

**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](http://christlutheranofgermantown.org)**

**Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church AALC**

**Email: [clcedargrove@outlook.com](mailto:clcedargrove@outlook.com)**

**Church Phone: 301 972-5529**

**Church Secretary:** Carrie Shriver Perini  
Mobile phone: 240 397-3498  
Email: [perinicarrie@gmail.com](mailto:perinicarrie@gmail.com)

**Pastor Emeritus:** Irvin Stapf  
**Pastor:** Vacant  
**Liturgist:** Bob Petersen  
**Pianist:** Jan Gladhill



**First Sunday in Advent**  
**November 27, 2022**

*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*

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

**People:** Amen.

**Liturgist:** 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.)*

**Liturgist:** 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

**Liturgist:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**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 122 (read responsively)**

**Liturgist:** I was glad when they said to me,

**People:** “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**Liturgist:** Our feet have been standing

**People:** within your gates, O Jerusalem!

**Liturgist:** Jerusalem—built as a city

**People:** that is bound firmly together,

**Liturgist:** to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel,

**People:** to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

**Liturgist:** There thrones for judgment were set,

**People:** the thrones of the house of David.

**Liturgist:** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

**People:** “May they be secure who love you!

**Liturgist:** Peace be within your walls

**People:** and security within your towers!”

**Liturgist:** For my brothers and companions’ sake

**People:** I will say, “Peace be within you!”

**Liturgist:** For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

**People:** I will seek your good.

**\*\*\*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)**

**Liturgist:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Liturgist:** Christ, have mercy upon us.

**People:** Christ, have mercy upon us.

**Liturgist:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Liturgist:** 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:**

**Liturgist:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And with thy spirit.

**Liturgist:** 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; who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. Amen

*The Scripture Lessons:*

**First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: <sup>2</sup> In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

<sup>5</sup> Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Second Lesson: Romans 13:8-14**

<sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

**\*\*\*The Alleluia: (sung)** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Presenter:** Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the twenty-fourth chapter of Saint Matthew beginning with the thirty-sixth verse.

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

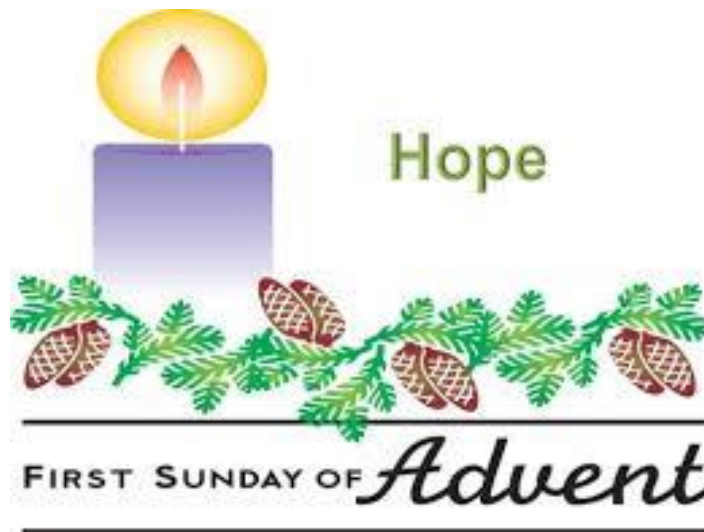
**Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44**

<sup>36</sup> "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

<sup>42</sup> "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

**Presenter:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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



*Pulpit Hymn:*

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*Hymn #5*

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:*

*Joe Flesch*



*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)**

**Presenter:** Lord in your mercy.

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**\*\*\*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 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 Benediction:**

**Presenter:** 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**

## ***Prayers and Praises:***

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: The Rev Dr. Carey G. Larson  
Assistant Presiding Pastor: The Rev. Roger Twito  
AALC Administrator: The Rev Dean Stoner  
Secretary Pastor: The Rev Joe Marsh  
Home Mission Developer: The Rev Joe Christina  
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich  
Seminary President: The Rev Dr. Jordan Cooper  
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

|                  |                      |               |                 |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Joyce Ballard    | Mark & Terri Ballard | Sheila Perini | Robin Nicholson |
| Michael D'Amico  | Hope Johnston        | Sharon Phelps | Ken Ford        |
| Lee Ballard      | Samantha Shriver     | Jimmy Beall   | Burk Hill       |
| Dorothy Foster   | Elizabeth Ondulich   | Ruth Bates    | Tammy Stimmell  |
| Rebecca Robinson | Bill Trall           | Ted Hawk      | Harvey Jester   |
| Debbie Stapf     | Jake Greear          | Sheri Perini  | Irv Stapf       |
| Fred Carlson     | Bob Petersen         | Wendy Battles | Lauren Galloway |
| Meryl Benenati   | Joyce Ballard        | Mark Beall    | Jan Gladhill    |
| Bruce Gladhill   | Bob Petersen         |               |                 |

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, Wendy Ahern

For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Cameron Swanson, Kris Johnson

For a Region congregation: Pastor Neil Cadle, Bethel Lutheran Church, Rowland, PA

For our missionary work: Shiri Parish

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, Jude Stapf

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Men's Bible Study: Tuesday 4 PM at church**
- **Women's Bible Study: Women's Bible Study will resume on November 30<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Children's Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **Adult Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30 AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our Website: [christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://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.**
- **We are collecting non-perishable foods for Damascus Help for their food pantry.**
- **Thank you to those who came out yesterday to help decorate the church!**



**SERMON NOTES: Love the Lord**

“You . . . must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.”

— Matthew 24:44

