



25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023 Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

Welcome to worship, whether you are joining us in person, online or by heart. We're glad you're here! The service is printed in this booklet and if you are joining us on social media, the hymns are printed in the booklet.

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Changes and additions to the prayer list are published every Sunday in the announcements. Please share your prayer concern with Pastor, or Cindy Carper, if you would like it included on the prayer list. Please take this weekly resource home with you!



WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #890, MINE EYES HAVE SEEN (ON NEXT PAGE)



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
 2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
 3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
 he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
 with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:
 Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
 As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on.
 while God is march - ing on.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *Silence. The Prayer of the Day is offered. We join in our hearts. The Prayer concludes: ... Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from Zephaniah, the first chapter.

(Zeph. 1:7, 12-18)

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand;
 the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
 and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs,
 those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good,
 nor will he do harm."

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.
 Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
 though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ *Silence* +

PSALM 90 is read responsively.

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

⁶**in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

⁸**Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

¹²**So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from 1 Thessalonians, the 5th chapter. (1 Thess 5:1-11)

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of

darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #174, CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew, the 25th chapter. (Matt. 25:14-30)

Glory to you O Lord!

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ” The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

The Alleluia repeats.

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #707, LORD OF GLORY



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that mere hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

THE CREED *We confess our faith.*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come 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 OF THE CHURCH

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders (*leaders may be named*). Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you those people and concerns that lay upon our hearts – hear us as we bring them before you aloud or in silence... *Silence* Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*) we praise your goodness. Holy One, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY / ANTHEM *We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. 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.*

WE OFFERTORY SONG: CREATE IN ME, ELW 186

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

Blessed are you O God, maker of all things:

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time and our possessions.

Use us and what we have gathered in feeding the world with your love.

Through the One who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Meal

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, our duty and our great joy to give you thanks

Joining our voices to the great cloud of witnesses

gathered with us across time and space, with angels and archangels.

As one holy church we acclaim you, and proclaim

That in the night he was betrayed our saviour Christ took bread

and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples

saying: 'This is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.'

And again after supper he took the cup,

gave thanks and gave it for them 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.

And so we remember His death and resurrection and

His promise that he will gather us around His table

Where every tear is wiped away, and we know the fullness of joy

And dwell in Your presence forever,

Hear us now as we lift our voices

And pray in the words our Savior taught us:

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.

AGNUS DEI (Tune – Land of Rest)



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

These are the gifts of God for the people of God - come to the Table,
for all is now ready. **We shall come with joy, alleluia, amen!**

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. All who believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, and that He is truly 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. The elements are offered with the words: 'The Body of Christ given for you' and 'The Blood of Christ shed for you'. The recipient may respond 'Amen'.

The hymn during communion is #471, Let Us Break Bread

- 1 **Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.
Refrain
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**
- 2 **Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain***
- 3 **Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain***

Text: African American spiritual

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

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. a *brief silence*

Blessed be your name, O God,

for we have feasted on your Word and have been strengthened by Meal.

Now send us to gather the world to your banquet,

where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Please be seated for Mission & Ministry Announcements.

OUR SENDING SONG is hymn ELW #437, ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS



1 On Jor-dan's storm-y bank I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye
2 All o'er those wide ex-tend-ed plains shines one e-ter-nal day;
3 No chill-ing winds or poi-s'nous breath can reach that health-ful shore;
4 When shall I reach that hap-py place and be for-ev-er blest?



to Ca-naan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie.
there God the Son for-ev-er reigns and scat-ters night a-way.
sick-ness and sor-row, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.
When shall I see my Sav-ior's face and in God's bos-om rest?



I am bound for the prom-ised land, I am bound for the prom-ised land;



oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

THE 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
215. 766. 8730 office 267. 362. 8129 parsonage

The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor
the people of Christ Church, ministers
Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary
Mrs. Kim Campbell, Council President

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion.

ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NOVEMBER WEB SITE AND BULLETINS are sponsored by Jeff and Sandra Cron in honor of our family and friends that enrich our lives in so many ways and our Ava Grace who made us parents in November and for whom we are eternally thankful for.

WE WELCOME Debra Bacak as our organist today and thank her for her musical leadership.

LECTOR: Delana Woodward

FELLOWSHIP: Delana Woodward

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS –The prayer list is printed in the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. In addition, please remember the people of Gaza. 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.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING will be held immediately following worship today (inclement weather date is November 26th). Copies of the proposed budget are available for review on the table by the sanctuary doors.

OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING ALL OVER LUNCH will be held following worship next Sunday, November 26th. Please bring a dish (leftover or freshly made) to share. We are in need of donations of a turkey and ham for the luncheon. Please let Pastor Caron know if you have one to donate. Thank you.

POINSETTIA AND CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE FORMS are available on the table by the sanctuary doors. Cost for flowers is \$7.00 and checks should be made payable to the church. Order deadline is Dec. 10th.

TABOR SERVICES CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: We are collecting gift cards (Kohls, Walmart, Amazon, Giant, etc.) for the children and families supported by Tabor Services for Christmas instead of adopting a specific child this year. Gift cards may be placed in Cindy's mailbox or the basket on the table as you leave. Gift cards are needed by December 3rd. Thank you for your continued support.

CHRISTMAS BENEFIT CONCERT, hosted at Christ Lutheran Church, will take place Sunday, December 17th, from 2 to 5:30 pm. The PHS Madrigal Singers, the Doug Ross Quintet, and concert Organist (& frequent guest organist of CLC), Rich Spotts, are our featured performers, along with a brief historical presentation about our unique, antique organ. Advance tickets are \$20 per person, \$15 for veterans, active military, and students. Children under 10 are free. Tickets are \$25 at the door. Please see the volunteer list on the bulletin board if you are able to help in preparation, or during the event. Flyers can be found next to the volunteer list, and a digital flyer is available on the church website. Please share this event with your friends and family! Questions and ticket sales can be directed to Kelly, kellyszymano@gmail.com or contact Cindy in the church office.

The Week of November 19th at a Glance

- Sun. 11/19 The 25th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
followed by Congregational Budget Meeting
10:30AM Fellowship Period
3-5PM Girl Scouts
- Mon. 11/20 Happy Birthday, Carl Swope!
- Tues. 11/21 Happy Birthday, Ava Cron!
- Wed. 11/22 7:00PM Ensemble
- Thur. 11/23 Thanksgiving, Office Closed
NO Morning Prayer or Bible Study
- Fri. 11/24 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
- Sun. 11/26 Christ the King Sunday
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
(Back-up date for the budget meeting)
10:30AM Thanksgiving All Over Lunch