

United In Christ Lutheran Church



*Christmas Eve
Candlelight 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.*

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

“Wexford Carol”

sung by Marina Gresh (6:00pm), Corinne Brock (11:00pm)

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Many ages after God created the heavens and the earth, when man and woman were formed in God’s own image; long after the great flood, when God sent the rainbow in the clouds as a sign of the covenant;

twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led God’s people to freedom; eleven centuries from the time of Ruth and the judges; a thousand years from the anointing of David as king;

in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the founding of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavius Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God, Son of the eternal Father, willing to hallow the world by his coming in mercy, was born of the virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.

Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh!

Angels We Have Heard on High

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

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

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

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

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Marina Gresh, 6:00pm

Emily Brock, 11:00pm

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?

Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;

hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

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 fam-

ily 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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

O Come All Ye Faithful

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



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



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

Refrain

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



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

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 tithe.ly 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.



OFFERTORY HYMN

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!

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

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff contains 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff contains 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff is a continuation of the melody without lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

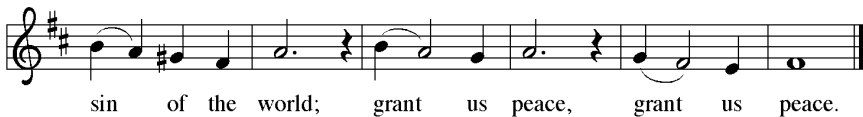
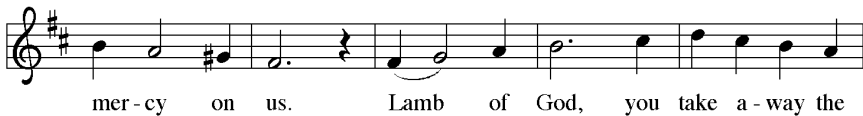
LORD'S PRAYER

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.**



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 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.

CANDLE LIGHTING

JOHN 1:1-5

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.

Silent Night, Holy Night

Please be careful with lit candles.

When it is time to light your candle, tilt the unlit candle into the flame to prevent the dripping of hot wax.



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.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

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.

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IN MEMORY OF:

Baby Boy Keifer by Bob and Sue Keifer

Mr. and Mrs. Malvern Keifer by Bob and Sue Keifer

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith by Bob and Sue Keifer

Albert Smith Jr by Bob and Sue Keifer

Irene and Gerald Stark by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Marlin & Myrtle Renn by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Dorothy & Donald Stroble by Rob, Teena, & Curtis
Zimmerman

Greg Engle by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Lee Stark by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Lester Backenstoos by Kelsey and Justin Lingenfelter

Grandma LeAnne by Wade and Scarlette Cooley

Mr. and Mrs. Bauren Troxell by Bob and Carol Troxell

Mr. and Mrs. David Stadden by Bob and Carol Troxell

Dave and Winnie Neilson by Mary Lou Keifer

Mac Keifer by Mary Lou Keifer

Roger Neilson by Mary Lou Keifer

Grace and Bob Yost by Tobias Baker

Melvin Baker Jr by Tobias Baker

Willard Hauck by Pam Hauck



Our Loved Ones by Kathy Guffey

Jane White by Diane Gottlieb

Ann Carole Daves by Diane Gottlieb

Percy and Only Rishel by Judith Rishel

Bob Huhn by Sherry Bingaman

IN HONOR OF:

Alecia Engle by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Al and Shiloh by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Laylanya and Koda by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Dave and Karen Baker by Rob, Teena, & Curtis Zimmerman

Granddaughters by Pam Hauck

Mary Baker by Tobias Baker

George, Jane, and Baby Timmy by Kathy Guffey

Nellie Kuhn by Sherry Bingaman

Walt & Rachel Bingaman by Sherry Bingaman

Rachel and Chris Peters
by Sherry Bingaman

Robert and Molly Bingaman
by Sherry Bingaman

Henry Peters by Sherry
Bingaman





The office will be closed December 25 - January 1.

PAJAMA *Worship*



DECEMBER 31ST
Worship at 10:00am

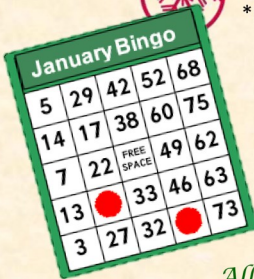
Wear your PJs to church for
LESSONS & CAROLS!



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!

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT
RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON JAN. 10TH,
JAN. 24TH AND FEB. 7TH



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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