

Welcome to the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church

We are glad you are worshiping with us today!



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

December 11, 2022, Angels Among Us

Worship in the Episcopal Tradition

*Connecting with the Community,
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

Our Worship can be viewed on our website

PantherValleyChurch.org

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS

Advent 3 – Angels Among Us

PRELUDE

We invite you to begin your personal preparation at the beginning of the prelude.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN #238

Angels We Have Heard on High

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains
In reply echoing their joyous strains, Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Do Not Be Afraid – Joy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Rosselot Family

THE COLLECT (see insert)

HYMN#211

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Verse 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Verse 2

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

ALL: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

LEADER: Lord, open our lips.

ALL: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

LEADER: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.
Let us now say together:

JUBILATE Psalm 100

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God;
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

THE LESSONS

LEADER: The first lesson is from The Old Testament: Isaiah 35:1-10.
(see insert)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146:4-9

LEADER: The second lesson is from James 5:7-10.
(see insert)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: ALL STAND, Matthew 11:2-11.

(see insert)

LEADER: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

ALL: Glory to you Lord Christ.

LEADER: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.***

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

***He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

*the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEADER: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

ALL: And grant us your salvation.

LEADER: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

ALL: Let your people sing with joy.

LEADER: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

ALL: For only in you can we live in safety.

LEADER: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

ALL: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

LEADER: Let your way be known upon earth;

ALL: Your saving health among all nations.

LEADER: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

ALL: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

LEADER: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

ALL: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF ST.FRANCIS

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we
are born to eternal life. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING

Ascribe to the Lord and bring honor and gifts unto His name.

OFFERTORY – *Please submit your pledge cards as part of your offering.*

THE DOXOLOGY

(unison)

*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.*

HYMN#211

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Verse 3

O come, O come, great Lord of might
Who to they tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Verse 4

O come, though root of Jesus's tree
An ensign of the people be
Before thee rulers silent fall
All peoples on thy mercy call.

BENEDICTION

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

LEADER: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE – *Please remain seated and quiet until the end of the postlude.*

Today's Altar Flowers are given

Credits: Image by Ninabeth Metcalf.

The Old Testament, New Testament & Gospels readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

The Collects, Psalms, and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

CCLI Song # 31982 © Words: Public Domain, Music: Public Domain.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Please pray for:

Our Church's subsistence, Our World, Zoe, Donna recovering from Covid
Rob, Stacey & Cecelia, Charlotte, Lisa, Phil, Lois, Joy to the Ashley Washer Family in
the birth of Levi David, Patrick in his new freedom

PVEC is again collecting donations for the

Pajama & Book Program to help children in Foster Care. We are on our own this year,
as Allamuchy School has other collections they are working on. We are accepting
through January-February 2023 until we have enough items to make this donation to
CASA SHaW. Sizes needed are from infant through young adult. Please do not wrap
them. Thank you for your help!

As usual, **pointsettias** will arrive the week before Christmas and will be available to take
home your orders after the Christmas Eve service.

Both Pigs have now been captured. Mayor Rosemary Tuohy called this week to let us
know that our male pig decided to go for a long stroll. He was captured on Shades of
Death Rd. where he had found a farm. It took 4 men and a soccer net to get him. He has
been taken to be with the female. The Mayor said to have patience, she will assist with
finding help to repair the church property that was damaged. The saga is over, THE
END!

Thur. 12/15 Please return your Stewardship Pledge Cards by this date.

Sat. 12/17 \$5 Pancake Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus from 9-11am

Sun. 12/18 Holiday Fellowship after worship

Wed. 12/21 3rd Annual Blue Christmas Service 7-8pm

Sat. 12/24 Christmas Pageant @ 3:30pm
7pm Service, Rev. J. Hile - Lessons in Carols

Sun. 12/25 The United Methodist Church has made available a prerecorded service
for Christmas Day.

Sun. 1/1 Guest Preacher

Sun. 1/8 Guest Pastor Elder Lisa Gray & Communion

Sat. 1/21 Craft N' Crop Event 9am-5pm in FH

PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

1490 Route 517 Hackettstown, NJ 07840

~Welcome—we were built for you!~

Panther Valley Ecumenical Church is a multi-denominational church serving northwest New Jersey since 1969. We are formally affiliated with:

The Episcopal Church, The United Church of Christ,
The Presbyterian Church USA, and The United Methodist Church.

We are a congregation of many Christian traditions who worship together in accordance with Christ's prayer: "that they may all be one."

May God's Blessing go with you this week.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Deacon Jeanette Hile

Music Director: Diane Van Dongen

Church Administrator: Nikki Nicinski

Email: pvecsecretary@gmail.com

Office hours: Mon. – Fri. 9:00am – 2:00pm

Website: <http://www.panthervalleychurch.org>

Tel: 908-852-5444

Email: panthervalleychurch@gmail.com

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS