



# Silver Spring Presbyterian Church

(717) 766-0204    www.silverspring.org

Sunday, December 7, 2025

*Second Sunday of Advent, 9:00 am*

**Please silence your cell phone.**

## GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

+WELCOME

Austin Shoop

MUSIC FOR ADORATION

“Gesu Bambino”

arr. Thompson

Tracy Wieseman - piano / Erica Ickes - organ

+\*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Jason, Ashley, Matthew, James, Kate Ringquist

L: A voice cries out in the wilderness,

P: “Prepare the way of the Lord!”

L: A choir sings in the silence,

P: “Come, o come, Emmanuel!”

L: Every valley shall be filled, and every heart made whole.

P: For peace is stronger than turmoil, and love is louder than fear.

L: As we light our second Advent candle, we pray for the holy peace of God.

P: Come now, O holy child of Mary.

L: Come now, O Prince of Peace!

ALL: Let us worship God!

+\*HYMN #265

“Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Bill Resser

God of Grace and Mercy, you promise that Christ is coming and your Kingdom is drawing near, but we confess we are not prepared. We doubt your promises and scoff at those who eagerly await Jesus' return. We resist your call to repentance and refuse to change our hearts. In your mercy, Lord, forgive us. Give us new hearts. Conform our will to your will, so that we might live in the way that Jesus showed us and be ready to receive him and his Kingdom. In his name, we pray.

*(Continue in Silent Reflection and Confession)*

\*HYMN # 551

“Kyrie”

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Bill Resser

L: The Lord is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds. He upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

+\*RESPONSE TO PARDON, #88

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

+\* PASSING THE PEACE

Bill Resser

L: Now, as those who know God’s peace in Jesus Christ, let us share his peace with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!

## PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Austin Shoop

FIRST READING

Malachi 4:1-6

Bill Resser

SECOND READING

Matthew 3:1-14

Rev. Dr. Don Wahlig

SERMON

“A Pregnant Pause”

Rev. Dr. Wahlig

ANTHEM

“Bethlehem Wind”

Martin

Sanctuary Choir / Cassidy Ickes - flute

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

*...and for all who call on his name, in every language, across every land.*

# Communion Setting

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Preface

Mark A. Miller

Leader: People: Leader:

Voice The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your

11 People: Leader:  
Vo. hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. - Let us give thanks to the

19 People:  
Vo. Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

## Sanctus

by Mark A. Miller

Voice Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of power and might.

9 Vo. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

17 Vo. san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high -

23 Vo. est! Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

32 Vo. Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the


38 Vo. high - est!


## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*...Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.  
Great is the mystery of faith:*

## Memorial Acclamation

by Mark A. Miller

Voice   
Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain. Ho -

Vo.   
san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho san - na in the high - est!

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS


CLOSING PRAYER

*...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever.*

## Great Amen

by Mark A. Miller

Voice   
A - men. A - men. A - men. Ho - san - na in the

Vo.   
high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Rev. Dr. Wahlig

\*Doxology, Hymnal #606 "Doxology"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## SENDING IN THE SPIRIT

\*HYMN #96

["On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"](#)

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Wahlig

\*MUSICAL RESPONSE #541, v.1

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

\*POSTLUDE

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

arr. Manz

\*Please rise in body and/or spirit

+Latecomers will be seated

Hearing-assist devices are located at each entrance of the Meeting House.

To assist those who for some reason must leave the sanctuary during the worship service, a video-camera link broadcasts the service to the Chapel.

**WE THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR SERVICE THIS WEEK**

**Ushers:** Forrest and Linda Adams      **Lay Liturgist:** Bill Resser

**Deacon Servers:** Eleanor Resser and Charlie Dagino

**Downtown Daily Bread on December 12:** John Swan and Christa Lenk

**SSPC WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 7, 2025**

**There is no Blood Pressure Sunday in December.** We will resume in January. For any questions, please call the office for the Health Ministry member on call.

**Angel Tree**

This is your friendly reminder to please return your Angel Tree gifts to the church by no later than Sunday December 14th, 12 noon! The gifts should be wrapped with the angel-shaped tag affixed to the packaging.

**\*\*If you took a tag but forgot to sign it out, kindly record it on the sign-out sheet this coming Sunday, or call or email Heather McCarthy and indicate the tag number so we know the tag is accounted for; we apologize for any confusion.\*\***

The Deacons thank you for your generosity to this annual ministry! (Questions? Heather McCarthy- [hjd.gmb@gmail.com](mailto:hjd.gmb@gmail.com); 817-789-3381 cell)

**Adult Forum and Sunday School today, 10 am:** We will continue the Rob Bell series. This class is for all adults. Come, learn, and discuss.

**Youth Church, Room 112:** Join us downstairs for music, a Christian Education lesson, crafts and games. This class is for children from 1st grade and up.

**Preschool Sunday School, Room 112:** We will begin in Room 112 and then move across the hall. This class is for children below 1st grade.

**The Intergenerational Choir:** We will continue practice every Sunday morning, 10:00 am in Room 112, as we prepare for our next performance in the Gathering on December 21st, a special Holiday performance!

## **Thanks to all the Cookie Bakers!**

The Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry received 292 dozen of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies this past Monday thanks to the 30 plus people in the SSPC Kitchen this past Monday. Thank you to Roy McLain for leading this local outreach to the truck drivers and thank you to ALL who came out to help!

**Thank You:** We wish to thank Pat and Ron Ferris and Carol and Jim Bogar for their donations of the greens this holiday season. Their generosity was due to a request from Session to reduce the worship budget going forward.

## **Advent at SSPC: Please join us!**

**Voices of the Valley Concert, Dec. 7th:** **Voices of the Valley** is returning to SSPC with a concert on Sunday, December 7th at 3:00 pm. The Choir includes SSPC's own Jim & Carol Anderson, Ken Harm and Lucy Vaughan. The Concert is free and open to the public. Join us for *Home for the Holidays....* Carols old and new celebrating the joys of the season!

**Christmas Cantata, Sunday, December 14th:** Join us for one service at 10:00 am to enjoy this year's Christmas Cantata. Advent Feast and Festival to follow.

## **Advent Feast and Festival - Sunday, December 14th, immediately following the Cantata**

CE will again sponsor this, along with the Fellowship Committee. We will have a special recognition of our Choir, followed by a traditional ham dinner, and special music provided by Amanda and Sydney Bevenour. Please sign up in the Gathering Place.

**Christmas Eve:** Children & Families Service at 5:00 pm, Traditional Candlelight Service at 7 pm, both in the Meeting House. Enjoy the **Live Nativity** between the services at 6 pm.

**Annual Christmas Breakfast** - CE will again hold the Annual Christmas Breakfast, prior to our single service, on Sunday, December 28th, at 9:30 am, in the gym. Come enjoy a full breakfast before church of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes and more.

**Cookies—Calling all Bakers!** Can you show your appreciation for the Choir by baking? Donations of cookies, brownies, fudge, cupcakes, and mini muffins, etc. are needed for the Choir Christmas Cantata Recognition on December 14th in the Gym as part of the Advent Feast and Festival. There is a baking sign-up sheet in the Gathering Place.

**CORE Youth Group:** CORE will meet this Sunday 6PM-8PM to prepare the luminaries for Christmas Eve.

**Poinsettia Dedications:** The Christmas poinsettia order forms are available in the Gathering Place. Please return the form to the box in the Gathering Place by December 14th. The names of dedication will be listed in the bulletin on Sunday, December 21st. The cost of each poinsettia is \$10.

### **Dining Out Group - December 11**

Join us for dinner at 5:30 on Thursday, December 11, at Gilligan's Bar and Grill, 5002 Carlisle Pike (at the corner of Sporting Hill Road). Please sign up in the Gathering Place or contact Joan Bretz at [jbretz1@earthlink.net](mailto:jbretz1@earthlink.net) or 717-657-3645 by Monday, December 8.

### **Elf on a shelf: Fun Activity for everyone in December!**

Your fun-loving Fellowship Committee has placed an Elf somewhere in the church for you to find. When you find it, add your name to the Elf on the shelf paper in the Gathering Place, and what room you found it. Then, find a new location for the Elf. Let's take this elf on an epic journey!

### **From the Worship Committee**

Feel moved by something in worship, perhaps an element of praise that glorifies God in a particularly poignant way? The Book of Order tells us that applause is appropriate so long as it is understood to be our reflection and amplification of the praise being offered to God. As with everything we do in worship, applause and the occasional "amen!" (which means "Truly!") are directed not to any of us, but to God and God alone.

### **Wednesday Bible Study - December 10th**

We meet in the Parlor, 1pm—3 pm. The group is studying a new book called "The Book of Signs" by Dr. David Jeremiah. Open to adults from 19 to 99. Come learn and discuss.

### **Monday Afternoon Bible Study - December 8th**

All adults are invited. We meet 1 pm to 3 pm, every other week. We will view Max Lucado's Advent Study called "Because of Bethlehem." Come learn and discuss.

### **Earth Care: Having trouble with decorations and a low budget?**

Look around your yard (or a neighbor's yard). If there are evergreens, pine trees, pine cones, you are in great luck. Any of these can be put into bowls, baskets, fixed on wreaths, tables, the possibilities are endless, and they will look festive. Be sure to ask your neighbor for permission.

### **Prayers of healing and comfort:**

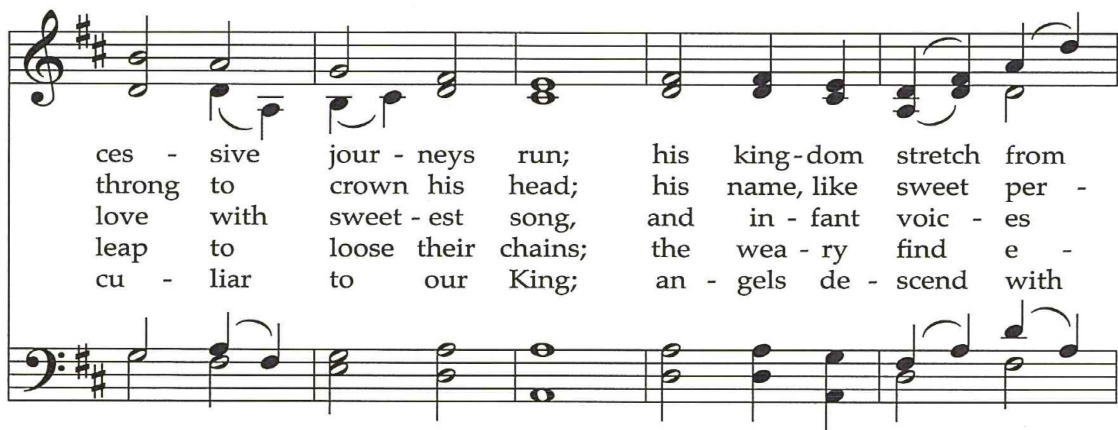
Kris Carpinello's parents, the Arborgasts, Elizabeth Bentzel, Debbie Bitting, Bob Buyers, Linda Darkes, Betsy Eichelberger, Mary Glace, Margaret Glockner, Ron Kutz, Pat Langdon, Jan Larson, Pat Miller, Don Spangler, Nancy Thomas, Don Winning

**Prayers for our Military Members & First Responders:** Olivia Chase, Jacob Flenner, Justin Ledvina, Josiah Scandle, Wyatt La Pointe, Chloe Scott

# 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners  
5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -

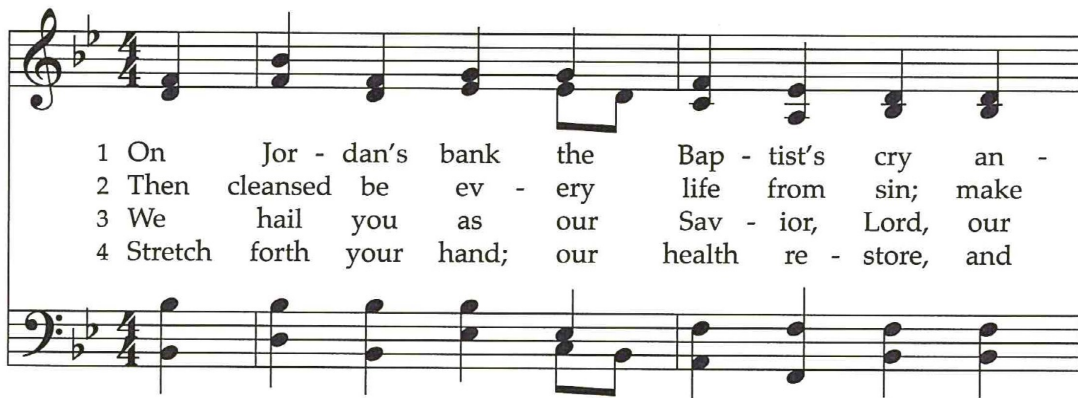


ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es  
leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

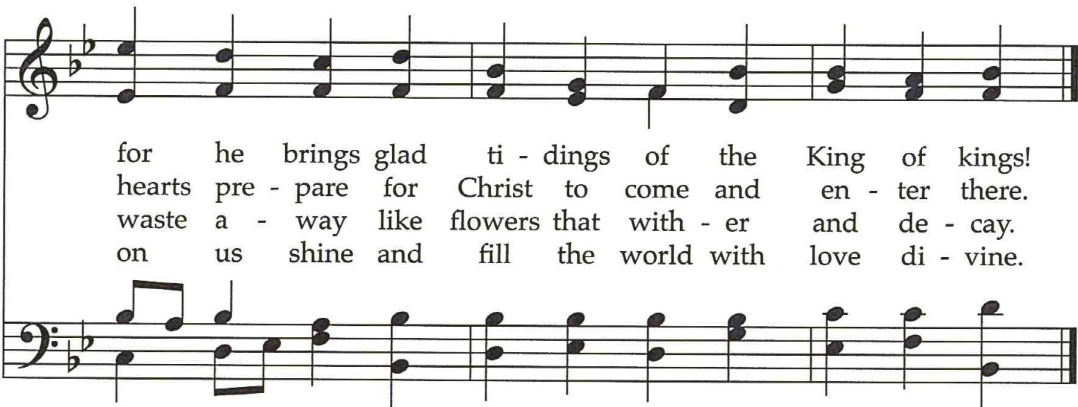
# 96 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our  
4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and



nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our  
ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -



for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

## ATTENDANCE

### November 23

9 am Traditional—109 YouTube— 80  
11 am Gathering—45 YouTube— 19  
Sunday School—26

### November 30

9 am Traditional—110 YouTube—113  
11 am Gathering—45 YouTube—31  
Sunday School—26

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Donald B. Wahlig	Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Lisa S. Chase	Associate Pastor
Tracy Wieseman	Music Associate
Erica Ickes	Organist
Ryan Edwards	Worship Tech Specialist
Austin Shoop	Youth Director
Emily Cocores	Preschool Director
Diane G. Rabold	Business Manager
Priscilla Biller	Office Manager
John Clegg	Sexton

*We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.*

**Our Mission** is to love and praise God, love and nurture our church family, and love and serve our neighbors,

**through** worship, prayer, fellowship, education, hands-on work, financial support, and compassionate care,

**in order to** follow Jesus and make known the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Our Vision** is to be a grace-filled family of faith sharing Christ's love with all.

### **Our Values:**

**Glorify God:** Glorify and praise God through discipling, sharing faith, and serving with love

**Show Compassion:** Compassion expressed as care and concern for all

**Share Hospitality:** Inclusive hospitality through welcome, acceptance, and fellowship

**Nurture Relationships:** Nurture relationships through respect, support, and communication

**Steward God's gifts:** Faithful stewardship of all God's gifts



**Soli Deo Gloria**

**Silver Spring Presbyterian Church**

444 Silver Spring Road Mechanicsburg, PA 17050  
www.silverspring.org \* \* \* 717.766.0204