

October 26, 2025

Reformation Sunday



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!

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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 name is majestic in all the earth, who rescues and heals in every time of trouble, who does all things well.

Amen.

Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and saving God,

have mercy on us. We confess to you all the ways we turn from you and harm one another.

In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts.

Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness,

the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking,

the sheaves of wisdom and justice;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In the name of + Jesus, the Son of God,
receive mercy and find grace in your time of need.

Your transgressions are forgiven;

God's love is healing balm for your wounds.

Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

Amen.

Gathering Song

ELW # 504 | A Mighty Fortress is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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.**

Kyrie

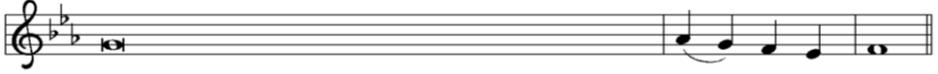
ELW Setting One



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

This is the Feast

ELW Setting One

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah, chapter 31.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

DATH # 18 | From the Fullness of God

The congregation will sing the following response:



From the full - ness of God have we



all re - ceived: grace up - on grace, peace up - on peace.

Text: John 1:16, adapt.
Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- 3 though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- 6 The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.

Response

- 7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 8 Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- 9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns
the shields with fire.
- 10 "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
- 11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Response

A reading from Romans, chapter 3.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

**Gospel Acclamation
(Sing Twice)**

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
ELW # 172**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Becca Shelor

A Moment of Prayer

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW # 752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Please stand in body or spirit.



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
 Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill. We pray especially for Rachael, Pam, Roseann, Joanne, Ken, Marlene, Marge, Eleanor, and Ann. Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our 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 be seated.

Today's Music: Our anthem this morning speaks of God's grace, a tenet of Martin Luther and the Reformation. Luther viewed grace as God's "freely given favor, not earned through human works or merit, but through faith in Jesus Christ." Luther taught that grace is a powerful force that forgives sins. It is a gift from God alone, not something that can be bought through indulgences. Our choir piece expresses those thoughts with "Till all have heard, we will stand on his Word...His grace will lead us through."

Musical Offering “His Grace Will Lead Us Through” McDonald

*Though the trials come, though the road seems long,
it is in the valley, His arms are strong.
When we lean on Jesus in all that we do,
His grace will lead us through!*

Please stand.

**Offertory Hymn
(Sing Twice)**

**Jesus, Lamb of God
W & P # 76**

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.'. The notes are simple, with some beamed eighth notes for 'wor - thy' and 'name;'.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"
Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

Offering Prayer

Our God is a generous God,
providing manna in the wilderness.

Our God is a steadfast God,
with us even unto the end of the age.

Our God is a God of newness and calling,
inviting us to honor new visions and embrace new dreams.

Israel was fed with manna from heaven.
Elijah was sustained by bread and meat brought by ravens.
The disciples traveled with a common purse,
sharing their gifts with one another.

Christ invited those gathered at the Feast of the Five Thousand
to witness a generosity beyond what they could imagine.
The ancient church shared all things in common,
believing that the call to communal spiritual growth

is also a call to give back to God what God has given us. In keeping with this history and heritage, trusting that God provides us with everything we need to do, what we are called to do, and be who we are called to be, we gather our offering - the first fruits of our labor. We commend them to God, the source of our blessings and hope.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Generous God, you invite us to live generous lives, trusting that you have given us to each other to work together:
We are better together.

In service to our neighbor, in love for all creation, and in proclamation of your good news for all:
We are better together.

Bless these gifts we've gathered,
give us generous hearts,
honest commitment to the call you've placed before us,
and sincere trust that we can rely on your grace and sufficiency
as we continue to serve you and your people.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting One



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

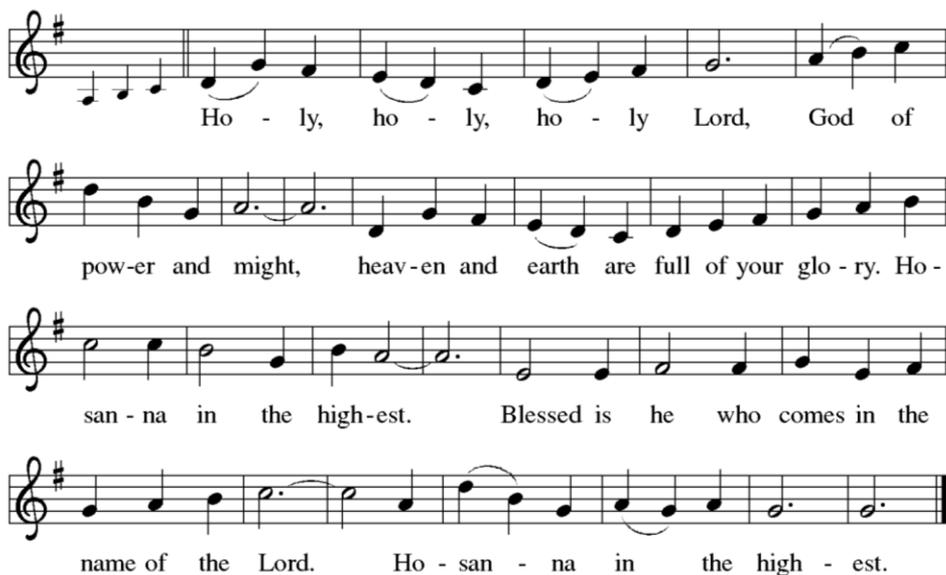
ELW Setting One

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
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 One



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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

Please be seated.

Lamb of God

ELW Setting One

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

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW # 685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.
 Music: PAIMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

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 Song

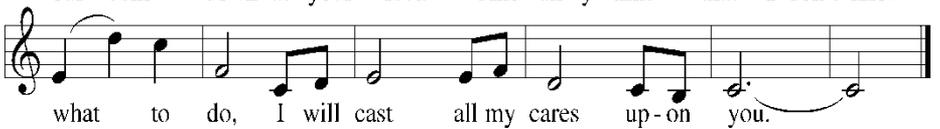
Cares Chorus



I cast all my cares up-on you; I lay all of my



bur - dens down at your feet. And an - y - time that I don't know



what to do, I will cast all my cares up-on you.

Prayer after Communion

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Blessing

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

The Sending Song

The Church's One Foundation

ELW # 654



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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.

Marlene Foody

Ken Hartman (friend of Wes Craig)

Marge Holmes

Ann O. (friend of Betsy Selinger)

Rachael Rinders (friend of the Kaegler Family)

Eleanor Rothenheber

Pam Schilling (friend of the Kelly Family)

Joanne Wendte (sister-in-law of Lynnmarie Harkins)

We remember in prayer the family and friends of Willie Kohlhepp (friend of Dottie Busillo) who died on October 6. May his loved ones be comforted by the promise and hope of the resurrection.

*The flowers on the altar today have been sponsored by
Jen and Danny Melnick in celebration of
Debbie & John's 40th wedding anniversary!*

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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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	Steve Seyfried
Communion Assistants	Kathryn Steen, Steve Seyfried
Soundboard	Diane Polis
Livestream	Rick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Lori Stevens
Altar Guild	Linda Daniels
Closer	TBD
Assisting Minister next Sunday	John Frantz

Upcoming Altar Guild: November 2 Sue Frantz

This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Family Tables (chapel) Choir Rehearsal Worship at CLC and online
Monday	9:30 am 10:00 am – 6:00 pm 11:00 am 7:30 pm	Monday Morning Men PBJ Collection (chapel) CLC Yarners (200) BS Troop 1 (PH)
Tuesday	9:00 am – 10:45 am 2:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	PBJ Collection (chapel) Generosity Team (200) Lions/Tigers (203/204) AOL Scouts (200) Webelos (PH) Pub Theology (Tannery Run)
Wednesday	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Bible Study (200) AA (PH)
Friday	8:00 pm	CRAFT FAIR SET UP AA (200)
Saturday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

**Holiday
Craft Fair**

Over 20 Unique Local Crafters - Raffle Baskets - Food for Sale
Proceeds of Raffle Baskets & Food Sale go to Willow Grove Baptist Food Pantry

**November
1st, 2025**
9 AM to 2 PM

Christ's Lutheran Church ★
700 E. Pennsylvania Ave
Oreland, PA 19075

★
**FREE
ENTRY**

community@christs-oreland.org