

United In Christ Lutheran Church



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 24, 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

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!



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!"

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

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

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

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

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:
Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 289

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.

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

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

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

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.

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 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Glo - ry to God in . . . the . . . high - est:
Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

OFFERING PRAYER

Together let us pray.

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. 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.

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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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

Thanks be to God.



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.

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 night.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Together let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. 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.



	<i>Stil - le Nacht,</i>	<i>hei - li - ge Nacht!</i>	<i>Al - les schläft,</i>
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,



	<i>ein - sam wacht</i>	<i>nur das trau - te,</i>	<i>hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.</i>
	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,



	<i>Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar,</i>	<i>schlaf in himm - li - scher</i>
	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



<i>Ruh,</i>	<i>schlaf in himm - li - scher</i>	<i>Ruh.</i>
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:

Paul Cromwell by Chad and Terri Cromwell

Ken and Millie Baker by Ruby and Ken Baker

Raymond and Ruby Baker by Ruby and Ken Baker

Percy and Only Rishel by Judy Rishel

Willard Hauck by Pam Hauck

Charles and Pauline Hauck by Pam Hauck

Baby Boy Keifer by Bob and Sue Keifer

Malvern and Martha Keifer Sr. by Bob and Sue Keifer

Albert and Shirley Smith Sr. by Bob and Sue Keifer

Albert Smith Jr. by Bob and Sue Keifer

Ralph Smith by Bob and Sue Keifer

Dave and Winnie Neison by Mary Lou Keifer

Bob and Grace Yost by Tobias Baker

Melvin Baker Jr. by Tobias Baker

Mac Keifer by Mary Lou Keifer

Ginny Criswell by Ken Criswell

*John and Dot Criswell by Ken
Criswell*

*Rick and our Parents by Kathy
Guffey*



William and Ella Johnson by Tim and Rose Stitzel

William and Louise Stitzel by Tim and Rose Stitzel

Elizabeth Reynolds by Tim and Rose Stitzel

David and Marie Tanner by Tim and Rose Stitzel

Vera and Marvin Keister by George and Sharon Weiser

Margaret and Melvin Weiser by George and Sharon Weiser

Dave and Marie Tanner by Dave and Michelle Davies

Edris and Arlene Davies by Dave and Michelle Davies

IN HONOR OF:

Mya and Dylan Cromwell by Chad and Terri Cromwell

Our Parents by Chad and Terri Cromwell

Our Grandchildren by Ruby and Ken Baker

Our Great-Grandchildren by Ruby and Ken Baker

Rose Marie Sharretts by Heather Allegar

My Children and Grandchildren by Kathy Guffey

Mary Baker by Tobias Baker



UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Scott Cutter, Brenda Bowser, 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.

**Church Office will
close beginning on
Christmas Day and will
reopen on January 5th.**





PAJAMA *Worship*



DECEMBER 28TH

Worship at 10:00am

Wear your PJs to church for

LESSONS & CAROLS!



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship
Hall. You may take your flowers
home after worship.



UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
JANUARY 7 AND 21



Beat the Winter Blues Bingo



Saturday, January 17

@ 6:00 pm.

at Christ's Lutheran Church

Everyone, please bring a
wrapped \$5 gift and
a snack to share.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Dec. 24 ~ 6pm	Dec. 24 ~ 11pm	Dec. 28
Worship Leader	Justin and Katy	Justin and Katy	Justin
Social Hour			L - R
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz K. Sprengle	M. Shearer	S. Weiser
Altar Guild	K. Guffey S. Keifer	M. Keifer	S. Keifer
Digital Host	K. Guffey		B. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	B. Swartz T. Swartz	Cromwell Family	C. Robuck D. Robuck
Side Door Greeter	R. Stitzel		G. Weiser
Lector	V. Tyrell	M. Shearer	B. Swartz
Ushers	D. Baker K. Criswell R. Kling S. McPherrin	T. Cromwell D. Murphy R. Baker M. Keifer	T. McPherrin J. Mertz B. Swartz T. Swartz
Communion Asst.	R. Kling B. Catherman T. McPherrin	T. Cromwell D. Murphy	M. Keifer C. Robuck
Guest Relations			M. Mertz
Offering Counter	L. Rabuck T. Stitzel	R. Baker M. Shearer	K. Guffey 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 - 2:00pm
Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

VISIT US AT

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