

Advent 2, 2024 Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Worship Notes

Prophetic voices had proclaimed that God's Messiah would come, and the people of Israel would live in the longed covenant relationship. Now the voice of John renews the prophetic call to prepare, for the promises of God are about to be fulfilled. Are our hearts ready for God's renewing power to grace our lives and refine our lives?

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:

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

Congregation:

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 #250, BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL

1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
 2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
 3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,

and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
 the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
 to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.

So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease

God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Stir up your power and come, O God. As we light the second candle on this wreath prepare our hearts that, as we await the coming of Christ, we may be ready to complete every good work so all may see your salvation. Grant this through Christ, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

The Second Candle is lit. Please be seated.

Word

Silence for reflection follows each reading.

THE FIRST READING is from Malachi, the 3rd chapter (Malachi 3:1-4)

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: Luke 1: 68-79 is read responsively.

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,
⁷¹from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷²**to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.**

⁷³This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:
⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,
⁷⁵holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from Philippians, the 1st chapter. (Philippians 1:3-11)

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ

you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. 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 3rd chapter.

(Luke 3:1-6)

Glory to you, O Lord!

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

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!

Please join Pastor in silent prayer as we prepare for:

TEACHING THE WORD (SERMON)

WE SING HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #260, THE KING SHALL COME



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Following the hymn, 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 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

*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.

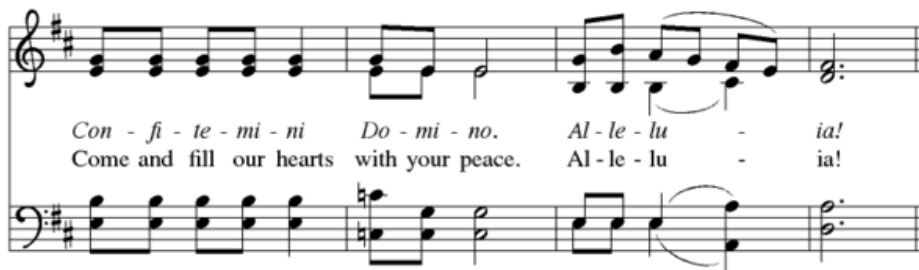
The musicians will commune first. Then the congregation comes forward by the center aisle, the organ side first, and then the pulpit side. Receive the Host (bread) from Pastor, with the words, 'The body of Christ, given for you.' The assistant offers the chalice of wine for intinction, (dipping the bread 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 #249, ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

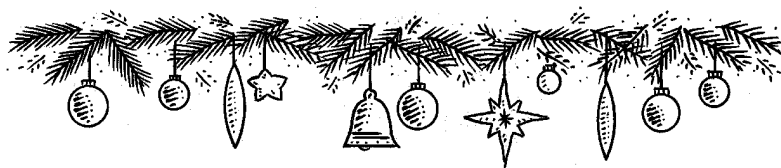


for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

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

www.christpipersville.org + christpipersville@gmail.com

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 Gospel Verse and Offertory song copyright © 1978 Augsburg Fortress, used by permission of A-F license #5429-L. The Kyrie is reprinted from "Now the Feast and Celebration", Marty Haugen, b.1951, copyright © 1990 by G.I.A. Used by permission, OneLicense #A-71138. Gospel Acclamation and "Lamb of God". copyright © 1998, Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission, One License #A-71138. The hymn during communion, Come and Fill Our Hearts, Text & Tune © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé. GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Used by permission One License #A-71138.

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: Delana Woodward

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 Amos Snyder as they mourn his death. 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.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS are being held during the Sunday School time in December. Children's chime rehearsals are being held immediately following worship in the sanctuary.

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".

POINSETTIAS: We will again be decorating our sanctuary for Christmas Eve with a display of poinsettias. Order forms are on the table with the bulletins. Cost is \$8 each or you may make a donation to one of the special church funds. Order deadline is TODAY and all checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR – The Palisades Lutheran Ministries Churches have created a reverse Advent calendar to help fill the shelves of the local food pantries for the holiday season. A copy is posted on the bulletin board, included in the December newsletter and copies are also on the table with the bulletins. All items may be placed in our food cupboard by the parking lot doors each week.

LIVING NATIVITY – The Palisades Cluster of Lutheran Churches will be helping with a living nativity at 5 & 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasant Valley on Saturday, December 14th. Please email Betsy Nilsen at betsy.nilsen@gmail.com or call 610-360-0521 if you would like to volunteer to help set up, clean up or provide cookies.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH followed by brunch will take place following worship next Sunday, December 15th. Please bring some cookies or nibbles to share if you are able. Many helping hands would be appreciated.

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.

THANK YOU! A total of \$610 in gift cards was collected for Christmas for the children and families of Tabor Services. They are most appreciative of our support.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: The Celebrate the Child Family Service will be held at 9:30 a.m. on December 22nd. 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.

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 \$2,400 in 2023 and \$2,400 to date in 2024.

The Week of December 8th at a Glance

Sun. 12/08 The Second Sunday in Advent
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Chime Rehearsal, Fellowship Period
3-5PM Girl Scouts

Mon. 12/09 Happy Birthday, Jackson Thomas!

Tues. 12/10 Happy Birthday, Craig Trauger!

Wed. 12/11 11:00AM Ensemble Rehearsal

Thur. 12/12 8:30AM Morning Prayer; 9:00AM Bible Study

Fri. 12/13 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Happy Birthday, Tatum Hanisak!

Sun. 12/15 The Third Sunday in Advent
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
10:30AM Chime Rehearsal, Greening of the Church and Light Brunch
2-7PM Girl Scouts, Hall Reserved