

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

Service of Holy Communion

Name of Jesus

January 1, 2023

10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Sweet Little Jesus Sleeping Safely"

- Stefan Surzynski

"Once He Came in Blessing"

- Heinrich Buttstedt / Paul Manz

"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

- Byron Adams

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

GATHERING HYMN

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

Red Book #287

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

sts. 1 and 2

Red Book #275

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING **Numbers 6:22-27**

God commanded Aaron to say these words, known as the Aaronic benediction, in blessing the people of Israel. We too are marked with God's name and God's blessing as we are sent from our assemblies into the world.

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8 *read responsively*

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth! —

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING Galatians 4:4-7

Paul proclaims the ultimate significance of the nativity: Jesus was born the Son of God so that, because of him, we all may be God's children.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory" sts. 3 and 4 Red Book #275

GOSPEL Luke 2:15-21

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Eight days after his birth, Jesus is circumcised according to Jewish law and given the name announced by the angel before his conception.

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that

has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love has Come”

Red Book #292

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 INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we
pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you have given the church the holy name of Jesus, and in him
we are your beloved children. Unite us in mission through the power of
his Spirit. Make us worthy of the name we bear, the name in which we
pray. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, reconcile the nations. Lead those in conflict into
negotiation, especially in areas of religious or ethnic strife. We remember
especially the people of the Holy Land. End acts of oppression and
violence carried out in your name. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Delivering God, rescue those in any danger, especially most at risk in the winter cold. Move those in authority to respond with speed and compassion. We pray for the safety of first responders, health care workers, and all who protect us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, deepen our care and concern for one another, as we lift up to you those who are sick, those who are grieving, and those who are going through tough transitions in relationships or work. We name especially those people and situations most on our minds.... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Redeeming God, at the start of this new year, we remember that you always make all things new. We ask you for your help in renewing this congregation. Give us passion and creativity for sharing Jesus' love and for serving Jesus as he comes to us in neighbors and strangers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Saving God, we thank you for those who have died and who now rest in your undying love. By your Son's new birth from the grave, bring us with them to glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

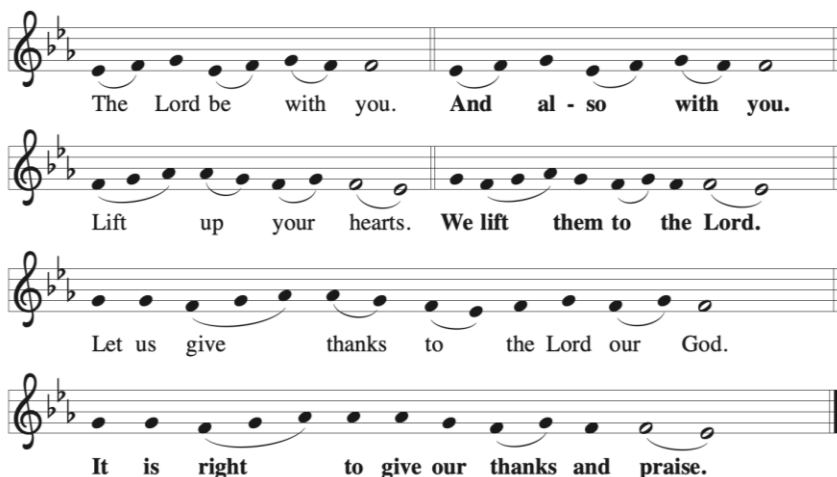
ORGAN OFFERTORY

"We Three Kings"

- Wilbur Held

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

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....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

We thank you, O God,
At the beginning your Word created light,
And made us and all that exists.
By your Word, you chose a people, Israel, for yourself.
You set them free from slavery in Egypt,
And spoke to them by the prophets.
By your word you lead us into wisdom and create faith in our hearts.
We thank you, O God, for speaking.
We praise you, O God, for your Word.

We thank you, O God,
For sending your Son, Jesus to be born like us,
In a city called Bethlehem,
which means "house of bread."
We thank you that his bed was a manger,
Where animals found their food.
Now crucified and risen, he is for us the bread of life.
We thank you, O God, for feeding us.
We praise you, O God, for bread.

On the night, when he was betrayed,
He took bread, gave thanks, and broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Take, eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying,
"This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
As often as you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Great, therefore, is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God,

as we take this bread and cup,
we remember him in the manger;
we remember him on the cross;
we remember him rising from the dead;
we look forward to his coming again!
Come again, Lord Jesus!
Come, Lord Jesus!

We pray for your Spirit,
Who leads us in love and service.
Make our city a house of bread, where no one is hungry.
Make our homes into mangers, filled with forgiveness and love.
Make us one with your people around the world and throughout time,
That we may be one with you in the communion of saints.

Come to us, Holy Spirit!
Come, Holy Spirit!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in unity with the Holy Spirit,
we praise you O God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

United as one family and with one voice, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here with bread and wine is the Word made flesh. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“Away in a Manger”

Red Book #277

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child, and Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“The First Noel”

Red Book #300

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

- Setting, J. Wayne Kerr

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Mollie Hibbs	Assisting Minister
Jeanne Graff	Reader
Evan Stein	Crucifer
Emily Stein	Acolyte
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Josh Kameron	AV Assisting Minister
Melody Kameron	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Carle Devore, Susan Farrell, and Jan Nieto	Ushers
Bob and Karen Domanski	Counters

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 1/2	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wednesday, 1/4	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 1/5	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Friday, 1/6		<i>Pastor Kimberly's day off</i>
Saturday, 1/7	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sunday, 1/8	9:00 AM	Bible Study (Pastor's office)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder: Please send the photo that you would like to include in the new church directory to officefelc@zoominternet.net. (*preferred file types include: .jpeg; .tiff; .png*) If you have any changes to your contact information that you have not yet communicated to the church office, please send those updates along with your photo. Thank you!

Support First English's ministry: In thanksgiving to God, financial contributions to the congregation can be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the worship space or made online at www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving.

PRAYERS

Janice Krause; Vonnie Baker; Shirley Mould; Dave Adams; Tracy Steadman; family of Paul Throm; Jim Cunningham; Gracie Love; Thelma Hassler; family of David Hartle; family of Chris Holman; family of Hazel Warheit; 6-month-old baby girl in Ohio; Jack Beiler; Karen Knepp; Zachary Sutton; Tony Sequite; Kyle Badger; Joyce Mitchel (Matt Cooper's grandma); those affected by hurricane Ian; Brian Salisbury; Mark Vogel & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Stan Graff; Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; Holly Schubert; Ellen Dodge; Tad Sellers; Claudia; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 42:1-9

The servant of the LORD brings justice

Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (*Ps. 29:3*)

Acts 10:34-43

Jesus' ministry after his baptism

Matthew 3:13-17

Revelation of Christ as God's servant

ZOOM MEETING INFO

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email.

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

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