

United In Christ Lutheran Church



*Christmas Eve
10am Worship
December 24, 2023*

*The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter
Vicar Katy Moran*

Welcome to our church!

*We hope the service is meaningful, and uplifting,
and that you will experience God's presence here.
May God bless you during worship today.*

***Special thanks to Tom Booth, lay worship leader from Christ's
Evangelical Lutheran Church, for preaching today.***

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

Please see a greeter.

ELEVATOR

Please see a greeter.

REST ROOMS

Downstairs across from the church office.

DIAPER CHANGING TABLE

In fellowship hall family restroom.

Visit us at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor

Vicar Katy Moran: Senior Seminarian

Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKS Coordinator

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

Marilyn Gresh: Music

United In Christ's Mission Statement:

*Led by the Spirit, we follow Christ's call to honor
God and neighbor through worship, learning, service,
prayer, stewardship and invitation.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Greensleeves - Eliza Haley on piano

CHRISTMAS GREETING

In a little town, known for nothing much, God's holy child
was born.

Welcome the Light!

By the faint light of the moon, Mary and Joseph found their way.

Welcome the Light!

Shown by a courtyard fire, the open stable door.

Welcome the Light!

Warm breath of resting beasts, kindly sparkle in their eyes.

Welcome the Light!

In the shadowy stable stall, Joseph kindled a lamp.

Welcome the Light!

There Mary gave birth to Jesus, called God-With-Us.

Welcome the Light!

Angels opened the doors of heaven and sang, "Glory to God in
the heights!"

Welcome the Light!

Shepherds saw the sky ablaze, left their sheep and came to see.

Welcome the Light!

In the darkest winter night, God set a brilliant star.

Welcome the Light!

Magi from the East divined God's shining sign.

Welcome the Light!

And on this Christmas Eve with joy, we greet the Child.

Welcome the Light!

Joy to the World



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.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Refrain
un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
teach us your will and guide our way.
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING


JOHN 1:1-4

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Sa-tan's

Si-nai's height in an-cient times you gave the law
tyr-an-ny; from depths of hell your peo-ple save,

Refrain
in cloud, and maj-es-ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
and give them vic-t'ry o'er the grave.

Em-man-u-el shall come to you, O Is-ra-el.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 2:1-20

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

Away in a Manger

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The minister and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please share the peace at whatever level of physical contact with which you are comfortable.

***Please fill out an Attendance Card,
and place the card in an offering plate.***

OFFERING

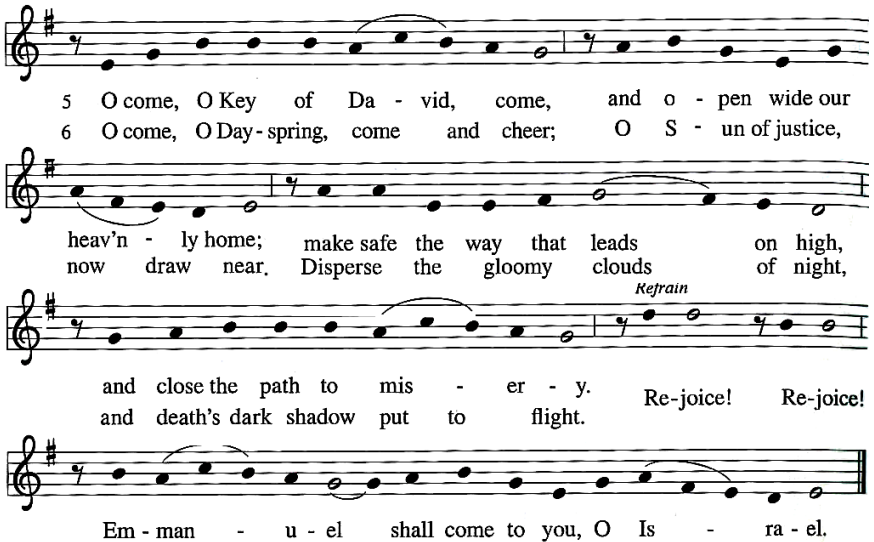
You are invited to place your offering in one of the plates as they are passed or to make use of our online offering plate through [tithely](http://tithely.com) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving by clicking on the green "Give Now" button.



SPECIAL MUSIC

Landon Warren on violin

OFFERTORY HYMN



5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our
6 O come, O Day - spring, come and cheer; O S - un of justice,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,
now draw near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and close the path to mis - er - y. *Refrain* Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

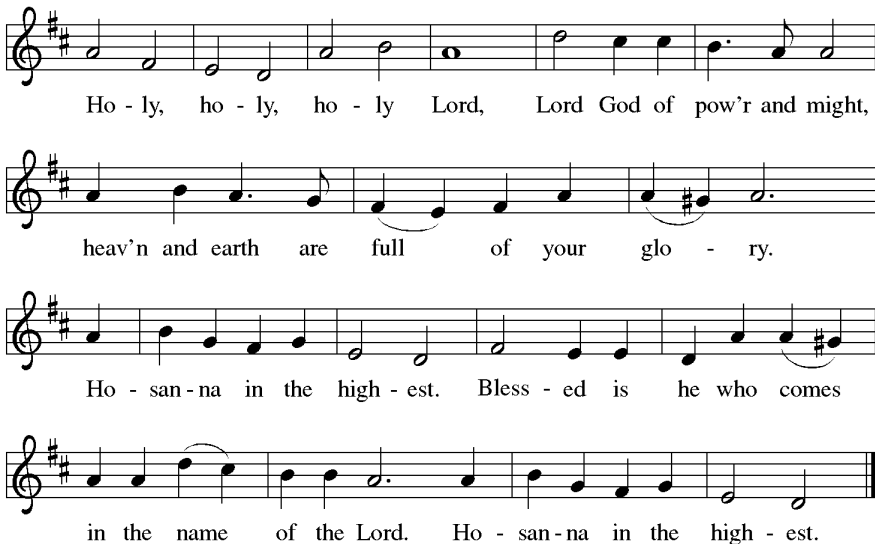
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

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

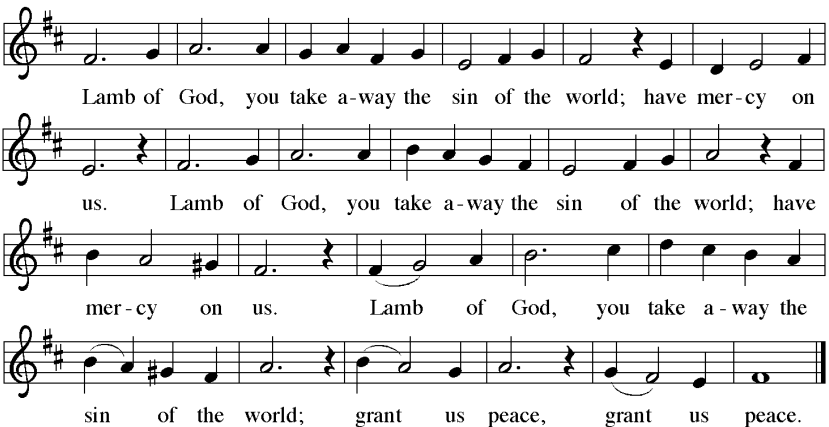
LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



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

Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, and all people are invited to his table. Those who do not wish to receive communion are invited to receive a blessing.

The body of Christ, given for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that
8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
bin - ds in one: refresh the hearts that l - ong for you;
Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
restore the broken, make us new. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 270

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



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.



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

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the Glory of God
in honor of George's birthday
by Kathy Guffey.*



The office will be closed December 25 - January 1.

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Dec. 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**
Faith and Fun Worship, 10:00am
Candlelight Worship, 6:00pm
Candlelight Worship, 11:00pm
- Mon - Fri Office Closed
- Sun, Dec. 31 Pajama Worship, 10:00am

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Ken Baker, Sandy Wertz, Emily McAuliffe, Casey Higgins and Kimberly Gordon, Annette Baker, Maryanne Headen, Walt Bingham, Tom Wetzell, Peg Swinehart, Russ Wynn, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Marie Tanner, Viv Marsh.



Happy Birthday

Dylan Sheaffer 12/25

Ed Snyder 12/30



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.

UNITED IN CHRIST
Christmas Eve Worship

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
MORNING SERVICE AT 10AM
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES AT
6PM AND 11PM

PAJAMA *Worship*



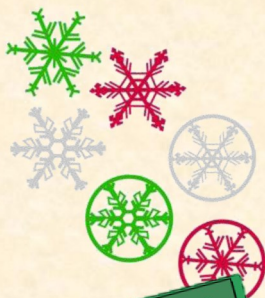
DECEMBER 31ST

Worship at 10:00am

Wear your PJs to church for

LESSONS & CAROLS!





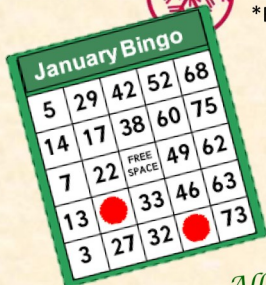
BINGO NIGHT

January 13, 2024

7:00 pm



*Bring one wrapped gift of no more than a \$5.00 value that would be enjoyable to all ages



Snacks and beverages will be offered



Where: Christ's Lutheran Church
(Lower Church Hall)
100 S. 3rd St., Lewisburg

All are welcome...we hope you'll join us!

MILTON PANTHER PACKS



Milton Panther Packs provides backpacks of food over the weekends, when school meals are not available. Every week there are over 250 children that take home food backpacks.

On Wednesday, January 3rd we will be helping pack bags of food for Milton Panther Packs. We need 20 people!

If you can help please add your name to the signup sheet in the fellowship hall.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Dec. 24, 10am	Dec. 24, 6pm	Dec. 24, 11pm
Social Hour			
Bread/Wine	S. Noll	C. Troxell S. Weiser	M. Shearer
Altar Guild	C. Troxell	D. Byerly K. Guffey	T. Cromwell
Digital Host	K. Guffey	K. Guffey	T. Cromwell
Front Door Greeter	T. Cromwell M.L. Keifer	J. Byerly D. Byerly	S. Bingaman
Side Door Greeter	K. Noll	A. Stark	
Lector	R. Sprenkle	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer
Ushers	M. Rabuck M. Shearer B. Swartz T. Swartz	S. Brown B. Troxell L. Rabuck M. Rabuck	S. Bingaman
Communion Asst.	T. Cromwell R. Kling	C. Troxell A. Stark D. Baker	S. Weiser M. Shearer
Guest Relations	K. Noll		
Offering Counter	L. Rabuck K. Guffey	L. Rabuck P. Hauck	M. Shearer TBD

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone on the schedule and then notify the office of the change.

If you are unable to trade with someone, please call Terri Cromwell at the church, 570-568-2254, and she will find a replacement for you.

United In Christ



Lutheran Church

**1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-568-2254**

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Sundays at 10am

THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER

CHURCH OFFICE

Open Mon. - Thur. 8:00am - 12:30pm
Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

VISIT US AT

Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC