

Christ Lutheran Church
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First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

WELCOME

Announcements

Prelude “Freedom Is Coming”

Chancel Choir

*** A Call to Worship**

P: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again.

Let us pray that we may be ready to welcome him.

C: Come, Lord Jesus!

P: That keeping of Advent may open our hearts.

C: Come, Lord Jesus!

P: That the light of Christ may penetrate any darkness in our lives.

C: Come, Lord Jesus!

P: That this Advent wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

C: Come, Lord Jesus!

P: Now we light the first candle of Advent. May we begin to prepare again in this journey of expectation and hope.

* Lighting of the first Advent Candle

Hymn 257 (Verses 1-2)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile
here until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain***

* Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Long-expected God,

**C: 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.

P: 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.**

*** Gathering Hymn 901**

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,

Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.

seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;

Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

* 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.**

* Kyrie

(Setting 8 – Page 184)

A Kyrie may be sung. The assembly sings the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.

Refrain S 184

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev'-ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

* Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson: *Isaiah 2:1-5*

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 122*

¹ I was glad when they | said to me,
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD.”

² **Now our | feet are standing
within your gates, | O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built | as a city
that is at unity | with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the LORD.**

⁵ For there are the | thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the | house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:
“May they pros- | per who love you.**

⁷ Peace be with- | in your walls
and quietness with- | in your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred | and companions,
I pray for | your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the | LORD our God,
I will seek to | do you good.”

Second Lesson: *Romans 13:11-14*

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 8 – Page 188)

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 24:36-44*

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 260

“The King Shall Come”

* Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty.
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord

Organ Voluntary

Anthem

Chancel Choir

“African Advent Carol”

Words and Music by Michael Barrett

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn 674

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

**Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

**Christ is able to make us one,
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. *Refrain***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! *Refrain***

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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*** Offertory Prayer**

L: 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.

C: Amen.

*** The 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 God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

*** (Holy, Holy Holy)**

(Setting 8 – Page 190)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

* The Words of Institution

* The 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.

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

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 8 – Page 191)

S 191

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, Lamb of God.

Distribution of the Sacrament

“We Are Waiting for Jesus”

Chancel Choir

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: 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.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: 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 715**

“Christ, Be Our Light”

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

* * * * *

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

The Bulletins and the Communion Bread & Wine have been given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for our family by Shirley & Jim Smith.

The November Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in memory of Garrett and in memory of Merle's and my anniversary by Sally Buser.

Noisy Offering – We received \$284.35 last week. We thank everyone for their generosity. The funds will be sent to the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and earmarked for flood disaster relief in Allegany and Garrett Counties.

Bible Studies - We are now studying women of the Bible on Sunday mornings, 11:30am and the God and Suffering on Thursday mornings at 10:30am. This is also on Zoom! Please come join us!

Please pick-up your Advent devotionals on the table in the main narthex

Please support our Christmas Bazaar Reach Meal fundraiser. It will be held in our fellowship hall on **Saturday December 13, 2025 from 10 AM-3PM.** There will be small business vendors here with their handmade items for sale. Laura Crabtree is coordinating this event for us.

We will also have a food vendor here and an auction table with many items. If you would like to donate a food, craft, or service for the auction please contact Diane Klinetob (240-580-0431) by calling or texting. **If you plan to donate, please notify me by Dec. 8th.** Your item(s) need to be at church by December 12th. (See poster in bulletin)

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, November 30 – Devon Swanson	Ushers: Ken Wendell, Gary Llewellyn
Wednesday, December 3 – Lydia Martin	Dec. Ushers: Ed & Lita Havens
Next Sunday, December 7 – Anne DeVaughn	Organist: Corinna Hilderbrand
Next Wednesday, December 10 –Jeff Smith	A/V – Steve, Mark, Kathy, Joyce

This week –

This Sunday – Worship at 10: followed by Adult SCS

Wednesday – Advent & Healing Thanksgiving Service – 6:30pm

Chancel Choir rehearsal – 7:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30pm

Friday – Crafts in upper kitchen – 10am, Lady Birds – 11:00am, Diane Music – 1:00pm

Advent Craft Night – 6:30pm

Saturday – Fellowship hall use by Simmons

Next Sunday – Worship at 10:00am followed light lunch and Hanging of the Greens.

Get out your calendars and mark the dates!!! On Friday, December 5th you are invited to attend an Advent Craft night. There will be crafts for all ages, and in the near future we will share what those crafts are. We have elves behind the scenes make some so you can see what will be available. To help offset the cost of materials, if you are able, we will be asking for five dollars (\$5.00) per family. The evening would not be complete without snacks so please bring something to share.

THEN...

On Sunday, December 7th immediately following the service you are invited to stay for a light lunch and Hanging of the Greens. We will be decorating the Christmas tree, the sanctuary and the narthex. During lunch you will be invited to participate in some Christmas trivia and as we decorate the building will be filled with the music of the season. Please join your fellow congregation members as we celebrate the season.

THEN...

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – November 23, 2025

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 53
Zoom 10:00am = 9
Wed. Nov 26 In-Person 6:30pm = 14
Zoom 6:30pm = 3

Adult SCS – 14
Nov 13 Thurs. Bible Study –7

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025

Received = 3,726.00
Needed weekly = 4,044.04
(318.04)

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-OCT 2025

Actual Income = \$166,954.63
Actual Expenses = (176,504.53)
(\$ 9,549.90)

CHRISTMAS Poinsettias

6 INCH POT - \$13.00

Orders must be received by Dec. 18th.


Please print names exactly as you wish them to appear in bulletin. Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Place payment in the white envelope along with this form and mark it "Poinsettia". You may place the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church office.

Flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve. You may pick up your flowers to take home after the service Christmas Eve.

IN HONOR _____

IN MEMORY _____

BY _____



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

DECEMBER 13TH
10 AM - 3 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
LAVALE, MD

SUPPORT
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH REACH MEAL
& SHOP LOCAL HANDMADE BUSINESSES
FEATURING:

Yolo "have some lumpia"

Aromatic Opal

Crafty Gals

Em's Crafty Creations

Faith in Me Creations

Garden City Bees

It's All About You Creations

Laura Lee Creations

Mo's Sourdough & More

In Between Cafe

Rose Family Homestead

Sherrah's Accented Creations

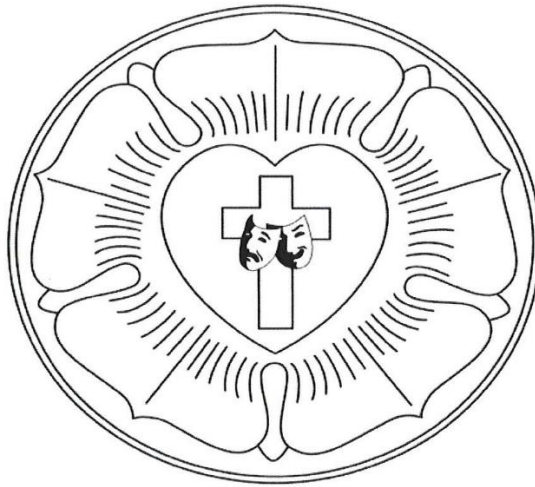
SJM Wires

The Calhouns

theunboundones

Toni's Creations

Zo's Oddz & Endz



The Christ Lutheran Players present....

Operation : Whispering Pines

Sunday, December 14th at 12:30pm
in the Christ Lutheran Fellowship Hall

**We'll enjoy a light lunch after church,
and then the show.**

Whispering Pines is a small, homey assisted living facility, but for how long? Upon the death of the owner, the facility has passed to his daughter who is determined to unload this "albatross." She has lined up buyers but there's only one problem – or really, six problems – the current residents.

Together they agree they are not going out without a fight! Knowing the new owner must find another facility to take them in, they come up with an elaborate scheme to ensure not one else will accept them. Can they pull off a Christmas miracle, or will it backfire? Will they lose their "family of friends?"

**Bring a friend to church and share lunch and a fun holiday story
with them!**

Christmas in Mountain Maryland

A Folk Music Celebration

Featuring Special Guests:

Jody Mosser - Ray Bruckman - Byrne Klay

Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 2:00 pm



St. John's Lutheran Church
400 Arch Street, Cumberland, MD 21502
Free Admission

PRAYER LIST FOR NOVEMBER 30, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Anna Bruck
Jane Miller
Jack Zealand
Ed Havens
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Gail Dawson
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Patty Wilson
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Mary Lou Rowles
Donna Yaider
Laura Murray

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Christina Puffinburger	<i>Requested by</i> Elwood & Janet Glass
Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons.	Amy, Jacie Fairall Barb Simmons
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose	Diane
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Bob Aman, Susie Spiker, Joan Beal	Shirley & Jim Smith
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbetts	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Michele Jones, Lois Shunk	Sherry T
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Madeline Lopes	Al James
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey
Breanna Brown	Debbie Fornwalt
Kamryn Rice	Corinna Hilderbrand
Candy Heverly	Charlotte Luy
Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu L. Marchini	

Please keep us updated

- the family of Suszie Defibaugh (sister of Mitzie Robinette)
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025