

# First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025



*"Dawn," by Eric Gill, 1929*

***A Service of Lessons and Carols***  
HOLY COMMUNION

**St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2695 Luther Drive | Chambersburg, Pennsylvania | 17202

## PRELUDE

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Gina Sprunger

## GATHERING HYMN

*Once in Royal David's City*

ELW 269

## DIALOGUE

Come! Look upon the baby Jesus,  
Cradled in the arms of his mother.  
**Seeing this wondrous sight,  
may our hearts be comforted  
and our spirits filled with peace.**

Come! Listen to choirs of angels,  
announcing good news to all people.  
**Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing:  
Glory to God in the highest!**

Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart,  
Not as history but as a gift.  
**Opening our hearts to this great mystery,  
May Christ be born in us today.**

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*



## Lessons and Carols

FIRST READING: Luke 2:1-7

Brad Bolinger

**Luther's reflections on the birth of Jesus**

FIRST CAROL *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

ELW 276

SECOND READING: Luke 2:8-16

Christina Yarma

**Luther's reflection on the shepherds and angels**

SECOND CAROL *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* ELW 282

THIRD READING: Matthew 2:1-12

Kay Gauthier

**Luther's reflections on Herod and the wise men**

THIRD CAROL *The First Noel*

ELW 300

FOURTH READING: John 1:1-5, 14-18

Linda Miller

**Luther's reflections on the Word made flesh**

FOURTH CAROL *Of the Father's Love Begotten* ELW 295



## **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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and virgin the 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 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**

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

**Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**To gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**To kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**To sing for joy with the angels.**

In the brightness of his life

**Cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty,  
and hunger in the world.**

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

**In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.**

**Amen**

## OFFERING

*In response to all that God has done and continues to do for us in Christ Jesus, we now come to that part of our worship when we give . . . not reluctantly, but cheerfully and in thanksgiving.*

*However you choose to give, please know that your gifts make a difference. Your support of our mutual ministry enables us to reach out with the gospel in word and deed in our community and to the world.*

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Offertory on "Stille Nacht"*

David Paxton

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

ELW 490

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.  
God of glory,  
Great are your wonders among us  
And many are the blessing you bestow.  
Use us and these your gift for the needs of the world,  
That all the ends of the earth may rejoice in  
Your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## 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 him thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should  
at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:

**PREFACE ( WOV P. 44)    HOLY, HOLY, HOLY    SEE SCREENS**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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**

## COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 270, 269, 282, 286

## TABLE BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray*

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we  
treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move  
us to discover the wonders of your love in everyday moments of our lives,  
through Christ born in us. **Amen**

## BLESSING

## SENDING HYMN *Cold December Flies Away*

ELW 299

## DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!  
**And peace to God's people on earth!**  
Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Join the Triumph of the Skies!*

Douglas E. Wagner

## Today's Worship Support

Presiding Minister: Rev. Christopher Frye

Assisting Minister: Heidi Frye

Lector: Craig Heckert

Communion Assistants: Brad Bolinger  
& Norma Huss

Acolyte: Jon Mao

Greeters: Pat & Karl Shreiner

Altar Guild: Kay Gautier  
& Carol Angstadt

Ushers: Velegai Beyan  
& Vaness Hepfer

Offering Counters: Dick & Sandy Foster

A/V: Dick Foster

## Church Staff

### Pastor

Christopher Frye 717-253-0322  
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### Office & Communications Manager

Whitney Waters 717-855-8215  
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### Office Assistant

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### Organist

Sherry Fahnestock

### Choir Director

James Martin  
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### Custodian

Vanessa Hepfer

## Weekly Worship Schedule

### Sundays

10:00 am Holy Communion  
8:45 am Faith Formation/Christian Education

### Wednesdays

11:00 am Holy Communion & Healing  
7:00 pm Zoom Prayer & Share



**ST. LUKE**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church