

Christ Lutheran Church
23425 Davis Mill Road
Germantown, Maryland 20876

A Congregation of the American Association of Lutheran Churches



Our Mission Statement

We strive to be worthy witnesses to the world.

At Christ Lutheran, we strive to lead lives worthy of our calling as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's world.

(Ephesians 4:1)

Web Site: christlutheranofgermantown.org

Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church AALC

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Church Secretary: Carrie Shriver Perini
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Email: perinicarrie@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Irvin Stapf
Pastor: Abraham McNally
Mobile phone: 319 239-2441
Email: honestabe@mchsi.com

Pianist: Meryl Benenati
Worship Team:
Bass Guitar: Bruce Gladhill
Dobro, Banjo, Autoharp, Mandolin, Keyboard,
Trumpet & Guitar: Art Delagrange
Pianist: Meryl Benenati
Soloist: Rebekah Stapf

First Sunday in Advent

November 28, 2021

During the music before the service let us join in a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare our hearts for worship.

*Please stand as you are able where marked****

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

****The Confession and Absolution*

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time of silent reflection and self-examination.)

Pastor: Most merciful God.

People: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

****Opening Hymn:*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymn #2

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

(Chorus)

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might, Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law In cloud, and majesty, and awe.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, And give them victory o'er the grave.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

(Chorus)

*****Psalm: Psalm 24 (read responsively)**

Pastor: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,

People: the world and those who dwell therein,

Pastor: for he has founded it upon the seas

People: and established it upon the rivers.

Pastor: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

People: And who shall stand in his holy place?

Pastor: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

People: who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

Pastor: He will receive blessing from the Lord

People: and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Pastor: Such is the generation of those who seek him,

People: who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Pastor: Life up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

People: that the King of glory may come in.

Pastor: Who is this King of glory?

People: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

Pastor: Life up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,

People: that the King of glory may come in.

Pastor: Who is this King of glory?

People: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

*****The Gloria Patri: (sung)** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*****The Kyrie: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Glory be to God on high!

*****Gloria in Excelsis: (sung)** And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*****Collect:**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Stir up, we beseech thee, thy power, O Lord, and come; that by thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins, and saved by thy mighty deliverance; Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Scripture Lessons:

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 23:5-8

⁵“Behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch;
And He will reign as king and act wisely
And do justice and righteousness in the land.

⁶“In His days Judah will be saved,
And Israel will dwell securely;
And this is His name by which He will be called,
‘The LORD our righteousness.’

⁷“Therefore behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when they will no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ ⁸but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of Israel from *the* north land and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ Then they will live on their own soil.”

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law. ⁹For this, “YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET,” and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of *the* law.

¹¹*Do* this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. ¹²The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

The Alleluia: (sung) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Pastor: Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the twenty-first chapter of Saint Matthew beginning with the first verse.

*****People (sung)** Glory be to thee, O Lord

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:1-9

¹ When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied *there* and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

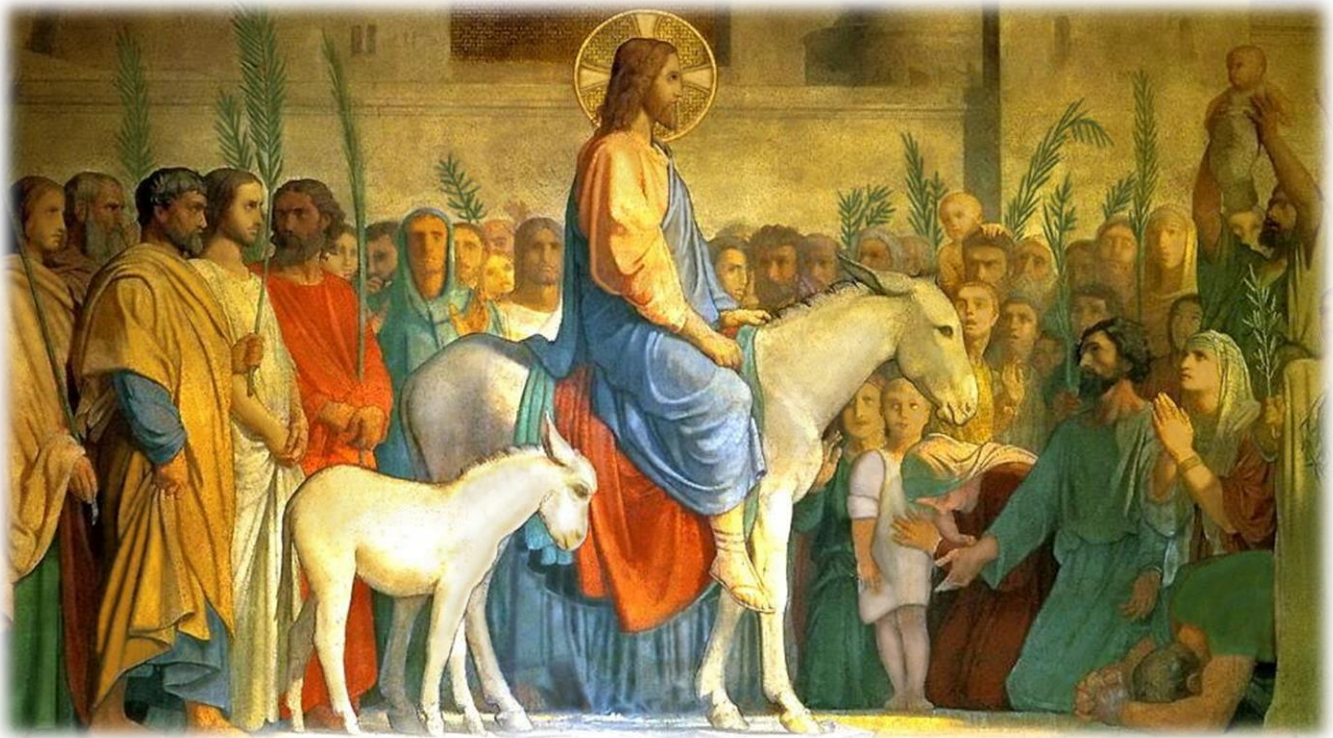
⁵ “SAY TO THE DAUGHTER OF ZION,
‘BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU,
GENTLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY,
EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A BEAST OF BURDEN.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, ⁷ and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. ⁹ The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting,

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*****People: (sung)** Praise be to thee, O Christ

Children’s Sermon:



Come, thou long expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a king;
Born to reign in us forever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Sermon:

Pastor Abraham McNally

Home Soil



The Sermon Response: (sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.

*** *The Apostles' Creed:*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

*****The General Prayer: (after each petition)**

Pastor: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

*****The Prayer Response: (sung)**

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen.

*****The Preface: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

*****Proper Preface:**

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: Who didst comfort thy people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom thou wilt also make all things new in the day when he shall come again to judge the world in righteousness. Therefore with Angels, and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

*****The Sanctus: (sung)**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

*****The Consecration:**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

*****The Eucharistic Prayer:**

Pastor: Remembering, therefore, his salutary precept, his life-giving Passion and Death, his glorious Resurrection and Ascension and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to thee, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we beseech thee mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and with thy Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, thy servants, and these thine own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who partake thereof may be filled with heavenly benediction and grace, and, receiving the remission of sins, be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all thy saints. And unto thee, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in thy holy Church, world without end. Amen.

*****The Lord's Prayer:**

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

*****The Agnus Dei: (sung)**

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.

The Communion (If you are baptized, believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, have honestly confessed your sins, and believe that under the bread and wine Christ gives us his true body and blood, you are welcome to come to communion.)

*****Post Communion Blessing:**

Pastor: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

People: *Nunc Dimittis* (Simeon's Prayer): (sung) Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou has prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Pastor: O give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

People: (sung) And His mercy endureth forever.

*****Closing Prayer: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to thee, Almighty God, that thou hast refreshed us with this thy salutary gift; and we beseech thee, of thy mercy, to strengthen us through the same gift, in faith toward thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, thy dear Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*****The Benediction:**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: (sung) The threefold Amen

A-men, A-men, A----men.

*****Closing Hymn:**

The Advent of Our God

Hymn #3

The advent of our God Our prayers must now employ,
And we must meet him on his road With hymns of holy joy.

The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on To set his people free.

Daughter of Sion, rise To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise The peace he comes to bring.

As Judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again,
And all his scattered saints unite With him in heaven to reign.

Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone;
The old man all be put away, The new man all put on.

All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One, Through all eternity.

*****The Postlude**



I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: Rev Dr. Curtis Leins
Assistant Presiding Pastor: Rev Cary Larson
AALC Administrator: Rev Dean Stoner
Secretary Pastor: Rev Joe Marsh
Home Mission Developer: Rev Joe Christina
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich
Seminary President: Rev Dr, Jordan Cooper
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

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|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Joyce Ballard | Mark & Terri Ballard | Sheila Perini | Robin Nicholson |
| Donald Burdette | Michael D'Amico | Hope Johnston | Nancy Gregory |
| Ken Ford | Tim Birdseye | Lee Ballard | Samantha Shriver |
| Jimmy Beall | Frank Benenati | Burk Hill | Dorothy Foster |
| Elizabeth Ondulich | Ruth Bates | Rebecca Robinson | Bill Trall |
| John Burdette, Jr. | David Price | Ted Hawk | Traci McNally |
| Carolyn Shriver | Tammy Pulley | | |

For the President and the leaders of our nation

For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke, Travis Hawk, Skyler Hawk, Bethany Hueter, Chaplain John Reutemann, Chaplain Len Brokenshire, Cameron Donk, Ethan Stone, Rebecca Deppe

For our Seminary Students

For a Region congregation: Reverend Dan Dapelo, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon, OH

For our missionary work: Great Commission Families

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Iglesia Bautisia International Church

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

For our college students: Haven Flesch, Shelby Evans, Maddie Day, Joseph Flesch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- As of 11/20/21 masks are required again in public spaces.
- Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7 PM at the church.
- Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10 AM at Audrey Stapf's home.
- Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:30 Sunday mornings.
- You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our Website: christlutheranofgermantown.org. The video of every livestream is on our Facebook page. You can access the livestream by clicking the link at the bottom of the first page of our website or by visiting the Facebook page directly. Be sure to click on the 'videos' tab.

SERMON NOTES: Home Soil