December Mission of the Month: Holiday Fund: Our Holiday Fund offerings support local agencies in our community. These gifts come from the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Easter special envelopes. Please give as generously as you are able through the Christmas envelopes, as these organizations rely on our continued support. Thank you for your generosity!

Financial Peace University: Sign Up Now on the bulletin board: Take control of your money with this nine-week class that uses biblical wisdom and common sense, to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt and invest in your future. Classes begin *January 7, 2026*, and meet Wednesdays, 6:30–8p in the fellowship hall. The class is FREE for church members and open to the first 10 individuals/couples who sign up. For more information, speak with Brad or Colleen Russell or Nate Weber.

2026 Altar Flowers: Sign-up sheets for **2026 altar flowers** are now available in the book in the narthex. The cost for 2026 is **\$30**.

YouthQuake: Pittsburgh Road Trip! Join us **January 23–25, 2026**, for YouthQuake at the Marriott Pittsburgh Airport! Cost: \$90 per student. Forms are available from Abbey Weber or on the bulletin board.

CALLING ALL VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS! Sign up today to join the Christ Lutheran team in the First Baptist Church League! Games begin Saturday, January 3, and continue each Saturday evening through early March. All games are held in the First Baptist Church gymnasium. The league is co-ed, and teenagers are welcome; however, parents should note that youth will be playing against mostly adult men and women. Come join the fun—sign up now!

The flowers in the chancel vases today are presented to the Glory of the Lord and in loving memory of Donald Miller on his 86th Birthday by Emma Miller.

Worship Team-Thank you for serving today

Ushers: Michelle & Drew London
Lectors: Ansen Armagost, Cohen Armagost, Ryan Mitchell,
Elaina Deasey, Addy Witherite, Alexis Gibson, Marlie Hemke
Comm. Assistants: Lisa Blasky, Janet Peterson
Altar Guild: Lisa Blasky/Cindy Chelednik

Welcome to Worship!



Lessons & Carols
December 21, 2025 ~ 9:45 a.m.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 875 Sunflower Drive, DuBois, PA 15801 (814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller, Pastor Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller, Pastor Abbey Weber, Family Ministry Coordinator Chris Luckenbill, Organist & Choir Director

christlutheran@penn.com www.christdubois.org www.facebook.com/christlutheranchurchdubois WiFi – Christ Church Guest password – worshiphere

(Restrooms are in the back hall behind the lobby; a family restroom is at the far end of the education wing. An unstaffed nursery is available off the lobby during worship, with services heard through overhead speakers.)

THE SERVICE

BOLD *lettering indicates a spoken response*

* Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Announcements

* Carol – Go Tell It on the Mountain

CCLI 1763436

Led by our Sunday School children & youth; Children only on first chorus & verse, then all join in.



Calendar for this Week +

Mon-Dec 22: 9:00a-Quilters

Tue-Dec 23: 6:00p-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal 6:30

Wed-Dec 24: Christmas Eve Worship Services

6:00 p.m.-Traditional

8:00 p.m.-Contemporary

10:00-p.m.-Traditional

Thurs-Dec 25: Merry Christmas Day ~ office closed

Fri-Dec 26: Office closed

Worship Attendance last week: 8:30-56; 9:45-68; 11:00-31

+ Upcoming Events & Monthly Ministries +

TODAY at 9:45 Sunday School Birthday Party for Jesus!

<u>TODAY at 10:30</u>...Join our congregational family for a <u>Holiday</u> <u>Retirement Send-Off</u> for Pastors John & Amy in the Fellowship Hall. Come and share festive finger food and fellowship to honor our Pastors for their time among us. The final service this morning begins at 11:15.

Christmas Eve: Traditional Worship $\sim 6:00$ p.m., Contemporary Worship $\sim 8:00$ p.m.—both of these services are very child-friendly! Traditional Worship $\sim 10:00$ p.m. All services include Holy Communion and the traditional candlelighting with Silent Night.

Next Sunday, December 28 our new interim pastor will lead our worship services. Please be here to meet and welcome him!

Do you like to bake bread? Would you like to become one of Christ Lutheran's Communion bread bakers? Please sign up ASAP by emailing or seeing Abbey Weber, as we are getting ready to make a new schedule.

Faith 5 Devotion available in narthex for the Advent & Christmas Season! Let's study the Bible together!

The January Worship Assistant list is available in the narthex.

December Food Pantry Items: Peanut Butter and/or Jelly

SENDING

* Blessing

P: In Jesus our Savior, God is with us. Almighty God, Father, Son +and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen



* Dismissal

P: Go out with joy to the world. Serve in the name of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

* Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

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

C: In Him was life and the life was the light of all people.

P: Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

Bible p. 2

A: The First Reading is from the 3rd chapter of Genesis.

Adam and Eve heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

A: Here ends the reading.

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking How we need to hear from God You've been promised, we've been waiting

Welcome Holy Child, Welcome Holy Child.

Hope that you don't mind our manger
How I wish we would have known
But long-awaited Holy Stranger, make Yourself at home
Please make Yourself at home.

Bring Your peace into our violence, bid our hungry souls be filled Word now breaking Heaven's silence

Welcome to our world, Welcome to our world.

Fragile finger sent to heal us, Tender brow prepared for thorn Tiny heart whose blood will save us Unto us is born, Unto us is born.

So wrap our injured flesh around You Breathe our air and walk our sod, rob our sin and make us holy

Perfect Son of God, Perfect Son of God, Welcome to our world.

Second Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Bible p. 642

A: The Second Reading is from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt--a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A: Here ends the reading.

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing? 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
- 3 So bring him in cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing; Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



* Post Communion Blessing

What Child Is This?

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

C: Amen

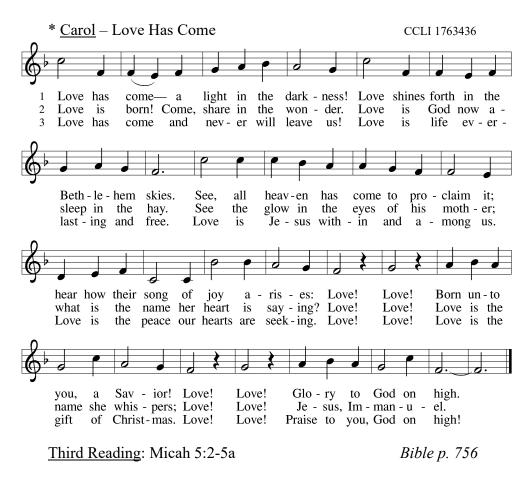
* Prayer

P: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION





A: The Third Reading is from the 5th chapter of Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem,

who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

A: Here ends the reading.



Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-38

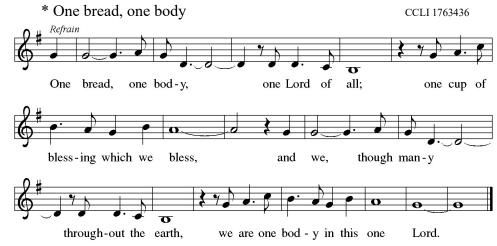
A: The Fourth Reading is from the 1st chapter of Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

* The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is 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



Communion (Please be seated)

For those at home or communing at their seat, please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. *The communicant may say: "Amen."*

If you desire to receive communion up front, please come forward via the center aisle. As the pastor and communion assistant give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. *The communicant may say: "Amen."*

Bible p. 831

* Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God,

C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

* Communion Prayer

P: Responding to the command of our Lord and desiring the life-giving presence of Christ, we come to the table.

C: The love of God is a gift and we do not deserve this gift.

P: Responding to the command of our Lord and desiring the life-giving presence of Christ, we share the body and blood.

C: We come with our wounds and faults, ready and willing to be refreshed with the true presence of Christ among us.

* Words of Institution

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

A: Here ends the reading.

<u>Contemporary Team</u> – Mary Did You Know?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
will give sight to the blind man?
Did you know that your baby boy
would calm a storm with His hand?
Did you know that your baby boy
has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again. The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Did you know that your baby boy will someday rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy was Heaven's perfect Lamb, and the sleeping Child you're holding is the great I AM?

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:1-7 Bible p. 832

A: The Fifth Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Luke.

In 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.

A: Here ends the reading.

Solo – I Still Believe in Christmas

~ Payson Preston

The choir's singing carols, Bells are ringing, streets are bright It's Christmas all around me, So why is Christmas hard to find? December snow is falling down, Like I am to my knees I could use some hope right now, 'Cause right now hope is hard to see, Help me still believe.

Refrain: For God so loved this broken world He sent His only son To a carpenter and a teenage girl to show us all His love

*Sharing of God's Peace

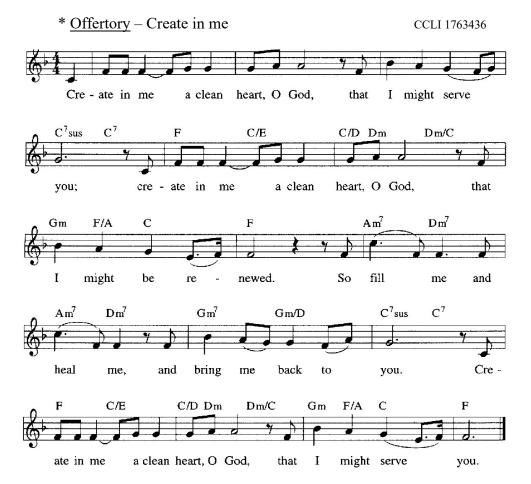
We follow Jesus' direction in Matthew chapter 5 and make peace with each other before coming to the altar: Jesus said, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Contemporary Worship Team



* Prayers

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The Pastor will offer prayers for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

He left His home in heaven to make heaven my home My Emmanuel is with me, and I'll never be alone Down here my heart can't find much to believe in But I still believe in Christmas.

I still believe in healing, For the weary and the hurt And in a world that's so divided, I still believe in peace on earth I still believe that love is strong enough to conquer hate And in a world that won't believe it, I still believe enough to say.

Refrain

I still believe in Jesus, The name above all names A Savior in a manger, And a star that leads the way Help us all believe

Refrain

Sixth Reading: Luke 2:21-35

Bible p. 833

A: The Sixth Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Luke.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

A: Here ends the reading.

Contemporary Team – Child of Bethlehem

CCLI 1763436

Still, quiet night in Bethlehem.
Earth sleeps and few take thought of Him.
But the heavens rejoice, and the angels sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.

Still, wise men worship at His feet.
And lost souls awaken from their sleep.
And the heavens rejoice, and the angels sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.
Down from heaven's glory to a manger bed.
Crucified glorified He was born to be our Savior.

Come, children over all the earth.
Come, celebrate the Savior's birth.
Every knee shall bow, every nation sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings, the Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.

Seventh Reading: John 1:1-14

Bible p. 862

A: The Seventh Reading is from the 1st chapter of John.

In 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.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

A: Here ends the reading.

* Carol – God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

CCLI 1763436

God rest ye merry gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay. Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas day. To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone astray; *Refrain*

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy.

Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem, in Israel This blessed Babe was born. And laid within a manger, Upon this blessed morn. To which his mother Mary, Did nothing take in scorn; *Refrain*

From God our heavenly Father, A blessed angel came. And unto certain shepherds, Brought tidings of the same. How that in Bethlehem was born, The Son of God by name; *Refrain*