

**December 24, 2025**

**Christmas Eve**

**4:00 pm Family 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 Christ's Lutheran Church!**

May you experience the joy of God's presence as we worship together this evening. We are blessed by your presence!

### **The Service**

*~ The assembly responds with those parts printed in bold. ~*

**Prelude**

**Selections by CLC Youth**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Opening Litany**

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 from the Father.**

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

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

**A Scripture Based Christmas Pageant**  
**By Rev. Matthew Kozlowski**  
**Adapted with permission by Becca Shelor**

**2025 Pageant Cast**

Frankie - Camel

Joey A. - Mary's Donkey

Hannah - Narrator

Henry C. - Wise Man

Penelope - Angel

Laila - Angel

Mason - Sheep

Reese - Sheep

Audra - Angel

Charlie K. - Shepherd and Narrator

Joey K. - Shepherd and Narrator

Sasha - Angel

Henry N. - Shepherd and Narrator

Will N. - Wise Man and Narrator

Loa - Angel

Logan M. - Wise Man

Cooper - Joseph and Narrator

Charlie M. - Gabriel

Eva - Mary

Alice - Star

Braden - Shepherd and Narrator

Lucy - Narrator

Noah - Cow

Micah - Cow

James - Sheep

Aiden - Wise Man and Narrator

Peter - Shepherd

Cassie - Angel

Nate - Donkey

Lucy: The nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the Gospel writings of Luke and Matthew. Now the birth of Jesus took place in this way: in those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to their own towns to be registered.

***O Little Town of Bethlehem (#279 in ELW)***

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Cooper: Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them at the inn.

***Away in a Manger (#277 in ELW)***

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes.  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Henry N: And in that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

***Go Tell it on the Mountain (#290 in ELW)***

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks  
by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Braden: And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. And the angel said to them -

Gabriel (Charlie M): Do not be afraid; for I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people! To you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord!

Braden: And suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward all!"

***Angels We have Heard on High (#289 in ELW)***

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er  
the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Glo-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-ria. In excelsis Deo.  
Glo-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-ria. In excelsis Deo.

Charlie K.: When the angels had left them, 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Joey K: Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him."

### ***We Three Kings (#646 in WOV)***

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
West-ward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Will N: When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshiped him.

Aiden: Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### ***Joy to the World (#267 in hymnal)***

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
Let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Hannah: O God, we thank you for Jesus, your greatest gift. We thank you for the love, and joy, and hope that came into the world through Christ, our Savior. May we bring our hearts to him in love and service, just as the Wise Men sought him, and worshiped, and ladies their treasure before him. Amen.

## **Musical Interlude**

### **The Children's Message**

**Becca Shelor**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another. We pray especially for Rachael, Pam, Roseann, Joanne, Ken, Marlene, Marge, Eleanor, John, Sam, Charles, Grace, Fred, Jay, Bob, Paul, the Engle family, the Rose family, the Nelson family, and the Villeux family. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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.*

**The Offering**

**Selections by CLC Youth**

*Please stand.*

**Offertory Hymn**  
**Verse 3**

**What Child is This**  
**ELW # 296**



3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



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 glory,

great are your wonders among us

and many are the blessings you bestow.

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,

that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,

through Christ our Savior.

**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.

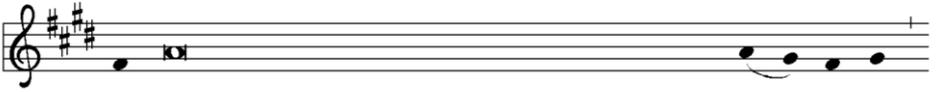
The image shows a musical score for a four-part setting. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes with slurs.

Preface

ELW Setting Four



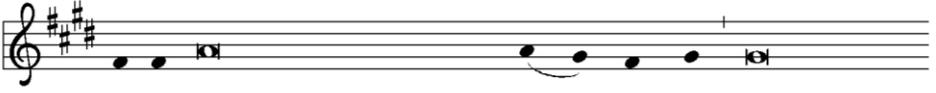
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



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,



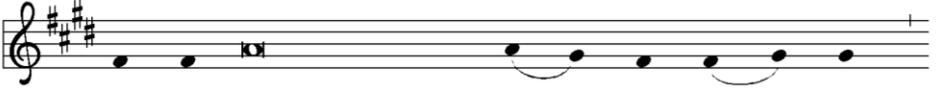
that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,



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:

## 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.

## Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

God is now in flesh appearing.  
Come to the feast of joy!

## 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, and picking up your glow stick.*

## 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

# O Come, All Ye Faithful ELW # 283



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

# Communion Hymn

## 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 sec! 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

*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.**

**The Post Communion Hymn**  
**Verses 2, 3, and 4**

**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.

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.  
 May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts  
 the mystery of your presence.  
 Move us to discover the wonders of your love  
 in the everyday moments of our lives,  
 through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

# Blessing

The triune God, glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,  
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.  
**Amen.**

# Passing the Light

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

# Sending Song

# Silent Night ELW # 281



*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**

Glory to God in the highest!

**And peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

**Thanks be to God.**

*As you leave today, children should pause in the Narthex and see Becca for a little Christmas gift from the congregation.*

*You may take your glow stick with you  
as you depart with the light of Christ.*

*Go in peace and share the light of God's love  
revealed in the Christ Child.*

***A very special thank you to our Family Tables families for  
leading us in worship this afternoon!***



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

Karen Bennion	In celebration of the season In celebration of family near and far
Don & Judy Berger	In celebration of family In memory of family In memory of friends
Jim & Mary Jane Brenneman	In memory of our parents In celebration of our children and grandchildren
Leigh-Ann Bussinger	In memory of William and Eunice Pfeiffer
Sherri Edwards	In memory of Ann and Duck Edwards In memory of Evelyn Edwards
Shirley Engle	In memory of Clyde Engle In celebration of my wonderful family
Ross & Sue Frantz	In celebration of our daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren In memory of John & Dot Frantz and Joan Reynolds
Jean & Steve Godsall-Myers (Omi and Opa)	In celebration of Chris Reynolds In honor 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
Jim Heidler	In memory of Eleanor Heidler, mother In memory of Marie Farr, sister In memory of Louise Watts, aunt
Cheryl Kaighn	In memory of George Kaighn
John & Debbie Melnick	In memory of our parents Alice & John and Helen & John In celebration of Jennifer & Danny
Jerry, Gail and the Polis Family	In memory of Jim Polis In memory of Heather Polis
Chris Reynolds	In memory of Joan Reynolds In celebration of my wonderful family
Kim Righter	In celebration of family and friends
Susan & David Ross	In memory of Raymond Ross In memory of Joan & Stan Hiltabiddle
Ken & Betsy Selinger	In memory of our parents and Ken's brother, Steve In celebration of our children, Stephen and Kristen and grandchildren, Cassidy and Ryan
Dolores Sweeney	In memory of Lawrence Sweeney
Dolores Sweeney, daughter	In memory of Joseph and Elise Dodel
Earl & Allison Uehling	In celebration of grandparents In celebration of Jenny, Thom, Abby, Shan, & Carly
Paul & Bonnie Zieger	In memory of Hermina and Paul Raser In memory of Ruth and Wilbur Zieger In memory of Anna Zieger

**Christ's Lutheran Church**  
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Ministers  
Senior Pastor  
Director of Spiritual Formation  
Director of Music  
Administrative Assistant  
Preschool Director  
Sexton

The People of Christ's Lutheran Church  
Reverend Axel Kaegler  
Becca Shelor  
Ken Selinger  
Lorraine Pfeiffer  
Sally Mead  
Pete Carr

**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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**Monday January 19th**  
10 am - 12 pm  
Parish Hall  
Christ's Lutheran Church - Oreland

# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE



Make the holiday an especially meaningful one for you and your children! Work with your child/children on a variety of fun service projects, designed for their smaller hands. Snacks will be provided.

**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)**

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

**All ages welcome!**

**RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH**  
to [director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org](mailto:director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org)

