

United In Christ Lutheran Church



First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter

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: UIC Pastor

The Rev. Katy Moran: CELC Pastor

Terri Cromwell: Parish Administrator and OAKS Senior Center Director

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

Marilyn Gresh: Music Director

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. † You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.



Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

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 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-joice! Re-joice!
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.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 16:7-13

⁷Now the messenger of the ALL-SEEING GOD found Hagar by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring that is beside the road to Shur. ⁸And the messenger said, “Hagar, slave-girl of Sarai, from where have you come and where are you going?” And she said, “From my mistress Sarai I am fleeing.” ⁹The messenger of the INSCRUTABLE GOD said to her, “Return to your mistress, and subject yourself to her.”

¹⁰The messenger of the WELLSPRING OF LIFE said to Hagar, “Greatly I will multiply your seed, so they cannot be counted for multitude.” ¹¹Then the messenger of the FOUNT OF LIFE said to her: “Look! You are pregnant and shall give birth to a son, and you shall call him Ishmael (meaning God hears), for the FAITHFUL ONE has heard of your abuse. ¹²He shall be a wild ass of a man, with his hand against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he shall live in the sight of all his kin.”

¹³So Hagar named the LIVING GOD who spoke to her: “You are El-ro’i”; for she said, “Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing God?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 71:4-11

⁴ My God, rescue me, from the hand of the wicked, from the clutch of the cruel and the ruthless.

⁵ **For you are my hope, Sovereign, WORTHY ONE, my trust, from my youth.**

⁶ Upon you I have leaned from birth,, from my mother’s belly, you cut me. You will I praise for all time.

⁷ **As a portent have I served to many, yet you are my strong refuge.**

⁸ My mouth is filled with your praise, all the day, with your glory.

⁹ **Do not cast me off in the time of old age; when my strength is spent, do not forsake me.**

¹⁰ For my enemies speak about me, and those who watch my life take counsel together.

¹¹ **They say, "Pursue and seize them, God has forsaken them, for there is none to deliver."**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting, and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 1:26-38

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town of Galilee, Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the name of the virgin was Mary. ²⁸And the angel came to Mary and said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Most High God is with you." ²⁹Now, she was troubled by the angel's words and pondered what sort

of greeting this was. ³⁰Then the angel said to her, “Fear not Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High,, and the Sovereign God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his sovereignty there will be no end.” ³⁴Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have not known a man intimately?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit, She will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the one born will be holy. He will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, Elizabeth your kinswoman has even conceived in her old age, and this is the sixth month for she who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the woman-slave of God; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel left her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON



The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Comes

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

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

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.
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

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

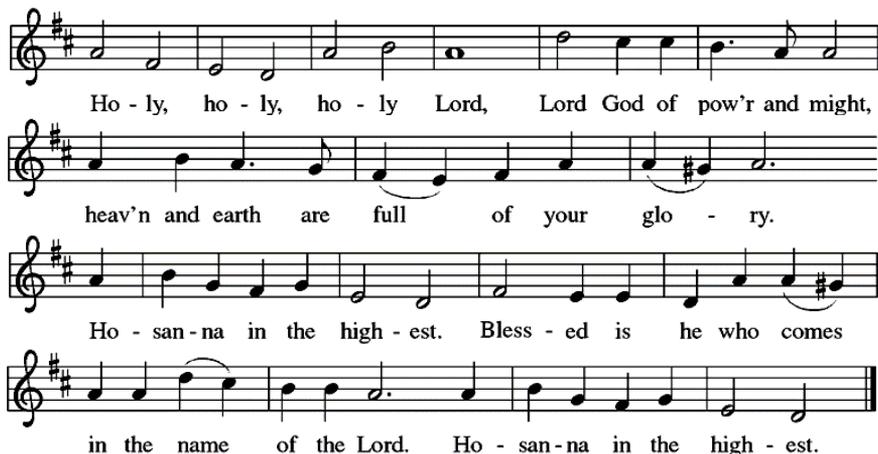
Lift up your hearts.

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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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.

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both 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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.
Thanks be to God.



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



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Together let us pray,

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen

BENEDICTION

May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS



▶ 1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free.
▶ 2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a Child and yet a King,



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it, Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the Glory of God
in memory of Dave and Winnie Neilson,
and Mac Keifer by Mary Lou Keifer.*

*After worship please join us in the
fellowship hall for social hour.*

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Nov. 30 **ADVENT 1**
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am
Assembling Blessing Bags, 11:15am
Fellowship Hall Reserved, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- Mon, Dec. 1 Office Closed
Cub Scouts, 6:30pm
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Tue, Dec. 2 Worship & Music Committee Mtg., 11:00am
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Wed, Dec. 3 Beers and Carols, 6:00pm
- Fri, Dec. 5 Office Closed
Delivery from Food Bank
Caroling in Lewisburg, 7:00pm
- Sat, Dec. 6 Christmas Craft Workshop, 3:00pm-5:00pm
- Sun, Dec. 7 **ADVENT 2**
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am
Faith Lab @ CELC, 4:30pm-6:30pm

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Elwood Brown, Sandy Brown, family and friends of Shirley Russell, Debbie, Jayne, Daniel Danowsky, Melissa, Patrick Moseley, Gigi Pray, Ted McPherrin, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, Mark Rabuck, Bob Keifer.



Are you or a loved one in need of prayer?

Submit your prayer request by calling 570-568-2254 or emailing it to office@unitedinchristlutheran.net.

Scripture instructs us to lift one another up in prayer. The prayer chain takes two forms: telephone or email. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please let Terri Cromwell know. Make sure you tell her if you would like a phone call or an email.

Happy Birthday

Danielle Murphy 11/30

John Russell 11/30

Ted McPherrin 12/3

Jeff Snyder 12/5

Jane Mertz 12/6



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



Fri., Dec. 5th
7pm - 7:45 pm

Meet at the
Lewisburg Post Office
on the corner of
Third & Market St.

Enjoy cookies at Christ's Lutheran Church afterward

Please signup at church or let Terri know you are going so Christ's has a headcount for the number of caroling booklets needed.

BEERS & CAROLS

JOIN THIS HOLIDAY PUB SING ON
DECEMBER 3 | 6:00PM
AT
**RUSTY RAIL
BREWING COMPANY**
5 NORTH 8TH ST.
MIFFLINBURG, PA

COORDINATED WITH:

Christ's Episcopal Lutheran Church
MILTON Lutheran Church
United In Christ Lutheran Church

You are encouraged to form a group of people and make a reservation in the main dining room.

Blue Christmas Worship

Wednesday, December 17th at 7:00pm
Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 South Third Street, Lewisburg, PA



UNITED IN CHRIST
Christmas Eve Worship
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
**CANDLELIGHT SERVICES AT
6PM AND 11PM**

Drive Thru

LIVE NATIVITY

SATURDAY, DEC. 13
6:30 TO 7:30 P.M.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
70 SOUTH MILL ROAD
POTTS GROVE, PA
(MILTON, IF USING GPS)



The office will be closed on the following dates.

Monday, December 1

Tuesday, December 2

Monday, December 15

Beginning on Thursday, December 25
and reopening on Monday, January 5th

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Nov. 30	Dec. 7	Dec. 14
Worship Leader	Justin	Katy	Justin
Social Hour	L - R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	K. Criswell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer
Altar Guild	S. Keifer	M. Catherman	B. Guffey
Digital Host	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	D. Murphy
Front Door Greeter	K. Baker S. Brown	K. Guffey ML. Keifer	L. Rabuck M. Rabuck
Side Door Greeter	M. Keifer	R. Kling	K. Noll
Lector	J. Rutt	H. Allegar	T. McPherrin
Ushers	B. Guffey R. Kling S. McPherrin T. McPherrin	S. McPherrin T. McPherrin J. Mertz B. Guffey	R. Kling L. Rabuck M. Rabuck M. Shearer
Communion Asst.	C. Robuck M. Shearer	B. Swartz S. Weiser	B. Catherman D. Davies
Guest Relations	M. Rabuck	B. Troxell	G. Weiser
Offering Counter	M. Rabuck B. Guffey	M. Rabuck B. Guffey	P. Hauck J. Rutt

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.



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