



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA ~ (814) 371-2470

Rev. David Holtz, Interim Pastor  
Abbey Weber, Family Ministry Coordinator  
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1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas  
December 28, 2025 ~ 8:30 & 11:00

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## **PRELUDE:**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

*Stand*

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:**

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

**P:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**HYMN: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory***

**# 275**

**GREETING:**

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

**C: And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE:



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Ho - ly Ghost: as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and

ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*Sit*

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 63:7-9

*God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.*

A: The First Lesson is from the 63<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Isaiah.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. <sup>8</sup> For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior <sup>9</sup> in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 2:10-18**

*Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.*

A: The Second Lesson is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Hebrews.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup> saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” <sup>13</sup> And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.” <sup>14</sup> Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the

fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

A: The word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/THE RESPONSE:**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:13-23**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.  
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” <sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who

were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. <sup>17</sup> Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: <sup>18</sup> “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” <sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**SERMON:**

*The Rev. David Holtz*

*Stand*

**HYMN: *What Child Is This***

**# 296**

## **APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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:**

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

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

**P:** . . . Lord, in your mercy.

**C:** **Hear our prayer.**

**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**

## 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.**

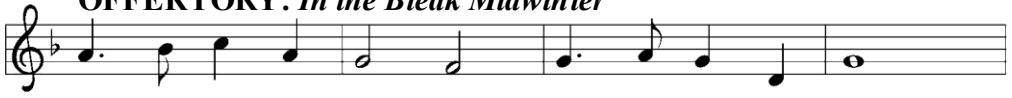
*The ministers and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

*Sit*

**OFFERING:** *Collected as the pastor prepares the Lord's Table.*

*Stand*

### **OFFERTORY: *In the Bleak Midwinter***



What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

## OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Merciful God,

**C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you show 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**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE:

P: 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:

## RESPONSE:



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: 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:

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:



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: *(Please be seated)*

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

P: The body of Christ, given for you; and 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."*

*Stand*

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

**C: Amen**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**PRAYER:**

P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

**BLESSING:**

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

*Sung Response: Amen, Amen, Amen*

**HYMN: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

**# 270**

**DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

**+ Calendar for this Week +**

**Mon-Dec 29:** 9:00a-Quilters

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

**Thurs-Jan 1:** New Year's Day ~ office closed

**Worship Attendance last week: 8:30-61; 9:45-115; 11:00-68**

**+ Upcoming Events & Monthly Ministries +**

**TODAY** we welcome Rev. David Holtz, our new interim pastor. Thank you for your presence among us!

**Friendly Reminder . . .** there is **NO** Sunday School for children & youth today. Families are encouraged to attend worship together. Sunday School resumes **next Sunday, January 4.**

**Volleyball News!** The first games will be **Saturday, January 3,** and continue each Saturday evening through early March. All games are held in the First Baptist Church gymnasium. Watch your email for details and times.

**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.

**The January Worship Assistant list** is available in the narthex.

**December Food Pantry Items:** Peanut Butter and/or Jelly.

**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. Early registration ends January 4.*

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*The flowers in the chancel vases today are presented to  
the Glory of the Lord and in memory of loved ones by  
Barbara Johnson.*

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**Worship Team-Thank you for serving today**

**8:30**

**Ushers: Bob Mortland, Jeff Kriner**

**Lector: Bob Mortland**

**Communion Assistants: Jeff Kriner, Art Keller**

**Acolyte: Aubree Keller**

**Altar Guild: Lisa Blasky/Cindy Chelednik**

**11:00**

**Ushers: Bill & Debbie Fye**

**Lector: Tammy Ott**

**Communion Assistants: Joanne Fitzpatrick, Tom Schott**

**Acolyte: Finn Hanzely**

**Altar Guild: Joyce Cramer**

# PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER ~ December 28, 2025

## **Shut-in & Nursing Home Members & Friends:**

Linda Berry ~ Edie Brown ~ Karen Deasey ~ Carolyn Finalle-Miller ~ Gary Froelich ~ Jeannine Fye ~ Nora Gelnett ~ Mary Jo Gomes ~ George Kramer Sr. ~ Hazel Kriner ~ Jim Norwood ~ Geneva Roberts ~ Hazel Salada ~ Gary Salada ~ Emily Schindley ~ Betty Swanson ~ Shirley Williams

## **Those Serving in the Military:**

Davey Aughenbaugh ~ Luke Cardellino ~ Cory Good ~ Lyndsey Good ~ Abby Fritz ~ Josh Lanzoni ~ Tyler Lenkerd ~ Paul McCurdy ~ Justin Neeper ~ Mike O'Harrow ~ Wesley Russell ~ Caleb Shields ~ Colton Shields ~ Jacey Wells ~ Chuckie White

## **Long Term Prayer Requests:**

Abby ~ Ron Abrams ~ Carla Adamson ~ Drew Albert ~ Chuck Allen ~ Patti Allen ~ Debbie Anderson ~ Tia Angeletti ~ Jim August ~ Austin Family ~ Stephanie Barnett ~ Julie Baun ~ Dona Bean ~ Sandy Bender ~ Pat Biss ~ Larry Bosco ~ Bryson ~ Little Eleanor Bundy ~ Ray Bush ~ CinDee Byer ~ Gary Campbell ~ Chuck Case ~ Deb Clark ~ Louise Cramer ~ Bill Deitman ~ Carol DeLarme ~ Rick Delp ~ Jack Dennison ~ Cheryl DeSantis ~ Brad Dodd ~ Candy Douthit ~ Patrick Drodody ~ Jamie Dungey ~ Mia Edwards ~ Emily ~ Ruben Ellis ~ Krista Evans ~ Denise Faulkrod ~ Tim Fuller ~ Lee Gelnett ~ Leah Gelnett ~ Beth Giese ~ Bryson Gray ~ Greg & Family ~ Arnold Gregory ~ Jim Haag ~ Pat Hamlin ~ Dennis Harris ~ Jackie & Bill Hartman ~ Eric Hazuda ~ Brenda Hickman ~ Larry Hickman ~ Bruce Hiles ~ TJ Holt ~ Nancy Hoover ~ Little Carter Horn ~ Gabby Horner ~ Dick & Bev Hudson ~ Vicki Jacklin ~ Lincoln Johnston ~ Cheryl Jones ~ Baby Ben K. ~ Lorraine Kakula ~ Jim Kearney ~ Tish Keen ~ Eli Keim ~ Dave Kness ~ Richard Kolcun ~ Jim Kriner ~ Carol Lawson ~ Cindy & Tom Leete ~ Doug Leidl ~ David Leonard ~ Anne Lettrich ~ Rick Lieber ~ Nancy Lilja ~ Brandon Lokesak ~ Mark M. ~ Karen Markievich ~ Mark Markievich ~ Emily Marshall ~ Marti ~ Mason Martin ~ Barbara Martini ~ Terie McBride ~ Rebecca McCartney ~ Keymo McKay ~ Shea McKinney ~ Walt Michalak ~ Bob Mickey ~ Bob Moline ~ Steve Moore ~ Brenda & Brett Mortimer ~ Gail Nissley ~ Jim Nelles ~ Debbie Newell ~ Joy Norwood ~ Mary & Christian Olrich ~ Joyce Opper ~ Karen Ordog ~ Francie Page ~ Stacy Park ~ Linda Peterson ~ Barb Phleger ~ Mary Ann Piccirillo ~ Kristin Plotner ~ Morgan Pope ~ Mike Poulliot ~ Deb & Bill Presnar ~ Liz Preston ~ Nancy R. ~ Cal Ratcliff ~ Scott Reinard ~ Heidi Riley & Family ~ Elaine Russel ~ Marie Russell ~ Brianne Sage ~ Sara ~ Joe Shaffer ~ Molly Shaffer ~ Ann Simbeck ~ Greg Smeal ~ Terri Smouse ~ Ellen Sneddon ~ Tim Spencer ~ Little Faith Spicher ~ Little Levi Spickler ~ Karen Sprague ~ Ruth Sutphin ~ Dathan Swanson ~ Steven Sykes ~ Pat Teats ~ Diane Thomson ~ Karen Tobasco ~ Vickie Trisoline ~ Evelyn Vandervort ~ Eric Waldeck ~ Mary Lou Waldeck ~ Dr. Rod Wall ~ Jean Waltenbaugh ~ Gail Walter ~ Wanda Ward ~ Laura Wascovich ~ Melissa Wayne ~ Chloe Welder ~ Donald Wells ~ Shirley Wells ~ Joyce Whaling ~ Tammy Winters ~ Art Whitmore ~ Will ~ Becky Yasick ~ Nora Yasick ~ Charles Yonushonis ~ Jerry Zimmerman

## **Short Term (Four Week) Prayer Requests:**

David Radaker, Marie Russell, Aaron Eberly

To add or remove from this list, call the church office at 814-371-2470.