

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 South Third Street Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
570.524.0745 ✕ christchurch@dejazzd.com
www.christlutheranlewisburg.org



December 21, 2025 ✕ 9:30 AM

4 ADVENT

**PREACHING TODAY:
PASTOR JUSTIN LINGENFELTER**



100 South Third Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837
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www.christlutheranlewisburg.org
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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 –**

The Rev. Katy Moran: Pastor		morankl14@gmail.com
The Rev. Justin Lingenfelter: Pastor		pastor.justin17@gmail.com
Charlene Rineer: Dir. Faith Formation	Ext. 303	ckrorange@yahoo.com
Diane Zacker: Book keeper	Ext. 305	admncelc@dejazzd.com
Brenda Boyer: Church Secretary	Ext. 301	christchurch@dejazzd.com
Joanne Vasey: Organist/Music Coordinator	Ext. 306	vasey@dejazzd.com
Brandy Aguirre: Choir Director	Ext.306	brandyaguirre627@gmail.com

4 ADVENT

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

DECEMBER 21, 2025

Partita on "People Look East"
BESANCON; Arr. Joseph Bertolozzi
Joanne Vasey, organ
Joyful Praise - Susan E. Geschke
Parish Peal Handbell Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Hark, the Glad Sound - CHESTERFIELD; Arr. Ron Mallory
Parish Peal Handbell Choir

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Long-expected God,

C **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

P God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C **Amen.**

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus - ELW # 254

* 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

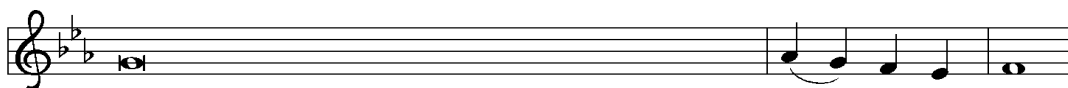
ELW p. 98



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



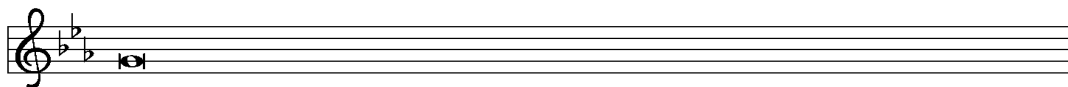
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



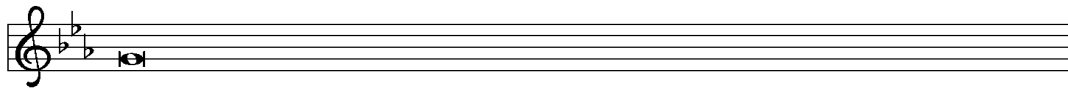
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Vajda/Schalk

Gently p

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 6/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The first line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/4 time signature. The tempo/mood is marked 'Gently' and the dynamics 'p'. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: 'Light the can-dle of LOVE to- day, the Giv- er of love is'. The second line continues the melody with a half note followed by a quarter note, then a half note, and ends with a quarter note. The lyrics are: 'here! _____ Wel- come the love we live and die for, but'. The third line continues with a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics are: 'on- ly Christ can give. _____ Flick - er and flame and'. The fourth line continues with a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics are: 'glow__ with love, light up the world a - round you.'. The fifth line continues with a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics are: 'Flick-er and flame and glow__ with love, light up the world a -'. The sixth line continues with a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics are: 'round _____ you. _____'. The score ends with a double bar line.

Light the can-dle of LOVE to- day, the Giv- er of love is

here! _____ Wel- come the love we live and die for, but

on- ly Christ can give. _____ Flick - er and flame and

glow__ with love, light up the world a - round you.

Flick-er and flame and glow__ with love, light up the world a -

round _____ you. _____

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Tune copyright © 1988 Carl Schalk. Used by permission.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

¹ Hannah prayed and she said,

“My heart exults in the HOLY ONE OF OLD;
my horn is lifted up in my God.

My mouth opens wide against my enemies,
for I will rejoice in my victory.

² “There is none like the MOST HIGH,
none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.

³ Speak proudly no more, multiplying pride,
nor let arrogance come from your mouth,
for the AGELESS GOD is a God of knowledge,
and by God deeds are accounted.

⁴ The bows of the mighty are broken,
yet the feeble gird on warrior-strength.

⁵ Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
yet those who were hungry are fat.

She who was barren has birthed seven children,
yet she who has many children languishes.

⁶ The CREATOR OF ALL kills and gives life;
brings down to Sheol and raises up.

⁷ The GRACIOUS ONE makes poor and makes rich;
brings low and also lifts up.

⁸ God raises the poor from the dust,
and lifts the needy from heaps of human waste
to seat them with the nobles and inherit a seat of honor.

For to the CREATOR belong the pillars of the earth,
and on them God has set the world.

⁹ God will guard the feet of the faithful who belong to God,
but the wicked will perish in shadow,
for it is not by might that one prevail.

¹⁰ The HOLY ONE OF SINAI!

Those who strive against God shall be shattered;

God thunders against them from heaven.

The FOUNT OF JUSTICE will judge the ends of the earth;

God will give strength to God's ruler

and exalt the power of the anointed of God."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7

⁴ But when the graciousness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ God saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to God's mercy. ⁶ This Spirit God poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by God's grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of life eternal.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – ELW p. 257

STANZA 7

**O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain***

STANZA 8

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain***

REFRAIN

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.***

*** THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter:
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁸ Now this is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah happened: When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to have a child in her womb from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph her husband was a just man and unwilling to shame her, he wanted to divorce her secretly. ²⁰ But when he deliberated this, suddenly an angel of the Most High God appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for in her is conceived a child from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this happened to fulfill what had been spoken by the Most High God through the prophet:

²³ “Look now! The virgin shall conceive a child in her womb and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel,”

Which translated means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph got up from sleep, he did as the angel of the Most High God commanded him. He took her as his wife, ²⁵ yet did not know her sexually until her birthing of a son and named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

The Rev. Justin Lingenfelter

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah - ELW # 240

*** 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 In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

P In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill especially for those we name aloud and in our hearts (*brief pause*). God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

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 ANTHEM

The King of Glory

Text: Willard F. Jabusch Music: Israeli traditional
Youth Drumming Ensemble

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.



* DOXOLOGY

Lord Jesus Is Coming AWAY IN A MANGER;
Music: James R. Murray Words: Brian & Joanne Vasey

**Lord Jesus is coming and so we prepare
Our homes and our lives for the child so fair.
It's Advent we're *love-filled* for Jesus is near.
O come and dwell in us our Savior so dear.**

**All praise to the Father, All praise to the Son.
All praise to the Spirit who makes all things one.
Our hope, our salvation is now drawing nigh.
O Christ, our Redeemer from Heaven on high.**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.
C **Amen.**

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

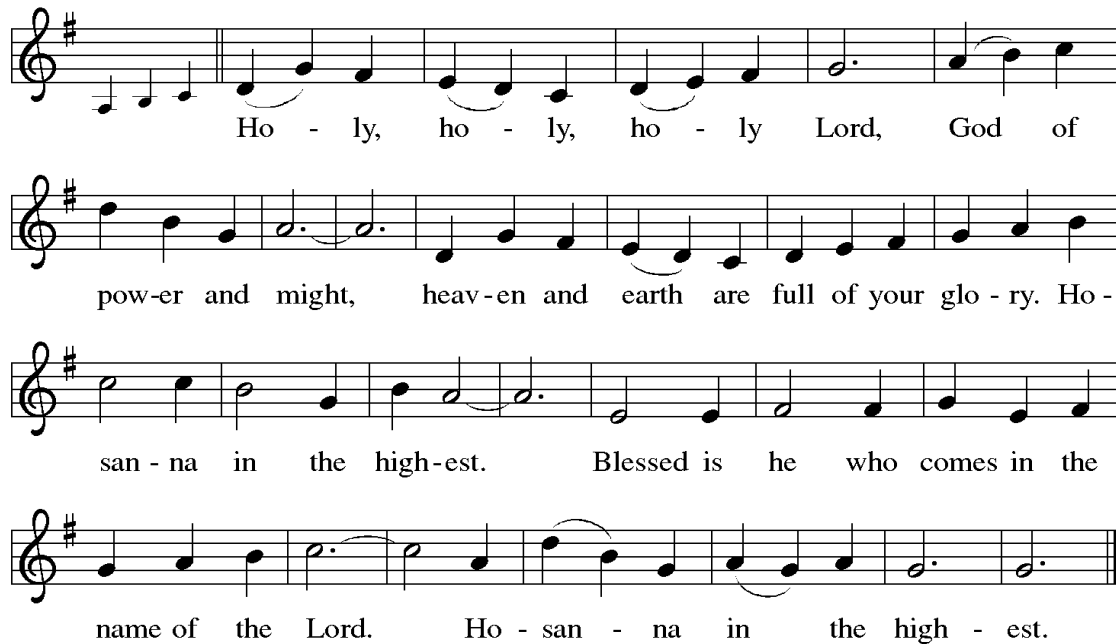
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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**

ELW p. 108



P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. 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.

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.

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.

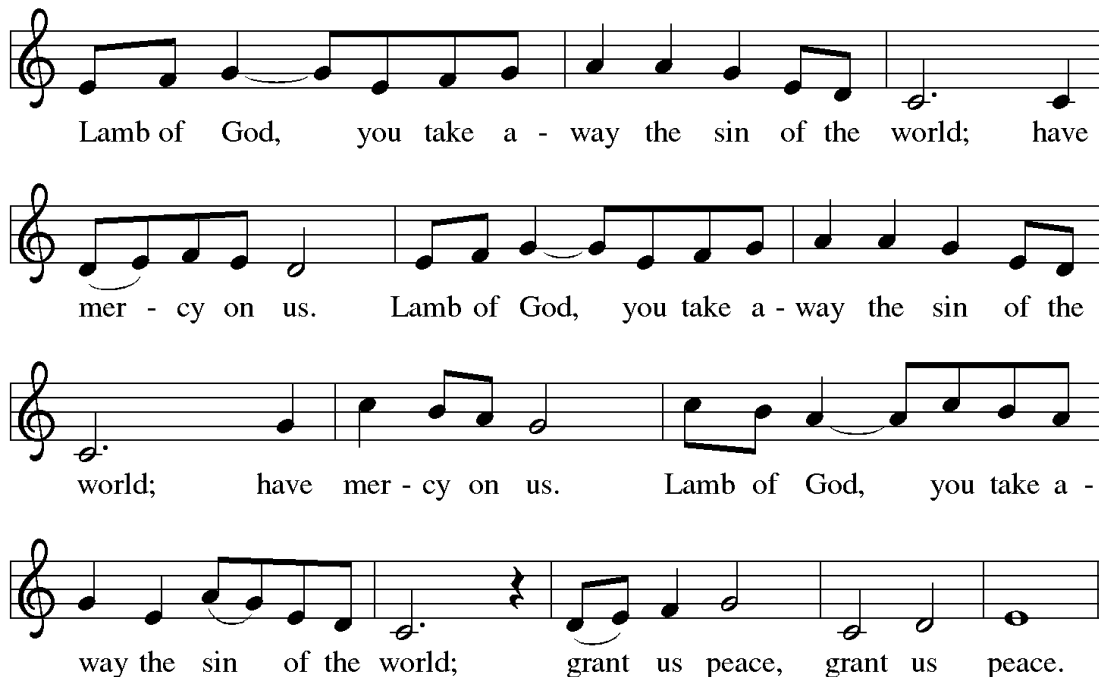
* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

C Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

ELW p. 112



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.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY; Arr. Robert Lau

Joanne Vasey, organ

COMMUNION HYMN

All Earth is Hopeful - ELW # 266

* 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 God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

* BENEDICTION

P May God who comes among us, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

People Look East - ELW # 248

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

* POSTLUDE

Once He Came in Blessing - J. S. Bach
Joanne Vasey, organ

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THANKS to Parish Peal Handbell Choir and the Youth Drumming Ensemble for providing today's anthems for worship.

EXPENDITURES & CONTRIBUTIONS ANALYSIS

	<u>Month of Nov. 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contributions Made	\$ 19,053	\$ 256,246
Actual Expenses	<u>22,711</u>	<u>285,693</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	\$ (3,658)	\$ (29,447)
Actual Expenses	\$ 22,711	\$ 285,693
Budgeted Expenses	<u>26,506</u>	<u>313,454</u>
Expenses Over (Under) Budget	<u>\$ (3,795)</u>	<u>\$ (27,761)</u>

December 21 - 28, 2025

Sunday, December 21 4 Advent Pastor Justin preaching	9:30am Holy Communion 10:45am Kunkel/Finance 10:45am Sunday School
Monday, December 22	9:00am –12:00pm Preschool Christmas Program - LCH 6:30pm Parish Peal Handbell Choir 7:00pm –8:00pm Al-Anon-YR 7:15pm Parish Choir
Tuesday, December 23	9:00am –3:00pm Preschool Christmas Program - LCH 9:15am Jan. Newsletter Assembled - LCH 6:30pm Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 24 Pastor Justin preaching Pastor Katy presiding	Christmas Eve *4:00pm Family Christmas Eve Service *8:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service <i>*special pre-service music 30 minutes prior</i>
Thursday, December 25	Christmas
Friday, December 26	Church Office Closed
Saturday, December 27	
Sunday, December 28 1 Christmas Tom Booth presiding	9:30am Holy Communion NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Poinsettias can be taken home

ATTENDANCE: 9:30 am: December 14, 2025: 105