

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

8:00 pm Candlelight Service



Christ's Lutheran Church
700 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Oreland, Pennsylvania

*Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
connects individuals to God, each other, and the community.*

Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Choral Meditation

“Breath of Heaven”

Grant

Soloist: Debbie Melnick

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,
**we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.**

Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.
 Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to
 begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive
 our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones,
 holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.
 Amen.

Gathering Song

ELW # 283 | O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

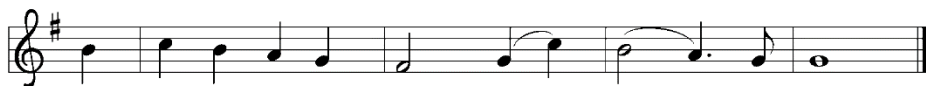


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise Verses 1 and 3

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing ELW # 270



- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
- 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
- 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 9.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Musical Offering "Carry the Light of Love" McMahan/Rouse

"Carry the light of love.

Let It shine just like the star above shined upon that glorious sight.

Carry the night of love.

May we strive to be reflections of the Baby born that holy night."

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Titus, chapter 2.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Hymn
Verses 1 and 2

O Little Town of Bethlehem
ELW # 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born

this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel Hymn
Verses 3 and 4

O Little Town of Bethlehem
ELW # 279



How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the w̄on - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



No ear māy hear his cōm - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



where ĩeck souls wĭll re - ceive him, stĭll the ĥear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

Please be seated.

The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW # 289



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav' n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our common faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

Please kneel or sit as you are able for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

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.

Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.
And his name is the wonderful counselor,
the almighty God, the everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace who brings us peace.

The peace Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*You are invited to share God's peace with those around you
and to greet those who are worshipping online.*

Please be seated.

*"Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory be to God on high.
Peace on earth, good will to everyone."*

Trumpet: Danny Melnick
Accompanist: Pat Hallman

Please stand.

Offertory Hymn
Verses 1 and 3

What Child is This
ELW # 296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Setting Four

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Setting Four

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al-mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened
the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vis - ion of your glo - ry,
that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we can - not see.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting Four



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

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 testament in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Invitation to Communion

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

Gathering at the Lord's Table

*All who wish to receive Christ are welcomed at his table!
Come forward by the center aisle as directed by an usher.*

Pick up an empty glass or one prefilled with juice.

*We will be using pretzel bread for communion
tied in the monastic style.*

Gluten free bread is available on the table if desired.

*The pastor will place the bread in your hand.
He will offer a blessing to children not receiving communion.*

Proceed to your right or left to receive the wine.

*Return to your seat by the side aisles,
leaving your empty glass in the basket.*

Lamb of God

ELW Setting Four



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 Hymn
Verses 1 and 4

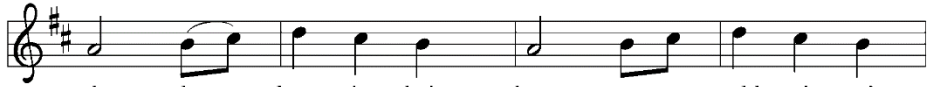
The First Noel
ELW # 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north-west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

Communion Hymn
Verses 1 and 4

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
ELW # 282



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Please stand.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post Communion Hymn

Joy to the World ELW # 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

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.
Amen.

Blessing

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

Passing the Light

The Light shines out in the darkness.
And the darkness does not overcome it.

*The light will be passed throughout the congregation
beginning with the ushers.*

Please tilt your unlit candle into the lit candle.

*The choir will proceed down the side aisle.
Once the choir is in place the hymn “Silent Night” will begin.*

*Please hold the lit candle upright at all times
to keep wax from falling onto your neighbor or the floor.*

Online Giving

*To make an offering to support the work of Christ’s
Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America, you may use this QR code to access our
site for secure online giving.*



The Sending Song

ELW # 281 | Silent Night



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Thank you to the following for sponsoring the Christmas decorations and poinsettias

Karen Bennion	In celebration of the season
Don & Judy Berger	In celebration of family near and far
Bob & Beverly Bortz	In celebration of family
	In memory of our parents
	In celebration of our children and grandchildren
Jim & Mary Jane Brenneman	Dedicated to the Glory of God
	In celebration of our family
Leigh-Ann Bussinger	In memory of Eunice and William Pfeiffer
Wes & Marda Craig	In memory of our parents
Sherri Edwards	In memory of Ann and Duck Edwards
	In memory of Evelyn Edwards
Paul & Janet Engstrom	In celebration of our family
	In celebration of Betsy & Ken Selinger and the choir
Ross & Sue Frantz	In celebration of our children and grandchildren
Jean & Steve Godsall-Myers (Omi and Opa)	In celebration of our grandchildren, Charlie & Eva Myers
Pat & Don Hallman	In celebration of our family Kate, Jonathan, Christine, Josiah, Matthias
	In memory of our parents The Rev Mr & Mrs Robert A Laubach Mr & Mrs Pershing H Hallman
The Hatch Family	In celebration of their children and grandchildren In memory of Michelle Hatch
	In memory of their parents and grandparents
Jim Heidler	In memory of Eleanor Heidler, mother In memory of Marie Farr, sister In memory of Louise Watts, aunt
Marge Holmes	In memory of my husband, Tom Holmes
	In celebration of my children and grandchildren
Andy Manus	In memory of Bob Manus
	In celebration of family
John & Debbie Melnick	In memory of our parents
	In celebration of Jennifer & Daniel
Gail & Jerry Polis	In memory of our parents
	In celebration of our children and grandchildren
Christian Reynolds	In celebration of children, grandchildren, And great-grandchildren
Kim Righter	In memory of Eunice and William Pfeiffer
Ken & Betsy Selinger	In memory of our parents and Ken's brother, Steve
	In celebration of our children and grandchildren
Lori Stevens	In memory of parents, Walter and Eleanor Brucker
Dolores Sweeney	In memory of Lawrence Sweeney
Dolores Sweeney, daughter	In memory of Joseph and Elise Dodel
Earl & Allison Uehling	In celebration of family, near and far
Sally Wertz	In memory of family and friends
Paul & Bonnie Zieger	In memory of Hermina and Paul Raser In memory of Ruth and Wilbur Zieger In memory of Herta Clements In memory of Anna Zieger

Your Prayers Are Invited

We hope you will add the following people to your personal prayers. Those who are listed longer than 6 weeks can be found on the long term prayer list through the link in the weekly e-news or the monthly Link newsletters. To add a name to the prayer list or provide an update, please contact the office.

Margaret Anne "Anne" Abbott (mother of Elisa Tull's friend)
Don Berger
Beverly Bortz
Bob Bortz
Chuck Brucker (cousin of Karen Greilich, Lori Stevens, and Janine Asher)
Nikki Busch (Becca Shelor's aunt)
Chippy the Clown (long-time friend at CLC events)
Holly Curran (friend of Bob Kelly)
Rev. John Dougherty (Pastor, Trinity Lutheran - Ft. Washington)
Clyde Engle
Paul Engstrom
Jamie and Keith Eyre (friends of Karen Bennion)
Gil Gavish & Family (son-in-law of Elise & Steve Seyfried)
Beryl Gutekunst
Paul & Rose Hill (friends of Shirley & Clyde Engle)
Abbey Koenig (sister of Jerry and Sally Beil's neighbor)
Paul Korinth (friend of Bob Kelly)
Melody Maurer
Jody McClellan (Bob Bortz' cousin)
The Monachino Family (John Melnick's sister's family)
Chris Mudge
Jim Munz
Scott Paris and son, Benjamin Scott (friends of Mary Truppapay)
James Polis (brother of Jerry Polis and Diane Polis)
Margie Reiman (Robin Griffin's aunt)
Nancy Renner
Rachael Rinders (friend of the Kaegler Family)
Betsy Selinger
Ruth Smith
Marvin and Kara Strossenreuther (family members of Karen Bennion)
Paul Winter (Debbie Melnick's brother)
Nik Zitomer (Diane Polis' nephew)

To Our Musicians

We offer our thanks and appreciation for the contributions from Ken Selinger and our choir and the following:

Soloist: Debbie Melnick
Trumpet: Danny Melnick
Piano: Pat Hallman

Our Thanks to all those who assisted in preparing our church for this holy night and to all of you, our love and thanks!

Stewardship: Bread of Life

In the Gospel of John 6:35, Jesus declares, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

This year as we reflected on how Bread sustains life; we ask that you also consider how your contributions to Christ's Lutheran sustain our Church, the ministries that feed and enrich our life together and the community around us.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their intent cards. If you have not done so yet, we ask that you return your intent card as soon as possible to help Council prepare the next congregational budget.

2025 Intent Cards can be found in the church lobby and through a link in the Wednesday e-news.

Family Table

No meeting on December 29. Family Table resumes in January.

Family Table is open to families of all ages and make-ups. Come learn about God, our faith and how we walk in the world as People of God.

Pub Theology

Our next gathering will take place on **Thursday, January 2** at 7:00 pm at Iron Hill Brewery, 1460 Bethlehem Pike, North Wales, PA 19454
Topic: Twelve Days of Christmas

RSVP to Pastor Kaegler at clcseniorpastor@christs-oreland.org.

Trivia Team

The evening was looking pretty good for the Saints & Sinners during December's Trivia Night. Another First Place win was within reach when they were foiled in the final round by a question about Stephen King novels. Our team ended up with a Fourth Place finish.

The Saints & Sinners are looking forward to the next challenge, **Wednesday, January 8** at Tannery Run Brew Works, 131 E Butler Avenue, Ambler.

Trivia Nights take place on the First Wednesday of every month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Interested in joining the team? Come for fun, fellowship and perhaps a prize or two! Contact Daniel Melnick to RSVP.

PLEASE NOTE: Trivia Night in January will be the SECOND Wednesday.

60 Plus

60 Plus in January 2025. We will be playing a spirited game of teams Family Feud which is always a lot of fun. So bring your lunch and enjoy delicious desserts, coffee and tea. Good fun, good food and good fellowship. Come on out on **Thursday January 9th** at 11:30 AM to the Parish Hall.

Men's Group

The Men's Group meets for breakfast and fellowship on the third Saturday of the month at Halligan's Pub in Flourtown at 8:00 am.

We meet next on **January 18, 2025**.

Wonderful Wednesday

Join us for Wonderful Wednesday on **January 22** at 6:30 pm at the home of Jon and Alice Rasmussen, 1947 Audubon Drive, Dresher, 19025

RSVP to Consy Finney cwfinney1@comcast.net or 215-771-5994 by Sunday, January 19.

University Lutheran Feast Incarnate

The Christ's Lutheran sponsored dinner at University Lutheran Church's Feast Incarnate on December 17th was well received by individuals who very much appreciated a warm and delicious dinner.

Thanks to those who worked together at this busy time of year to cook, bake, and donate the dinner components: Karen Bennion, Sue Frantz, Karen Greulich, Robin Griffin, Pat Hallman, Deb Hilbert, Lynnmarie Harkins, Amy Jacoby, MaryEllen Myers, John Needhammer, Sue Ross, Elise Seyfried, and Allison Uehling. Additional thanks to those who contributed plastic bags. The Feast Incarnate leaders use them for "to go" meals and were thrilled to receive so many. Thanks also to those who drove the food down to the city: Steve and Elise Seyfried, Sue Ross, Abby Uehling, and Allison Uehling.

The leaders of the Feast Incarnate, a year-round outreach and hospitality ministry for individuals who are food insecure, asked if Christ's Lutheran could sponsor a few dinners in 2025. Please let Sue Ross and/or Allison Uehling know if you would be interested in helping with future dinners.

Puzzle Exchange

Research shows that puzzles help adults improve memory, enhance problem-solving skills, manage stress, improve visual and spatial reasoning, and develop a more positive mood. If you want to see if the research is correct – or if you just want an indoor activity for cold weather – feel free to borrow a puzzle from the shelf opposite the restrooms in the narthex. Enjoy!

Wednesday Bible Study

All are welcome to join us for Bible Study on **Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am** in room 200 with Pastor Kaegler. Please join us as we explore the Book of Daniel.

Home Visits

If you or someone you know would like Pastor Kaegler to visit, please contact him at clcseniorepastor@christ-s-oreland.org or call the office at 215-886-4612.

FAITH IN ACTION

Book Collection

Books Through Bars is a local organization that collects books and sends them to prisoners who request them by letter. Although they get plenty of the latest bestsellers and classic literature, they have a great need for *very specific* books that are often requested but are in short supply. If you have any **paperback** books on the following topics to donate, please put them in the labeled box in the narthex. Thank you!

Art, art instruction (drawing/painting/photography), home repair, building, HVAC instruction, plumbing, masonry, starting a business, real estate, cars, motorcycles, sudoku, crossword puzzles, and how to play the guitar (beginning and advanced). Wildlife, hunting, and sports magazines are also appreciated.

Willow Grove Food Pantry Collection

A box is located in the back of the Narthex by the "Giving Place" for donations of nonperishable items.

Once a month, or more if needed, we will drop off any donations to the pantry. Please consider bringing a nonperishable item to church with you each time you attend. Together we can help our brothers and sisters in need. Any questions please email Jen at community@christs-oreland.org.

Visitation Ministry

Our newly formed Visitation Team keeps homebound and hospitalized parishioners linked into the life of the Church through prayers, presence, and the sending of Holy Communion.

If you have a heart for our congregation, want to listen to and treasure the lives of our church's elders, and know that Jesus goes to everybody - contact Pastor Kaegler to join in this ministry! clcseniorpastor@christs-oreland.org. Training, prayer and fellowship will be provided.

FAITH IN ACTION

CLC Community Yarners

We meet next on December 30

Where: 700 E Pennsylvania Ave, Oreland (Room 200) 11 am to 1:00 pm

Don't know how to knit or crochet? No worries, all levels are welcomed! All items will be donated to a local charity. (TBD)

Please contact:

Betty Messer: betty.messer508@gmail.com, phone: 267-475-2933 & Marty

Frantz: marty.frantz@gmail.com, phone: 215-885-4812

PBJ Sandwich Donations

PLEASE NOTE: PBJs will not be collected December 23, 24, 30, 31

PBJ sandwiches can be dropped off at the following times:

Sunday mornings - Drop off your sandwiches in the narthex fridge when you come to Sunday morning services.

Mondays - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Coolers will be outside the chapel.

Tuesdays - 9:00 am to 10:45 am Coolers will be outside the chapel.

Please make PBJ sandwiches with plain white bread, creamy peanut butter, and grape jelly. Wrap sandwiches in individual sandwich baggies and leave them uncut. Mark your bag with the number of sandwiches enclosed.

Thank you to our volunteers who pick up and deliver the sandwiches! If you'd like to help with delivery, please contact the church office.

**Thanks to your support during 2024,
CLC donated 7,319 PBJ sandwiches!**

Sunday Livestream Viewers

Livestream congregants: Can you let me know who you are? I'd like to have a list of people who regularly watch our church service on the livestream. That's mostly to be able to get feedback about the experience of using the service and any changes or additions that might be helpful. Contact Kathryn Steen (worship & music) at kathryn.steen@protonmail.com or 215-247-5584 (that's a landline with an answering machine) or even snail mail to the church office.

Wine Donations for Communion

Thank you to all the folks who have been donating bottles of wine! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

We are happy to accept additional donations at any time from anyone who would like to donate a bottle or two of their favorite wine to help keep us in supply. Any wine can be communion wine!

Christ's Lutheran Preschool

We are presently accepting registrations for our Preschool Programs. All programs meet from 9:00-12:00.

Please contact Sally Mead, director, for more information at 215.886.4612 x 6 or clcpreschool@christs-oreland.org.

Digital Sound Board

If you are interest in joining our sound board team, please contact Kathryn Steen (kathryn.steen@protonmail.com), Music Chair, or Rick Daniels (daniels.r@verizon.net).

CLC Evening Meditations

Booklets, printed with the prior month's meditations, may be found in a labeled container in the narthex. You are encouraged to pick up one or more copies to read at home and to share with family, friends and neighbors. If you'd like the Tuesday and Thursday meditations delivered to your inbox, please contact the church office. clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org.

If you'd like to join the team of CLC meditation writers, contact John Frantz at johnhfrantz123@gmail.com or call 215-885-4812.

Christ's Lutheran Church
700 East Pennsylvania Avenue + Oreland, PA 19075
215-886-4612 + www.christs-oreland.org
clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org

Ministers	The People of Christ's Lutheran Church
Senior Pastor	Reverend Axel Kaegler
Director of Spiritual Formation	Becca Shelor
Director of Music	Ken Selinger
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer
Preschool Director	Sally Mead
Sexton	Pete Carr

Serving this evening:

Assisting Ministers	John Frantz
Communion Assistant	Jen Melnick, Sue Frantz John Frantz (as needed)
Soundboard	Diane Polis
Livestream	Rick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counters	Betty Messer
Closer	George Vermeire

Monday January 20th

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Parish Hill

Christ's Lutheran Church - Oreland

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE



Make the holiday an especially meaningful one for you and your children! Join us for some afternoon snacks! Then you will be working with your children on a variety of fun service projects!

ADMISSION IS FREE!

WE ASK THAT YOU BRING AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- **Money for Lutheran World Relief**
- **Non-perishable grocery items for food bank (no glass and please check expiration dates)**
- **a dessert to share**

This event is designed for families - please plan to stay and experience this Day of Service with your children.

All ages welcome!

RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15TH

to director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org

