

December 29, 2024

First Sunday of Christmas



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!

Merry Christmas! The wrappings are torn and the bows put away, but our celebration continues! Since medieval times, Christmas has been celebrated for twelve days, culminating with the arrival of the Wise Men at Epiphany, the thirteenth day. Each story anticipates the destiny of Jesus - the Savior of the world.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

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

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
 ELW # 288**



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je-sus Christ is born to-day;
 now ye hear of end-less bliss: Je-sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je-sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be-fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for-ev-er-more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev-er-last-ing hall.



Christ is born to-day! Christ is born to-day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

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.

Dialogue

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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

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

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

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

First Reading

John 1:1-14

A reading from John, chapter 1.

In the beginning was the one who is called the Word.

The Word was with God and was truly God.

² From the very beginning the Word was with God.

³ And with this Word, God created all things.

Nothing was made without the Word.

Everything that was created ⁴received its life from him, and his life gave light to everyone.

⁵ The light keeps shining in the dark, and darkness has never put it out.

⁶ God sent a man named John,

⁷ who came to tell about the light and to lead all people to have faith.

⁸ John wasn't this light. He came only to tell about the light.

⁹ The true light that shines on everyone was coming into the world.

¹⁰ The Word was in the world, but no one knew him, though God had made the world with his Word.

¹¹ He came into his own world, but his own nation did not welcome him.

¹² Yet some people accepted him and put their faith in him.

So he gave them the right to be the children of God.

¹³ They were not God's children by nature or because of any human desires.

God himself was the one who made them his children.

¹⁴ The Word became a human being and lived here with us.

We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father.

From Him the complete gifts of undeserved grace and truth have come down to us.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Verses 1, 2, 5

ELW # 295



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
A - men.

A reading from John, chapter 1.

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is truly God and is closest to the Father, has shown us what God is like.

The religious authorities in Jerusalem sent priests and temple helpers to ask John who he was. He told them plainly, "I am not the Messiah."²¹ Then when they asked him if he were Elijah, he said, "No, I am not!" And when they asked if he were the Prophet,^[a] he also said "No!"

²² Finally, they said, "Who are you then? We have to give an answer to the ones who sent us. Tell us who you are!"

²³ John answered in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "I am only someone shouting in the desert, 'Get the road ready for the Lord!' "

²⁴ Some Pharisees had also been sent to John. ²⁵ They asked him, "Why are you baptizing people, if you are not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet?"

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW # 276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ŁOBIE LEZY, Polish carol

A reading from Matthew, chapter 2.

When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem ² and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard about this, he was worried, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. ⁴ Herod brought together the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?"

⁵ They told him, "He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote,

⁶ 'Bethlehem in the land of Judea, you are very important among the towns of Judea. From your town will come a leader, who will be like a shepherd for my people Israel.' "

⁷ Herod secretly called in the wise men and asked them when they had first seen the star. ⁸ He told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, let me know. I also want to go and worship him."

⁹ The wise men listened to what the king said and then left. And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ They were thrilled and excited to see the star.

¹¹ When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshiped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and gave them to him. ¹² Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

We Three Kings of Orient Are

WOV # 646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

A reading from Matthew, chapter 2.

¹³ After the wise men had gone, an angel from the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Hurry and take the child and his mother to Egypt! Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is looking for the child and wants to kill him."

¹⁴ That night, Joseph got up and took his wife and the child to Egypt, ¹⁵ where they stayed until Herod died. So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, "I called my son out of Egypt."

¹⁶ When Herod found out that the wise men from the east had tricked him, he was very angry. He gave orders for his men to kill all the boys who lived in or near Bethlehem and were two years old and younger. This was based on what he had learned from the wise men.

¹⁷ So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet Jeremiah had said,

¹⁸ "In Ramah a voice was heard crying and weeping loudly.

Rachel was mourning for her children,

and she refused to be comforted, because they were dead."

¹⁹ After King Herod died, an angel from the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph while he was still in Egypt. ²⁰ The angel said, "Get up and take the child and his mother back to Israel. The people who wanted to kill him are now dead."

²¹ Joseph got up and left with them for Israel. ²² But when he heard that Herod's son Archelaus was now ruler of Judea, he was afraid to go there. Then in a dream he was told to go to Galilee, ²³ and they went to live there in the town of Nazareth. So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, "He will be called a Nazarene."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Once in Royal David's City
Verses 1 and 2

ELW # 269



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

Fifth Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

A reading from Matthew, chapter 3.

¹³ Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John kept objecting and said, "I ought to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?"

¹⁵ Jesus answered, "For now this is how it should be, because we must do all God wants us to do." Then John agreed.

¹⁶ So Jesus was baptized. And as soon as he came out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. ¹⁷ Then a voice from heaven said, "This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Verses 1, 2, 4

ELW # 272



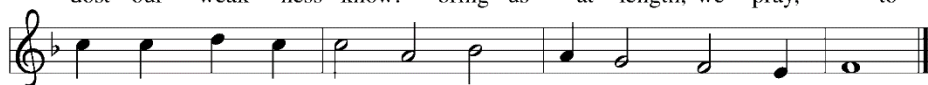
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1–2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4
 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599

A reading from John, chapter 2.

Three days later Mary, the mother of Jesus, was at a wedding feast in the village of Cana in Galilee. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited and were there.

³ When the wine was all gone, Mary said to Jesus, "They don't have any more wine."

⁴ Jesus replied, "Mother, my time hasn't yet come!^[a] You must not tell me what to do."

⁵ Mary then said to the servants, "Do whatever Jesus tells you to do."

⁶ At the feast there were six stone water jars that were used by the people for washing themselves in the way that their religion said they must. Each jar held about 100 liters. ⁷ Jesus told the servants to fill them to the top with water. Then after the jars had been filled, ⁸ he said, "Now take some water and give it to the man in charge of the feast."

The servants did as Jesus told them, ⁹ and the man in charge drank some of the water that had now turned into wine. He did not know where the wine had come from, but the servants did. He called the bridegroom over ¹⁰ and said, "The best wine is always served first. Then after the guests have had plenty, the other wine is served. But you have kept the best until last!"

¹¹ This was Jesus' first miracle,^[b] and he did it in the village of Cana in Galilee. There Jesus showed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Verses 1 and 4

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 in body or spirit.

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.

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,
receive our prayer.

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,
receive our prayer.

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,
receive our prayer.

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,
receive our prayer.

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,
receive our prayer.

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,
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

The peace of 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 stand.

Offertory Hymn

Verse 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!

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.

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.**

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.

The Sending Song
Verses 1, 4, 5

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells with you. **Thanks be to God.**

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 Truppay)
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)

*The flowers on the altar today are dedicated
by Sally Werntz for the Glory of God!*

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 today. Family Table resumes January 5.

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**. RSVP to jprasmussen9@gmail.com.

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 cwinney1@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 Greilich, 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 Revelation.

Home Visits

If you or someone you know would like Pastor Kaegler to visit, please contact him at clcseniorepastor@christsoreland.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@christsoreland.org.

FAITH IN ACTION

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! clcseniorepastor@christs-oreland.org. Training, prayer and fellowship will be provided.

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 30 and 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@christsoreland.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@christsoreland.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

Assisting Minister	Don Hallman
Soundboard	Diane Polis
Livestream	Rick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Betty Messer, Lori Stevens
Closer	George Vermeire
Assisting Minister next week	Wes Craig

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.



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This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:00 am 10:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (202) Worship at CLC and online
Monday	9:30 am 11:00 am	Monday Morning Men CLC Community Yarners (200)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	NEW YEAR'S DAY CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED AA (PH)
Thursday	7:00 pm	Pub Theology (Iron Hill Brewery)
Friday	8:00 pm	AA (PH)

Altar Flowers

Sign-up sheets are now available in the narthex to sponsor flowers for 2025. You may also contact the church office. One or both are available each Sunday at \$30 apiece. Thank you!

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@christ-s-oreland.org

