

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
724-834-1457
www.felchurch.org

Rev. Douglas M. Heagy

Pastor

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull

Pastor

Mr. Jack Delk

Vicar

Mr. Marvin J. Huls

Director of Music

WELCOME to First Lutheran Church! 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. If you are interested in joining with the First Family, call the church office...and please worship with us again.

ALL BAPTIZED worshipers who confess the presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion are invited to commune. Children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Communicants please complete a communion card.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS providing activities based on today's scripture readings are available in the narthex.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS containing soft Biblical figures and coloring books are available for young children to use during worship. Speak to an usher if your child is interested.

A STAFFED NURSERY (available at 10:45 worship) is located on the second floor of the education building.

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 27, 2009

8:15 AM and 10:45 AM

The beginning of the organ prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

GATHERING

Preludes and Silent Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

The assembly kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.

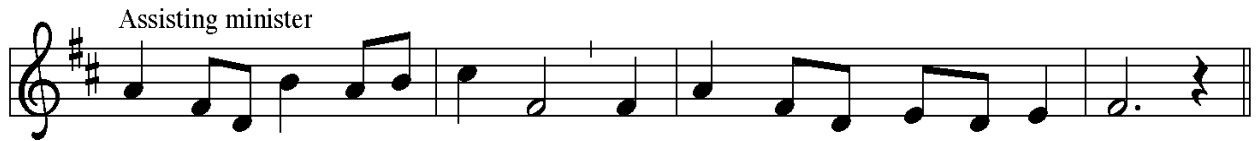
Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

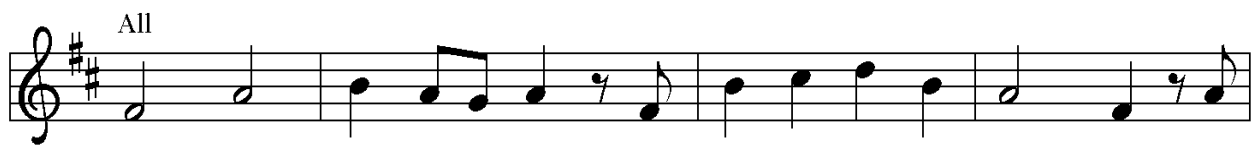
Greeting

The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Prayer of the Day (Celebrate insert)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray...**Amen.**

WORD

First Reading 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 (Celebrate insert)

R/Thanks be to God!

Psalms 148 (Celebrate insert)

(Read responsively)

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17 (Celebrate insert)

R/Thanks be to God!

Gospel Luke 2:41-52

R/ Glory to you, O Lord. R/ Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon *"Going to the Temple"*

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.**

Prayers of the Church (Celebrate insert)

The Peace

THE MEAL

Offering

Doxology

884

Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

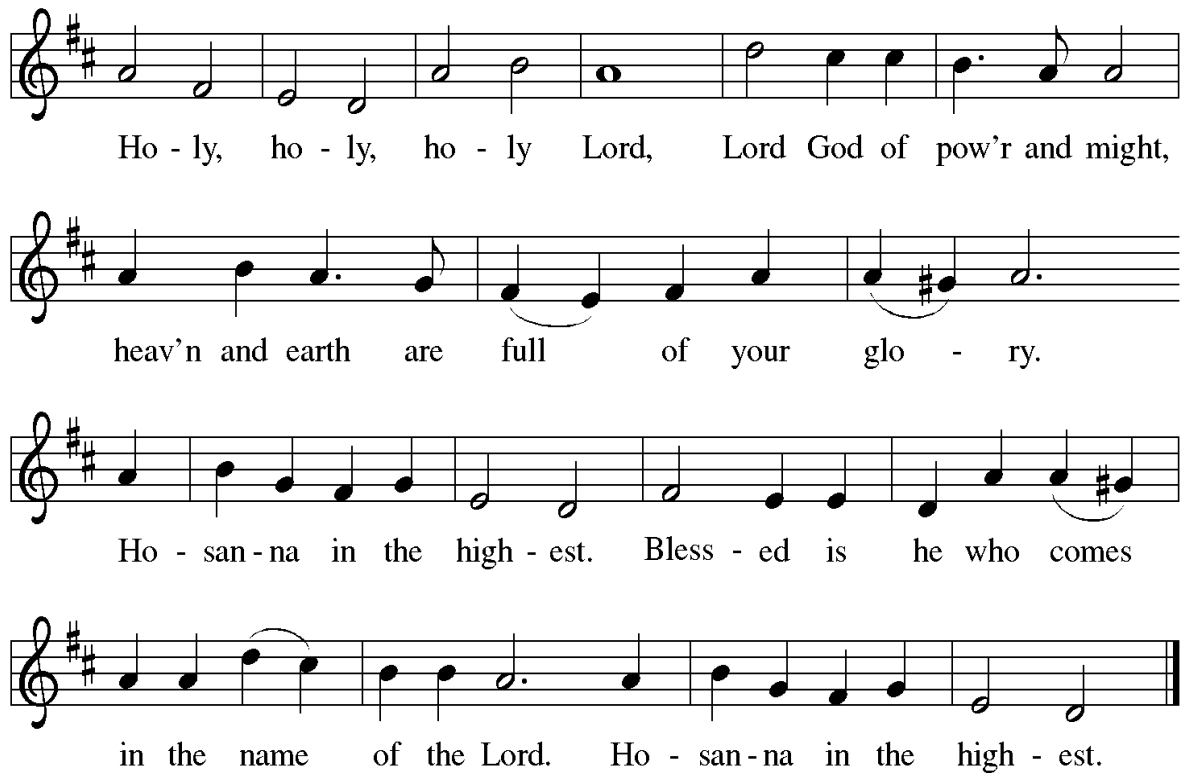
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 and preserve you in eternal life. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and
forever. **Amen.**

HYMN “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

290

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

IN THE TIME BEFORE WORSHIP TODAY, the congregation is encouraged to read each introduction to the scripture readings in preparation for the hearing of God's word.

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

ACOLYTES are Lauren Nicassio, Julia Gogol, and Mary Warren.

THE NURSERY is in the care of Marsha Danilko and Ian Darragh. Children under the age of 4 are welcome.

LECTORS are Kim Nicassio and Sunshine Keiser.

GREETERS are at 8:15 Pastor Doug - north door, Pastor Marleen - center, at 10:45 Pastor Doug - north door, Pastor Marleen – center.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS are Dave Cobb and Gwen Irwin.

WE THANK Jeanne Suehr for ministry of music this morning.

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

THE CONGREGATION is reminded to respect the concerns of members who cannot shake hands during the flu season when we share the peace in worship. A verbal greeting of peace can serve as a substitute.

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL will NOT meet today.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST is not available this morning but will resume next Sunday.

FOOD FROM THE HEART, our weekday luncheon ministry, continues this Wednesday at noon.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will close at noon on December 31.

OUR MISSION VOLUNTEERS thank all of those who made contributions for building supplies in Mississippi. Anyone who would like to make a contribution, please use a gold pew envelope and mark it as such. Your gifts are greatly appreciated by our team and those people in Gulfport, Mississippi whom we are serving. Our volunteers will be commissioned this morning. They depart next Sunday morning – we wish them Godspeed!

THE “TREASURER’S BOOKS” will close with today’s offerings and deposit. Offerings received after that date will not be deposited until January and recorded as 2010 offerings. Your generous year end gifting is needed if we are to meet our ministry goals.

BIBLE BOWL competition this year is based on the book of I Samuel. Interested youth in grades 7 – 12 (parents welcome, too) will meet briefly on Jan. 3 to assign teams and readings, and then begin studying on Jan. 10. Please use the sign up sheet on the foyer bulletin board if you wish to participate.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2010 are available in the fellowship hall. Envelopes will NOT be mailed this year, so please help us by taking envelopes to a neighbor or family member.

IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS HOSPITALIZED please notify the pastors or call the church office. Due to the new HIPA rules, the hospital does not always notify us of members’ admissions.

PLEASE KEEP John Zuzarate, serving in Germany, in your prayers.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE last Sunday was 181. .