” (verse 3) # 289

The Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

R/ AND ALSO WITH YOU.

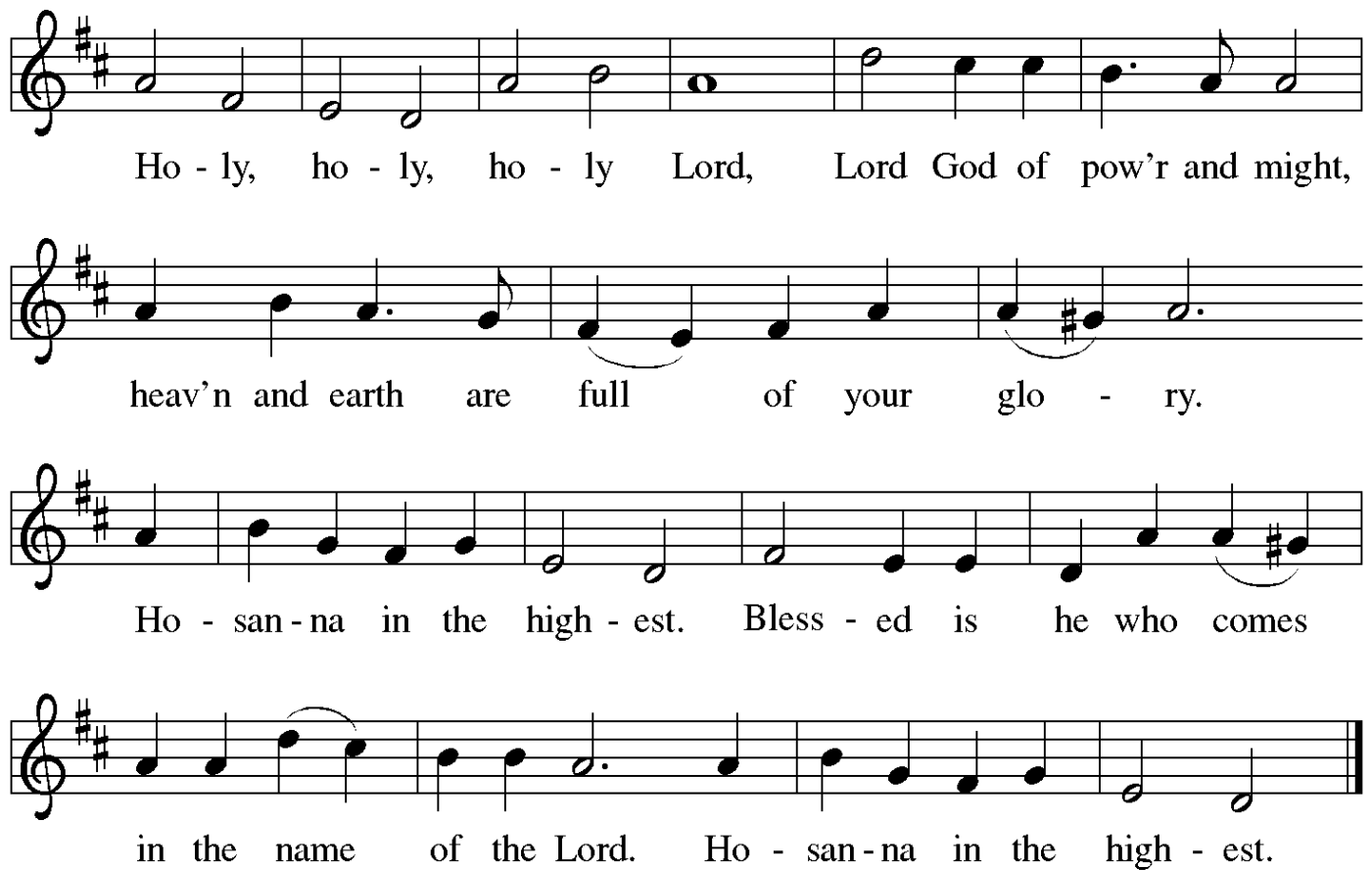
Lift up your hearts.

R/ WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R/ IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND
PRAISE.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

COMMUNION

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Prayer after Communion

The Candlelight Ceremony *(The ushers will direct the lighting of the candles beginning from the center aisle.)*

The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light: **those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them has light shined.**

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy:
They rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; **and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Candlelight Hymn “Silent Night, Holy Night!” # 281

Benediction

Recessional Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” # 270

The Organ Postlude

IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY CHILD, WELCOME! We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church home, we would be happy to welcome you into our church community.

ALL BAPTIZED worshipers who confess the presence of Christ in Holy Communion are invited to commune. Children are encouraged to come forward for a blessing.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of Dr. William Keck, Marie Turner, Leonard, George, Helen and Mary Alice Keck by the Keck family.

THE ACOLYTES are Jonny Heagy and Nick Silvis.

THE CRUCIFER is Jeremy Delk.

TORCH BEARERS are Nicole Bradley and Hannah Heagy.

THE LECTOR is Vicar Jack Delk.

COMMUNION ASSISTANT is Rebecca Brunetta.

THANKS to Denise Frisko for her ministry of music tonight.

GREETERS are Pastor Marleen - north door, Pastor Doug - center, Vicar Jack - choir door.

POINSETTIAS may be taken home following worship. The altar poinsettias are to remain for next Sunday's worship services.

THE BALCONY AND THE SOUTH DOOR are closed for worship tonight and will be closed for the next few weeks as scaffolding is in place for plastering and painting work in the narthex.

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL will **NOT** meet Sun., Dec. 27.

THE STAFF at First Lutheran – Pastor Marleen, Pastor Doug, Vicar Jack, Dennis Hall, Marvin Huls, Joanie Knobloch, Patti Sias, Barb Kruszyinsky, Cindy Wygonik, and Jean Miller - extends hearty best wishes and our prayers for each of you to have a blessed and joyous Christmas Day and season.

Dig a Well with Water to Thrive

Water Facts – Christmas Eve 2009

Did you know?

- 2 billion people around the world do not have access to clean water.
- The water crisis claims more lives through disease than any war claims through guns.
- In these water-needy communities, the average person uses as little as one gallon of water per day. This includes drinking, cooking and cleaning.
- The daily water requirement for basic healthy living is 13 gallons.
- The average American uses 75-150 gallons of water per day.
- An American taking a five-minute shower uses more water than the typical person in these countries uses in a whole day.
- Lack of access to clean water means basic sanitation does not happen. Most people in developing country have never bathed, except in dirty lakes and streams.
- 1.4 million children die every year as a result of diarrhea.
- It's estimated clean water and proper handwashing would decrease child diarrhea-related deaths by two-thirds.
- Women and children spends hours each day collecting water from distant, often polluted sources.



How Can I Get Involved?

- During this year, FLY is sponsoring a fundraising drive, challenging this congregation to give \$3500 to dig a water well for a village in rural Ethiopia.
- We already have approximately \$400 towards the well! Thanks to everyone who donated! The amount of support we have gotten so far is wonderful! Every donation counts! Stay tuned for church events that will benefit this project.

Contact Hannah Heagy with questions or visit

www.watertothrive.org.

- Join us. Dig deep. And transform lives through the simple and necessary gift of water.