# DECEMBER 24, 2023 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD/CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00pm Worship Service

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
467 MAIN ST., P. O. BOX 494
CONYNGHAM, PA



Weekly Worship: Saturday @ 5:00pm Sunday @ 10:30am

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church is a redeemed family of God's people empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the love of God in Jesus Christ in this community and in the world.

As an active and growing congregation, we share ourselves, our time, and our possessions to serve the Lord by serving others. Inspired in worship, nurtured through teaching, supported with fellowship, and strengthened by prayer, we reach out to others with the Gospel, now and in future generations.

Patterson Derr - Minister of Music/Treasurer

**Cynthia Derr – Church Secretary/Congregation Council Secretary** 

**Sexton – Margie Yost** 

Congregation Council – Betty Anne Bernstein, Julia Bobrowski, Joyce Bradbury, Beth Brown Barbara DeLong, Jean Frye, Deb Jones, Marty Kellow, Dave Kisenwether, Scott Steiner, Jessica Thorne(vice-president) and Ken Welsh (president)

**Designated Pastor – Rev. Wayne Lupole** 

Welcome in the name of Christ, whose church this is! If you are seeking a church home, please notify the church office. Contact information is on the front of the bulletin.

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:** Hearing Assistive Devices are located on the table at the entrance to the worship space. An ADA Compliant restroom and changing station are located in the entrance hallway. A first aid kit, water, juice and snacks are in the kitchenette adjacent to the Parlor (main entrance room).

**FOR SECURITY:** During worship, only the upper-level main entrance doors are openall other doors are locked.

Have any questions? An usher will be glad to help you!

Individual communion cups are ready for pick up for you to use at home. They are inside the front door of the parlor and may be picked up during office hours. Please help yourself. You may also commune with what you have handy at home; bread, crackers, juice, wine, etc.

Our Sunday morning 10:30am service is on our FaceBook page "Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation" or catch the service on the website video tab using 'clcconyngham.org'. The bulletin is on the web site using the bulletin tab.

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH December 24, 2023 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD/CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00pm Worship Service

# GATHERING

PRELUDES "A Celtic Christmas Overture"

arr. Larry Shackley

Patt Derr - Piano

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

arr. Pinkzebra

**Celebration Singers** 

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

**GATHERING HYMN** 

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**ELW(red) #283** 

#### **GREETING**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

C Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

C Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE** 

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**ELW(red) #270** 

PLEASE BE SEATED

# WORD

#### A READING FROM ISAIAH

#### **Isaiah 9:2-7**

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

- L The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God!

#### A READING FROM TITUS

#### Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace is an invitation for God's people to live a life worthy of the new age inaugurated in Jesus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

- L The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God!

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

"What Child Is This"

Please join in singing

What child is this, who, laid to rest.
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE THE 2<sup>nd</sup> CHAPTER

## C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Luke 2:1-20

Luke tells the story of Jesus' birth with reference to rulers of the world because this birth has significance for the whole earth, and conveys a divine offer of peace.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

 $\mathcal{P}$  The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON

Pastor Fairchild

All children are invited to join Pastor Chip for the children's sermon and to join in carrying the Christ Child to the manger.

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Away In a Manger"

**ELW(red)** #278

<u>MEAL</u>

#### SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

 $\mathcal{P}$  The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please greet each other as you are comfortable.

PLEASE BE SEATED

#### **OFFERING**

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

"On a Silent Night Long, Long Ago"

\*\*Celebration Singers\*\* arr. Phillip Keveren

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

**OFFERTORY** 

"The First Noel"

The first Noel the angels did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields where they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A In thanksgiving for our offering, 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.

C Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- $\mathcal{P}$  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 him thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- **C** 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 COMMUNION

P Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

#### **COMMUNION**

- P Lamb of God,
- C you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- P Lamb of God,
- C you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

#### HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Those using the pre-filled communion elements and the people on Facebook will take communion first. Those taking communion from the altar will receive next. Proceed forward from your pew toward the altar. The Lectern side (right facing Altar) will proceed first and then the Pulpit side (left facing Altar). Pick up an empty communion glass as you approach, or use a cup filled with grape juice. Receive the bread and eat the wafer, then the assistant will fill your cup with wine and drink. Deposit empty cups in the bowls provided on the way back to your pews and be seated. If you need a gluten-free wafer, come forward with your arms crossed in front of you.

## COMMUNION HYMNS - sing first and last verse of each hymn

ELW #279 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ELW #289 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"

ELW #282 – "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace.
- C Amen.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

#### C Amen.

#### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The ushers will come forward and receive the light from the Pastor's candle and then distribute the light to persons on the end of the pews. The light will then be shared from one person to the next. Unlit candles should be tipped towards lighted candles to avoid dripping hot wax. When all have received the light we will begin the hymn.

#### HYMN "SILENT NIGHT"

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

# SENDING

#### BENEDICTION

- God bless you and keep you,
   I Jesus grant you grace and truth,
   and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
  - now and forever.

C Amen.

#### **EXTINGUISH CANDLES**

SENDING HYMN

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

**ELW(red) #290** 

#### DISMISSAL

- P Christ the Savior is born!
  - Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

# POSTLUDE "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Anna Laura Page

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The flowers are offered to the glory of God by Sue Danko in memory of Mike Danko and loved ones.

The bulletins are offered to the glory of God by Sue Oliver in honor of her family members.

**Worship Helpers** 

Asst. Minister
Acolyte
Acolyte
Beader
Comm. Assts.

Julia Bobrowski
Ashley Marsicano
Dave Getz & Tom Toth
Ushers
Joanne & Dave Getz

Next Weekend: December 30 & 31, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS Saturday 5pm Service Worship Service at 10:30am

Sunday School at 9:15am

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR **2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES**. THEY ARE ON THE TABLE IN THE PARLOR.

#### **Poinsettia Gifts**

Helen Badamo and family

in memory of Anthony Badamo

Rusty and Linda Beishline

in memory of loves ones

Dick and Betty Anne Bernstein

in memory of parents and grandparents and in honor of children and grandchildren

Gordon and Grace Boyer

in memory of Don Boyer and loved ones

Sue and Steven Boyer

in memory of Don Boyer

Jim and Joyce Bradbury

in memory of loved ones

Beth & Blake Brown

in memory of George Dippel

Lisa and Jay Budgeon

in memory of loved ones

Chivers Family

in memory of Charles and Florence Kisenwether

Patterson and Cynthia Derr

in memory of Cindy's dad and Patt's mom and dad

Arline and Juergen Friedrich

in memory of loved ones

Paul and Dorothy Heckrote

in memory of parents, loved ones and Emma McElwee

Shirley Heckrote

in memory of Paul & Hazel Heckrote

Ken and Shirley Ikeda

in memory of loved ones

Fred and Marian Jaxheimer

in memory of Marian's parents and Fred's father

Diana Jessel

in memory of Thomas Sterba

Deb Jones, Tony and Jesse

in memory of H. Raymond and Eleanor Jones

Deb Jones and Dennis Mallams

in memory of Tom Winters

Mary Lou Keck

in memory of Marvin Keck

Edna Kisenwether

in memory of loved ones

Children & Grandchildren

in memory of their devoted mothers, sisters Linda (Slosser) Kurtz and Sharon (Slosser)

Gregory

Kurtz and Gregory grandchildrem

in memory of their grandparents Charles and Nora Slosser

**Kurtz Family** 

in honor of Betty Anne Bernstein and family for their years of dedication to the church

Harry Mallams

in memory of Harry & Ruth Mallams and Kurt Mallams

Linda Mantz

In memory of Viola Assenmacher

Charles Lingenfelter

in memory of Sandra H. Lingenfelter

Dawn Luchi

in memory of Leo Luchi

Sandy Marchetti

in memory of Ted and Helen Houseknecht

Sue, Lynn, Alyssa and Kayla Oliver

in memory of John and Johnnie Oliver

Roy and Doris Renninger

in memory of their parents

Cathy, Tim and Tyler Russell

in memory of Ellen, John and David Light and Betty and Bob Russell

Wil and Carol Samler

in memory of Dennis R. Moore, Sr. and Donna Andraski

Scott, Lori, Kyle, Shelby and Ryan Steiner

in memory of loved ones

Ruth Swank

in memory of loved ones

Tom Toth

in memory of Carol Pastorella

Rick Walck

in memory of Rich, Emily and Diana

Kathleen Wittig

in memory of her parents Thomas and Mildred Judge

Rosalie Wright

in memory of Ed Wright

Margie Yost

in memory of Bill, Sondra and Jim Yost

Please take your poinsettia home with you after worship tonight

# A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

## **EPIPHANY CELEBRATION PLANNED**

Do you have a Nativity set(s) that you would like to be on display at our Epiphany Celebration on **January 7**<sup>th</sup>? Would you like to share some good food and fellowship at a light lunch that day after church? If the answer is yes, look in the church parlor for the sign-up sheet.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON JANUARY 7th?

This year we are not going to let Epiphany come and go without a celebration! Plan to be a part of the festivities. Humphrey the camel will be here during Sunday School, there will be a display of church members' Nativity sets, there will be a children's sermon during worship and then lunch and fellowship time. Invite someone to come with you! Everyone is welcome! Don't let the "post-Christmas blahs" set in and help get 2024 off to a great start by being in Sunday School and church on **January** 7<sup>th</sup>!

## HERE IS HOW TO GET YOUR NATIVITY SET (SETS) DISPLAYED

Please bring your Nativity set(s) to Roth Hall on **Saturday January 6<sup>th</sup> between 10am-Noon**. Volunteers will be there to help with setting things up for the display.

After lunch on **Sunday January** 7<sup>th</sup> anyone who brought a Nativity set will be responsible for dismantling and packing up whatever they brought to display and will take it home with them that day, The goal is to have everyone's Nativity set kept safe and with its owner. Don't miss this special day here at our church! Help spread the good news that Jesus is the Light of the World!





## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 270 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king; Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord, Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled." and mer - cy mild, peace on earth, 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; Hail, in - car - nate Veiled in flesh the God-head see! de - i - ty! Mild he lays his glo - ry born that we no more may die, "Christ is born an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, in Beth - le - hem!" Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el! sec - ond birth. to raise each child of earth, born to give us



#### Away in a Manger 278 way in man - ger, crib for his bed, no 2 The cat - tle low - ing; the ba - by are wakes, Be near me, Lord Je - sus; ask you to stay the - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head; but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, cry - ing no he makes. close for ev - er and love me, pray. the stars in the bright sky looked down where he Je - sus; chil - dren love you, Lord look down from the sky Bless all the dear in your ten - der care the lit tle Lord Je - sus sleep hay. and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing nigh. and fit for heav - en, live with you there.

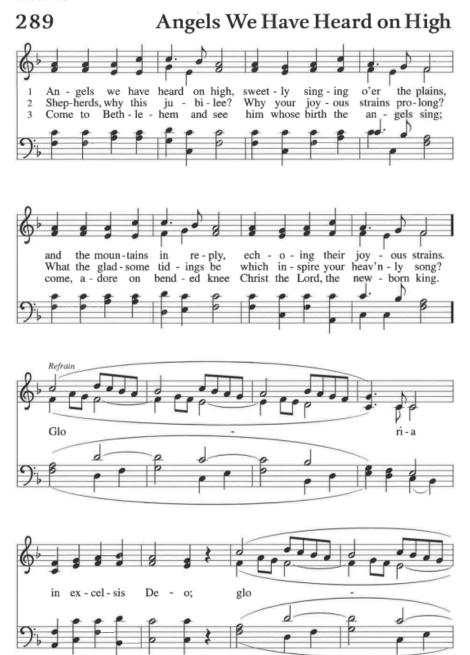
Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838–1921; arr. David Willcocks, b. 1919 Arr. © Oxford University Press

CRADLE SONG 11 11 11 11

## 279

# O Little Town of Bethlehem



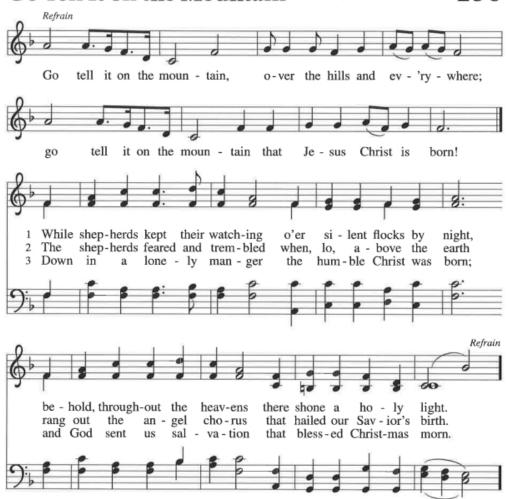




# It Came upon the Midnight Clear 282 up - on the mid-night clear, that glo - rious song of 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un - furled, be - neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low, The days are has-t'ning on, by proph-ets seen of old, from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold: and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world. who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow: when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told, "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king." A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing, look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling, when peace shall o -The world in sol - emn still-ness lay hear the an - gels to ba - bel sounds the and ev - er o'er its bless-ed an - gels oh, rest be-side the wea-ry road and hear the an - gels the world give back the song which now the an - gels

# Go Tell It on the Mountain

290



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: African American spiritual

GO TELL IT 78767676