

CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH



LESSONS
and
CAROLS

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025 ✕ 9:30 AM

1 Christmas

PRESIDING TODAY:

MR. THOMAS BOOTH



100 South Third Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837
570.524.0745 / christchurch@dejazzd.com
www.christlutheranlewisburg.org
Scan QR code to the right for our website



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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**PRELUDE**

Piano Anthem -Vanessa Lloyd

INTRODUCTION

P The angel said to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns us in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

*** CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

P Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

C **Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

P Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

C **Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

P The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

C **Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

P With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” In ☧ Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

C **Amen.**

* GATHERING CAROL

“*Angels from the Realms of Glory*” – ELW # 275

* 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.**

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

“*Love has Come*” – ELW # 292

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LESSONS AND CAROLS:

“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord”

Lesson: Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid, for the LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.” ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say on that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD;
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Response: ELW 283 “*O Come All Ye Faithful*” v. 1

Stanza 1

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:**

Refrain

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

Lesson: Matthew 1:18-24

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife

Carol: ELW 296 “*What Child is This?*”

“For unto you is born a Savior, who is **Christ, the Lord”**

Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-3, 11

¹The spirit of the Lord God is upon me
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,

²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Response: ELW 283 “*O Come All Ye Faithful*” v. 2

Stanza 2 **The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

Lesson: John 1:19-23, 29-34

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ” as the prophet Isaiah said.

Carol: ELW 288 “*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*”

“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord”

Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8

⁶ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Response: ELW 283 “*O Come All Ye Faithful*” v.4

Stanza 4

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: Refrain**

Lesson: Luke 1:26-35

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Carol: ELW 269 “*Once in Royal David's City*”

* THE APOSTLE'S CREED

P Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed:

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 to 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 Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

P For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill. Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P For the ministry of this place we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING: John 1:1-14

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

P May the light and 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 CAROL

Vanessa Lloyd, piano

(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.)



* OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

C **Amen.**

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

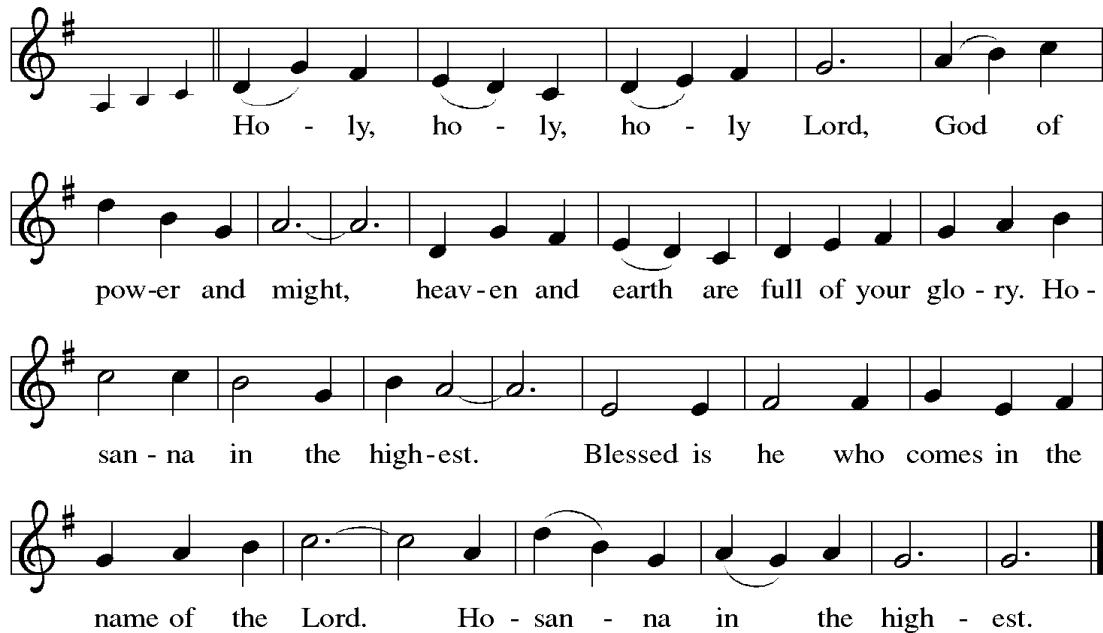
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both 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.**

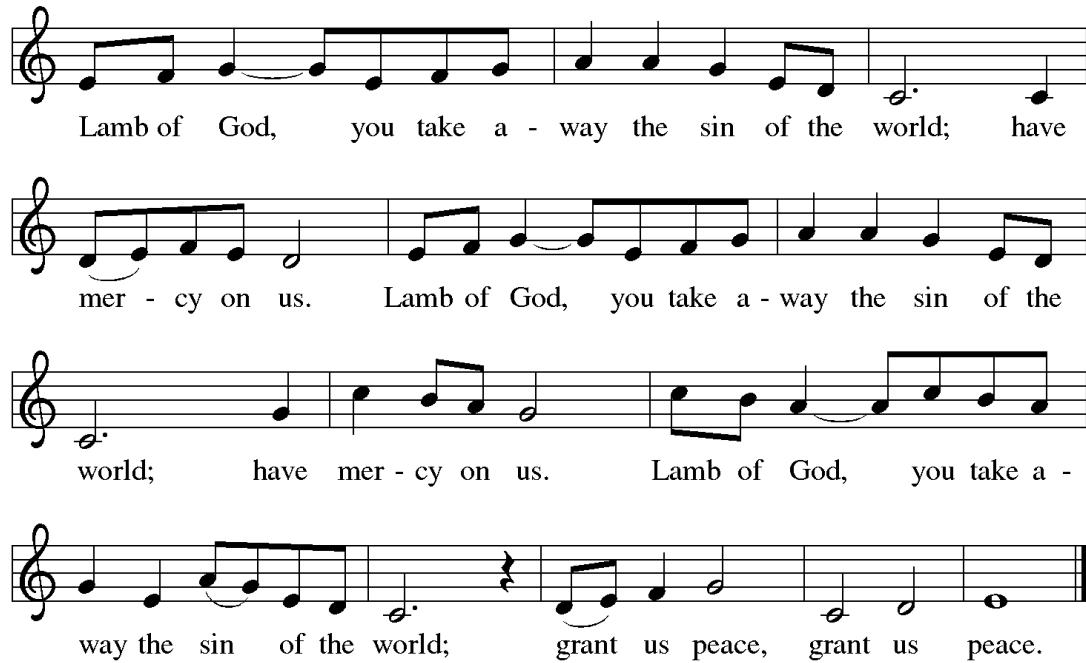
*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

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 ANTHEM

Piano Anthem -Vanessa Lloyd

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together – ELW # 471

* 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 Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.
C Amen.

* BENEDICTION

P The God of love, Father, ☧ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.
C Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

Go Tell it On The Mountain – ELW # 290

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C **Thanks be to God.**

* POSTLUDE

Vanessa Lloyd, piano



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THANKS to Tom Booth for presiding over worship today and to Vanessa Lloyd for serving as our substitute accompanist today.

CELC CALENDAR DEC. 28, 2025 - JAN. 4, 2026

Sunday, Dec. 28 1 CHRISTMAS Mr. Tom Booth presiding	9:30am Holy Communion Church Office closed
Monday, Dec. 29	Church Office closed 7:00pm Al-Anon-YR
Tuesday, Dec. 30	Church Office closed
Wednesday, Dec. 31 NEW YEARS EVE	Church Office closed
Thursday, Jan. 1 NEW YEARS	Church Office closed
Friday, Jan. 2	Youth Winterfest
Saturday, Jan. 3	Youth Winterfest
Sunday, Jan. 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

The Staff of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church wishes you all a Happy New Year!

And may our Lord Jesus bless you and yours in 2026 with good health and radiant hope, joy, peace and prosperity as we all continue walking day by day together with Him.

The Rev. Katy Moran: Pastor

The Rev. Justin Lingenfelter: Pastor

Charlene Rineer: Dir. Faith Formation

Diane Zacker: Book keeper

Brenda Boyer: Church Secretary

Joanne Vasey: Organist/Music Coordinator

Brandy Aguirre: Choir Director

Begin
the
Year
with

