



Advent 4 **D**ecember 22, 2024

Celebrate the Child

WORSHIP AT 9:30 A.M.

Worship Notes

Mary's song of praise celebrates the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises to Israel and the world. Micah's prophecy that the Promised King will bring peace echoes through the ages and in our hearts. Come, Prince of Peace.

Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!

A warm welcome whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency, please call the Parsonage at 267-362-8129.

Gathering

PRELUDE: *Worship and prayer announcements, followed by a time for prayer and centering our hearts on God.*

Please stand, as you are able, at pastor's invitation.

PROCESSION OF LIGHT / CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

KYRIE, #157 ELW

(chanted) In peace, in peace...

Assistant: Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
 Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
 mer - cy.

For the reign of God and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all ... *REFRAIN*

Assistant: Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
 Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
 mer - cy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
 for the strength to live your word...*REFRAIN*

Assistant: Congregation:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.
 A - - - men.

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of our Baptism.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit. who lifts up the lowly, and fills the hungry with good things.

And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever!

As people called out of darkness, let us confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of steadfast love,

we confess that we love darkness more than your light.

We have sought to satisfy our deepest longings

through material things of creation rather than through you, our Creator.

We are quick to judge others, but so slow to see our own failings.

We ignore the cries of the poor and grow weary of working for justice.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine on us in saving grace, Amen.

Hear the glad tidings of God! The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored to wholeness;

By the mercy of almighty God, and by his authority, I tell you your sins are forgiven.

May you know joy in the Savior's coming, and hope for the days to come, in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

WE SING THE GATHERING SONG ELW #251, MY SOUL PROCLAIMS

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Fourth Candle is lit. Please be seated.

Word

Silence for reflection follows each reading.

THE FIRST READING is from Micah, the 5th chapter.

(Micah 5:2-5)

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,

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,

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; ^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM, the Magnificat, is read responsively. (Luke 1:46-55)

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸**for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.**

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰**His mercy is for those who fear him**

from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²**He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,**

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴**He has helped his servant Israel,**

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever.” Amen.

THE SECOND READING is from Hebrews, the 10th chapter. (Hebrews 10:5-10)

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the Gospel.

GOSPEL SONG: TUNE ELW #290, “Go Tell it On the Mountain”

Go! Tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go! Tell it on the Mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

**From old the prophets promised the Savior Christ would come.
The Word made flesh, Emmanuel, to make with us a home.**

**Go! Tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go! Tell it on the Mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord!

(Luke 2:1-14)

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!”

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

RESPONSE:

**Go! Tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go! Tell it on the Mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

WE SING HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #256, COMFORT, COMFORT

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

*Please use the song insert and join in singing throughout the pageant.
Following the pageant, please stand at Pastor’s invitation.*

Let us confess our faith.

**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 PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Looking forward to Christ's coming with hope, we pray for our church and community, and for all awaiting justice, wholeness and peace.

A brief silence.

*We pray for the world, our community, and our church. Each petition concludes with:
...in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.***

The prayers conclude:

*...made in the name of Emmanuel, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.***



THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY / WE GATHER OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS / ANTHEM

Chime Anthem: Away in a Manger

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. In-House the offering is collected.

If you are worshipping remotely, tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.

The Table is prepared. At Pastor's invitation we stand and sing the

OFFERTORY.



THE OFFERTORY: #296, "What Child is This"

**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!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

Text: Dix, William C. Tune: Greensleeves, traditional

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. —*Silence*— God of our waiting and watching,
**we offer our treasure and the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.**

**Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our hope and our peace. Amen.**

The Table is prepared as we pray and prepare our hearts.

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 right, it is our duty and our great joy to praise You, O God for Jesus the Word made flesh, the One who will execute righteousness, who restores our hope and renews our joy.

Having come into the world to fulfill Your holy will in the night in which He was betrayed, Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, 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."

As we reach out for these gifts of Bread and Wine we trust his promise to come again, waiting in hope for that day when all creation will rejoice in His holy and life-giving light: **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Come, Lord Jesus! Bless us and this meal, that we may be light for the world. Hear us as we join our voices in obedience and hope to pray:

**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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf - fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Emmanuel invites us to this Table of mercy and grace. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the table of the Lord, for all is ready. **We shall come with joy! Alleluia, Amen.**

THE COMMUNION

All who believe that Jesus Christ is present in the forms of bread and wine are invited to commune. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation that you wish.

The musicians will commune first. Then the congregation comes forward by the center aisle, the organ side first, and then the pulpit side. Receive the Host (bread) from Pastor, with the words, 'The body of Christ, given for you.' The assistant offers the chalice of wine for intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine) with the words: 'The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen. Please return to your pew by the side aisle. Anyone, child or adult, who does not wish to take communion may come forward, hands folded, to receive a blessing, or remain seated and commune by prayer.

The hymn during communion is #528, Come and Fill

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

When all have communed, the Table is cleared. Please stand at Pastor's invitation.

Sending

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. -*Silence*- Lord of light, God of eternity:

**We thank you for this Holy Meal,
and for the Word which has come to shine in us.
As we go out into the world you love,
help us carry the gifts of God to all people,
in the name of Jesus, our Emmanuel. Amen.**

MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the announcements, at pastor's invitation, please stand.

BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and your minds through faith in Christ Jesus;
may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

WE SING THE SENDING HYMN, ELW ##267, JOY TO THE WORLD

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

353 E. Dark Hollow Rd, Pipersville PA 18947

The Rev. Marie Caron, Pastor

Mrs. Kim Campbell, Council President

Mrs. Cynthia Carper, Parish Secretary

215. 766. 8730

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WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

Every effort has been made to appropriately credit and acknowledge material within the service. We will immediately acknowledge any item inadvertently not credited, and apologize for any oversight. The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion. The

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen on Facebook Live and Zoom. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to our website (www.christpipersville.org).

THE DECEMBER WEB SITE is sponsored by Pastor Caron and Mike Clement in memory of Pastor Caron’s brother, David Caron.

THE DECEMBER BULLETINS are sponsored by Dan and Adele Kendra in honor of our parents and families – the love and memories we share.

LECTOR:

FELLOWSHIP HOST:

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – The prayer list is printed in the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. In addition, please remember the family and friends of Mary Hurley, Lou Carozza and Amos Snyder as they mourn their deaths. Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

TODAY IS OUR CELEBRATE THE CHILD SERVICE. We thank the Cron, Kelly and Trauger families and their behind the scenes helpers for today’s Christmas Pageant. We also thank our chimers: Ava, Nate and Allie Cron, Maddie and Izzy Kelly and Anna, Emeline and Noah Trauger for today’s performance of “Away in a Manger”.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: The Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will be held at 8 p.m. on December 24th preceded by the Christmas Prelude Concert at 7:45 p.m.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the table by the sanctuary doors. Please pick up your own and any you are able to deliver. If you would like a box, but did not receive one, please see Cindy Carper. Thank you for your faithful stewardship and support of the Lord’s work through Christ Church.

FELLOWSHIP PERIOD hosts are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

REMINDER: Thank you for all the pledges to the boiler fund. Please don’t forget to send in your pledges, as you are able, as we strive to repay the “borrowed funds”.

ANNUAL REPORTS from all committees and organizations are due in the church office by December 31st. Financial reports are due by January 7th. Thank you.

PAINT PARTY! Now that the new radiators are installed, we'll be painting the walls on Saturday, January 4th. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for morning and afternoon sessions or you can come all day! See Diane Allison with any questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: A volunteer is needed each week to collect the trash and place it in the trash cart after worship. A sign-up sheet with instructions is posted on the bulletin board. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also needed to fill the candles, turn off fans/lights, turn down heat and change the hymn board...see Pastor Caron or Kim Campbell with any questions or to volunteer.

LECTORS: Volunteers would be appreciated to read the lessons each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board & copies of the lessons are available at least a week in advance.

GIANT GIFT CARDS can be purchased after worship (see Cindy Carper or Kim Szymanowski) or during the week from the church office. Gift cards are available in \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 & \$100 denominations. Checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. (*Gift cards may not be used to purchase other gift cards.*) Giant gives 5% back to the church for every card purchased. We raised \$2,800 to date in 2024.

The Week of December 22nd at a Glance

- Sun. 12/22 The Fourth Sunday in Advent
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Celebrate the Child Family Service
10:30AM Fellowship Period
- Tues. 12/24 Christmas Eve – 7:45PM Prelude, 8:00PM Worship
- Wed. 12/25 The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day
Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
- Thur. 12/26 NO Morning Prayer; NO Bible Study
Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
- Fri. 12/27 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Happy Birthday, Noah Trauger!
Happy Anniversary, Larry & Carol Hafler!
- Sun. 12/29 The 1st Sunday of Christmas
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
10:30AM Fellowship Period