

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, 7:30 P.M. **NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

Preludes Silent
Prayer

Hymn **# 283** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Apostolic Greeting **R/ AND ALSO WITH YOU**

The Christmas Prayer

The Introduction and Prayer

First Lesson Genesis 3:8-20

God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve’s punishment for their rebellion.

Hymn **# 254** “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Second Lesson Genesis 12:1-3

God promises to Abraham that all nations of the earth shall obtain a blessing through his descendants.

Hymn **# 267** “Joy to the World” (vs. 1&2)

Third Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

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

Fourth Lesson Micah 5:2-5a

The king will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.

Hymn # 288 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised son.

Hymn # 289 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (vs. 1&2)

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:1-7

In a time of emperors with a concern for taxes, Jesus is born.

Hymn # 296 "What Child Is This?" (vs. 1&2)

Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

Hymn # 290 "Go Tell It on the Mountain" (vs. 1&2)

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus.

Hymn # 300 "The First Noel" (vs. 1,2,&3)

Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Children's Story

Hymn # 279 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs. 1 &2)

The Offering

Responsive Prayer

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary, You share our humanity.

Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God, You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

The Candlelighting Ceremony (Please stand)

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.**

The Candlelight Hymn **# 281** “Silent Night”

The Benediction

ACOLYTES are Chelsey Hargis and Caitlin Hargis.

LECTORS are Julia Gogol, Emma Delisi, Caitlin Hargis, Hannah Heagy, Rachel Peters, Jonny Heagy, Abigail Delk, Chelsey Hargis, and Dylan Leone.

THANKS TO INSTRUMENTAL SOLOISTS, Emma Delisi, Julia Gogol, Hannah Heagy, Deanna DiRado, Nicole Bradley, and Shelby Erdman.

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.

THE STAFF at First Lutheran – Pastor Doug, Pastor Marleen, Vicar Jack, Dennis Hall, Marvin Huls, Joanie Knobloch, Patti Sias, Barb Krunszyinksy, 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.