

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2024



Christ Lutheran Church

29 S. George Street, York, Pa. 17401

Our Mission:

Reflect God's love in the heart of York

Our Vision:

To be a vibrant congregation in the heart of York praising God,
connecting people to Christ,
and serving the people of York and the world

*Companions with the Itete Hospital of the
Konde Diocese,
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania*

The Entrance Rite

Prelude

Variants on Conditor alme siderum

(C. Callahan)

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: Amen.

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

C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P: God in our midst,

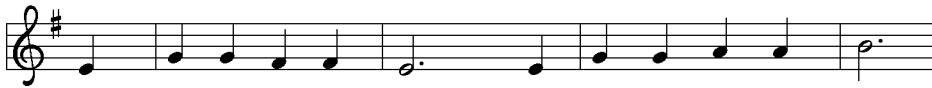
C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ☩ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

Kyrie



Prayer for the lighting of the Avent Wreath

P: Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth. **Amen.**

Hymn "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Greeting

P: From the one who was, who is, and who is to come: Grace and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

Children's Message

The Liturgy of the Word

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Psalm: 72:1-7, 18-19 *(Sung in unison)*

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
- ² that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;
- ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
- ⁶ Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
- ⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.

**¹⁸ Blessed are you, LORD God, the ¹ God of Israel;
you alone do ¹ wondrous deeds!**

**¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious ¹ name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- ¹ men.**

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; ¹⁰ and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; ¹¹ and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; ¹² and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.” ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Verse



Music: Richard Proulx, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ”⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him,⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?”⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance,⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

ELW 256



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

Prayers

A: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence

A: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude:

A: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Meal

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

C: And also with you.

Offertory

“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”

(H. Bancroft)

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -

it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take

not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the

joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray...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 (*Spoken*)

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.**

Preface and Sanctus

P: It is indeed right ,our duty. . .We praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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.

Fraction and Agnus Dei

P: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

C: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!



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



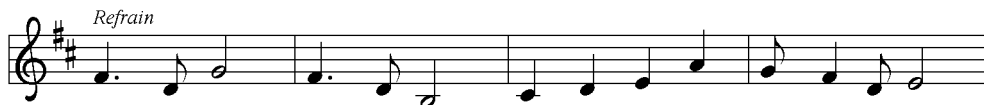
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

All who are baptized are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Approach the chancel rail by way of the side aisles, beginning in the rear of the nave. Dip the host in the first cup or drink from the common cup. Worshipers may stand or kneel at the chancel rail to receive the sacrament. Return to your pew by way of the center aisle. Gluten-free wafers are available.

Hymns during distribution

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

ELW 492



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth-ing; taste, and have your fill.
Rise to tell God's great-ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young
Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

ELW 484



- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997

Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996

Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Only sung if needed.

“Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus” ELW 254

Use the ELW (red book) for this song.

The Dismissal

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: 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.

Benediction

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.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn “The King Shall Come”

ELW 260



Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Jeu de tomchette

(P. Dandrieu)

Please join us for coffee hour after the service.



Prayer List

We strive to keep the prayer list current, especially in these uncertain times. Please notify us whether there are additions to this list or whether a name should be taken off.

Members

Shirley Cook, Naomi Duncan, Rodney Flinchbaugh, Ron Heilman, Steven Heilman, Bill Hullman, Pat Kronk, Marsha Linden, John Long, Jr., Patricia Lowe, John and Mary Lou Manley, Richard Meckley, Jen Risser, Doris Ritter, Mary Shepp, Sally Smith, Susan Thomas, Doris Weaver, Robert Weikert.

Others

Robert Appleton, Greg Beck, Kelly Bell, Edward Bender, Jr., Roman Bondarevskyi, David Brudnicki and family, Duane Caouette, Andy Doss, Susan Ellison, Terry Flinchbaugh, Richard Fox, Gus Frank, Mark Garber, Lynda Godfrey, Christina Hackeling, Julie Hadaszy, Daniel Hertig, Kay Leiphart, Kristin Klinedinst, Ellen Meyers, Jeff Miller, Dottie Morris, Jack Neuman family, Lois Olson, Dale Parker, John Pavoncelli, April Paske, Leo Pufall, Nancy Quintin, Bick Sandin, Robert Settee, Andy and Steph Shearer, Charlie and Judi Snyder, Selena Strine, Denny and Jan Stroshane, Dan Sutton, Robert Wagaman, Rev. Allan S. and Bonnie Wysocki, Stephen L. Wysocki.



Year end giving must be postmarked by Dec 31 or in the office by January 5.

Serving in Worship

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Assisting Ministers | Bill Cooley Matthew March |
| Acolyte | Emma Boyd |
| Reader | Paul Schendel |
| Lower Narthex | Andy Waltersdorf |
| Back Door | Scott Donner |
| Altar Guild | Marlene Coval, Susan Lease, Barbara Shepp, Phyllis March |
| Ushers | Kathy Noll, Chuck Noll, Tom Gross, Paul and Nancy Spataro, Jim Anderson |
| Sound System | Alexa Sheaffer |
| Coffee table hosts | The Anderson family |

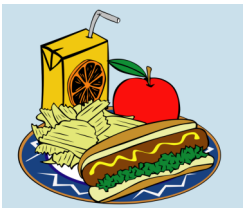
Altar greens are given to the Glory of God and memory of our parents by Chuck and Kathy Noll.



Today-Hamburger and noodles return.
December 15-Baked goods due.

Guys Night Out

December 9th at 6:00 pm
at the Stone Grill and Tap House
RSVP to Chaplain Steinhilber at
717-881-2578 or call the church office.



Next Community Meal
December 28



During Advent, the Social Ministry Committee will be collecting gifts for the following agencies: our Childcare Center, ACCESS York, The Lehman Center and School Community of Hope, a Community Progress Council agency at Hannah Penn.

There is a collection box for donations in the lower narthex

The following items are needed: tissues and snack items for the Childcare Center; Twin sheet sets and towels for ACCESS; diapers, wipes, baby bottles and baby clothes, infant to 2T, for Community of Hope and paper products such as paper towels, tissues and toilet paper for the Lehman Center.

Please help us support these valuable church and community ministries. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Child Care Gifts

Social ministry committee would like to assist the families of the children in the Child Care Center by purchasing gifts for each child from the congregation.

To do this a form was sent home with each parent asking for suggestions for their child. Each gift should be between \$20 to \$30.

The forms are available on a table in the doorway of the chapel. Take a form and return the gift back to the table by December 21st.

Thank you in advance for your help.





The hanging of the greens will take place on December 21 after worship that day.

If you would like to help in decorating the church for Christmas please see Marlene Coval. I hear they have a lot of fun!



Christmas Caroling in Sprenkle

December 21 @ 1:00 PM

Children will decorate Cookies during Sunday School.
After church, we will order pizza and practice songs
before we leave for Sprenkle Village to share
Christmas Joy!

Wear your Ugly Sweater

RSVP to Adrienne Brenner Adrienneb@mac.com



Christmas Eve Services

Family service will be at 5:00 pm

Prelude music at 7:30 pm

Candlelight service will be at 8:00 pm



Upcoming Holiday Community Meal

With the holiday season approaching, we would appreciate donations of desserts for the upcoming Holiday meals listed below. Desserts can be dropped off in the kitchen that morning. On December 28, we will be serving our Christmas Meal. Please see Cindy Cooley or Tom Keller if you would be willing to help in any way or have any questions.



A thankyou to everyone who has so far donated clothing for our guests at our monthly community meal. We would further like donations of hats, gloves, scarves, socks and small toiletries to place in their Christmas gift bags at the Christmas meal.

Thanks bunches
Lynn



Christmas Flowers
Deadline to order: Sunday, December 14.

Complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or call the church office, 854-5589. The flowers will decorate the Nave and Lower Narthex for Christmas.

No. of plants ____ @ \$10.00 \$_____
Envelope # _____

In memory of _____

In honor of

Other _____

Given by _____

Christ Lutheran Church
717-854-5589, Fax: 717-845-4213

Child Care Center: 717-854-2239

www.christlutheranyork.org

E-mail: office@christlutheranyork.com

www.facebook.com/christlutheranyork

Welcome!

So we can know you better, please complete an attendance card found in the pew and place it in an offering plate. If you have no church home, we invite you to membership at Christ Lutheran Church. We hope you return to worship and participate in our life in Christ!

The Liturgy

Our worship is the historic liturgy of the Christian Church - a celebration of Word and Sacrament, the means through which God gives forgiveness, life and salvation. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the understanding of the Lutheran Confessions that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

Worship resources are found in the pews. The "Lutheran Book of Worship" (noted LBW inside the bulletin) is the green hardback hymnal. The "With One Voice" (noted WOV inside the bulletin) is the blue softback hymnal. The "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (noted ELW inside the bulletin) is the red hardback hymnal.

Children are always welcome at worship!

We value the participation of our children in worship! As members of the church, children participate in the worship service. They listen to God's Word, gather at the Lord's table, serve as readers, acolytes, choir members, and more. Feel free to take children in and out as necessary.

Christ Lutheran Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Daniel M. Yeiser
pastor@christlutheranyork.com

Dr. Scott Crowne, Director of Music
music@christlutheranyork.com

Carol Krouse, Parish Secretary
office@christlutheranyork.com

Terry Hoover, Publications
associate@christlutheranyork.com

BethAnn Barbato, Director of Child Care
beth@christlutheranyork.com

Mary Jo Vlazny, Business Manager
bookkeeper@christlutheranyork.com

Scott Albright, Maintenance
property@christlutheranyork.com

Eric R. D. Patches, Custodian

Council Members

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Keith Stoltzfus | President |
| Adrienne Brenner | Vice President |
| Tom Keller | Treasurer |
| Cindy Cooley | Secretary |
| Marc Gross | |
| Tom Gross | |
| Rochelle Nyman | |
| Tom Olson | |
| Alexa Sheaffer | |
| Hank Steinhilber | |
| Jen Vanada | |
| Leslee Yoder | |

Founded in 1733 with the baptism of Maria Catharina Beyer, Christ Church was the first Lutheran congregation west of the Susquehanna River. Christ Church remains an active and vibrant congregation carrying on the mission of Christ and approaches the future with confidence and hope. Christ Church strives to minister in faithfulness to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. Its ministry centers in the weekly liturgy of Word and Sacrament and pursues particular Lutheran emphases in art and music, fellowship, education, and pastoral care. Three buildings have been used for worship. A log building was erected in 1744; a stone building replaced it in 1760. Two bells from the 1760 stone building still call people to worship in the present building, built in 1812. Three Lutheran congregations in York are descendants of Christ Church.