

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 South Third Street Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
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www.christlutheranlewisburg.org



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
Epiphany of Our Lord

JANUARY 4, 2026 ✉ 9:30 AM

PREACHING TODAY:
THE REV. KATY MORAN



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WELCOME TO ALL who join us today for worship!

Most everything you need is printed in this bulletin. Hymns are found in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) hymnal.

- **Rest room facilities** are located in the hallway south of the Atrium.
- **Large print bulletins and hearing enhancement devices** are available. Please ask an Usher for assistance.
- **Everyone's encouraged** to record your name on the attendance sheets found in the attendance folders at the end of each pew. Any special requests (prayers, visits, inclusion in mailings, etc.) may be written on these sheets.
- **Wooden offering box** for contributions is located in the center aisle at the rear of the Sanctuary.
- **Extra offering envelopes** can be found in the back of the attendance folder.
- **Please silence** your cell phone or switch it to vibrate.

* The congregation please stand as you are able.

**Got a question about CELC? Feel free to contact the church office at
570.524.0745 or e-mail our staff directly –**

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EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

JANUARY 4, 2026

Star of the East
George Cooper & Amanda Kennedy
One Ling'ring Star - Dennis Eliot
Joanne Vasey, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude for Epiphany
DIX; KINGS OF ORIENT; Setting by Ronald A. Nelson
Joanne Vasey, organ

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☧ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Reconciling God,

C **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. ☧ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**

* GATHERING HYMN

As With Gladness Men of Old - ELW # 302

* GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

* KYRIE

From the St. James Christmas Service - Arr. Schweitzer
(*Tune: W. Zlobie Lezy - "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*)

**Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy upon us.
God the Lord the Savior gave us, Jesus Christ is born to save us;
Lord have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory be to God on High

From the St. James Christmas Service'
(*TUNE: GLORIA - "Angels We Have Heard on High"*)

- 1) Glory be to God on high, to all people, peace on earth.
Angels, shepherds drawing nigh, join to celebrate his birth.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

- 2) Jesus Christ we now declare Lamb of God and Lord of Love.
Grant us mercy, hear our prayer, give us grace from heav'n above.

Refrain

- 3) Praises to the Holy One, Praises sing in highest heav'n;
To the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit given.

Refrain

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60: 1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3: 1-12

¹ This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Angels, From the Realms of Glory - ELW # 275
Stanzas 1 and 3

Stanza 1: Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth:
Once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Stanza 3: Sages leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam a-far;
Seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.

* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter:

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,

for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

The Rev. Katy Moran

* HYMN OF THE DAY

The First Noel - ELW # 300

* THE APOSTLE'S CREED

P Living together in trust and hope with believers around the world, we confess our common faith:

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P Repairer of the breach, you separate us from our sin and unite us with one another. Heal the animosity in our hearts, and bind us together in love. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Author of life, you sent your spirit over the waters, your breath into your children, and guiding stars across the sky. Awaken us to the plight of the planet and send us to care for your creation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Light that leads the way, you make yourself known to the nations. Illuminate just paths and guide leaders in the church and the world in your holy will. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Voice of the silenced, you cast the mighty from their thrones and fill the hungry with good things. Grant those in need the courage to demand equality and those with abundance the wisdom to share. Respond to any who call out in need this day those we name aloud or in our hearts (*brief pause*). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Proclaimer of promises, you raise up prophets and messengers in the places we least expect. Equip us to listen well to those who bring both good news and painful truths. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Redeemer of the saints, you gift us with many people throughout our lives who point the way to you. We give you thanks for the recently departed and all who have loved us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

(Worshippers are encouraged to share the greeting "Peace be with you" with one another.)

OFFERTORY INTERLUDE

O Thou, Who by a Star Didst Guide
John Mason Neale & Henry Hiles
Joanne Vasey, organ

Wooden offering boxes for contributions are located at the rear of the Sanctuary on the left and right walls and the back of the center aisle or scan the QR code to the right to donate through Vanco.



* OFFERTORY VERSE

In the Bleak Midwinter - ELW # 294
Stanza 3

**What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet, what I can I give him - give my heart.**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*** SANCTUS**

Lyrics: Brian D. Vasey
Tune: IN DULCI Jubilo

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord!
God of power and might adored!
Heaven and earth reflect your bliss
For your Word is in our midst.
Blessed be the One who comes,
In God's name, Hosanna.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P 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.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us saying:

C **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

P God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!
C **Thanks be to God.**

AGNUS DEI

The Saint James Christmas Service
Tune: GREENSLEEVES Arr. Mark Schweizer

**O Lamb of God, O Holy Child, who takes the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the son of Mary.
This, this is your body give/n, your precious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the son of Mary.**

COMMUNION MEDIATION

The Star in the Eastern Sky - David Paxton
Joanne Vasey, organ

COMMUNION HYMN

Brightest and Best of the Stars - ELW # 303

* POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C **Amen.**

* POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.
C **Amen.**

* BENEDICTION

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ☩ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.
C **Amen.**

* RECESSIONAL HYMN

We Three Kings - WOV # 646 (Blue hymnal)

* DISMISSAL

P Glory to God in the highest!
C **And peace to God's people on earth!**

P Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
C **Thanks be to God.**

* POSTLUDE

March of the Kings - Traditional; Arr. Noble Cain
Joanne Vasey, organ

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January 4 – 11, 2026

Sunday, January 4 Epiphany of Our Lord Pastor Katy preaching	Youth Winterfest 9:30am Holy Communion 10:45am Sunday School 4:30pm –6:30pm Faith Lab - CELC
Monday, January 5	6:00pm –9:00pm Trout Unlimited - LCH 7:00pm –8:00pm Al-Anon-YR
Tuesday, January 6	2:00pm –4:00pm Transitions - LCH
Wednesday, January 7	9:00am Holy Sew 'N' Sews-LCH 4:00pm Un-greening 6:00pm Faith Formation Team 6:00pm Theology on Tap - Rusty Rail
Thursday, January 8	Deadline for second half Kunkel materials 9:30am Ladies Bible Study - Rm. 204-206 11:00am Staff Meeting- Parlor 6:00pm Ladies Bible Study - Rm. 204-206
Friday, January 9	
Saturday, January 10	7:00am –5:00pm Boy Scouts - LCH & YR
Sunday, January 11 Baptism of Our Lord Pastor Katy is preaching	9:30am Holy Communion 10:45am Sunday School 1:00pm –4:00pm SVSWG - LCH/Room 202 6:30pm –8:00pm UYG Road Trip Bible Study @ Beaver UMC



Wednesday, Jan. 7th

at

4:00 pm