



Transforming Lives in the Love of Jesus Christ



December 7, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

2nd Week of Advent

The asterisk(*) indicates for you to stand, only if you are able.

GATHERING

(As we gather, please take this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

PASTORAL GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRIST KIDS' ARTWORK CORNER

The prophet Isaiah tells us to have hope because one day when Jesus returns there will be great peace in the world. He says, "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat...the cow will feed with the bear" (11:6-7). Can you draw a picture of one of these animal pairs living peacefully together?

MEDITATION

From the hymn "O Holy Night", Placide Cappeau

"A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn'. Fall on your knees, o hear the angels' voices. O night divine, o night when Christ was born. O night divine."

PRELUDE

"He Came Down"

arr. C. Moglebust
Agape Ringers

ENTRANCE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is a time for resting in God's presence.

People: Spirit of wisdom and understanding, rest on us.

Leader: This is a time for being shaped as followers of Jesus.

People: Spirit of counsel and might, rest on us.

Leader: This is a time for releasing what holds us back.

People: Spirit of knowledge and awe, rest on us.

All: God, as we focus on you, fill us with hope.

*OPENING HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

No. 230

ADVENT READING

The Dallas Family (8:30), The Way Family (11:00)

ADVENT OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, we confess that we are not always the most hopeful people, and that we often find ourselves wanting to give up hope in this life. Please Lord, remind us of your ever-present hope and that you will keep showing up, even in hopeless spaces. Remind us again of your presence, and of your deep love for us. Give us once again the strength to remember you are with us in all things. Give us the strength to hope once more in your name. All of this we offer to you in the name of your Son, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

Youth Choir (8:30)

Chancel Choir (11:00)

"The Little Drummer Boy" arr. M. Hayes

"Christmastime" arr. J.M. Martin

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (11:00)

For children 4 years to 5th grade. At this time, they can exit through the back of the sanctuary where they will participate in scripture, a children's sermon, prayers, and offering together. Children will return to the sanctuary in time for communion.

Reader: This is the Word of God for us.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

ImPossible: "Hope Made Possible"

Rev. Tawny Bernhardt

HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

No. 196

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT TIME OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

1 John 1:5,7, alt.

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus the Son cleanses us from all sin.

*THE PEACE - *Let us offer signs of peace, reconciliation, and love with one another.*

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS TO GOD+

Tithes, offerings, and gifts can be made electronically or mailed to the church office. If you are joining us virtually, please take this opportunity to sign-in on our website.

OFFERTORY

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

arr. M. Hayes

Mark Urmson, organ

Please use this time for personal reflection as we consider how we can give of ourselves back to God.

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*OFFERING 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, forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

No. 15

In the tradition of Wesley's "singing communion", we invite you to sing the following hymns:

No. 250 "**Once in Royal David's City**", No. 245 "**The First Noel**", No. 229 "**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**"

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

No. 240

*DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Deck the Halls"

arr. C. Rollin

Mark Urmson, organ

Use this time to reflect on the service as you prepare your heart for a week with Jesus, or take this time to exit the sanctuary and take the love of Jesus wherever you go.

Please Be In Prayer For...(*indicates newly added):

Dale Nice

Barb Tibbits

Carol Wynne

The family of Mike Reino

Liturgist: 8:30 -

11:00 - Warren Shuey

Nursery Adults: 8:30 - _____, Kristi Weatherwax

9:45 - Raquel Prusak, Kristi Weatherwax

11:00 - Paul Bernhardt, Diane Bresser

Children's Worship: Kathy Barlick

Preparing for Worship Use the week's liturgical scriptures and questions to help prepare you for worship. Next week's are available if you want to look ahead.

This week's: Isa 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-7, 18-19 (UMH 795); Rom 15:4-13; Matt 3:1-12

Worship Question: Can you remember a time during the Christmas season when you felt overwhelmed instead of filled with the Christmas spirit?

Welcome to Worship



Members, Regular Attendees, and Visitors: please scan the QR code or fill out the attendance slip to record your attendance. Slips may be placed in the offering plates or the basket by the Sanctuary entrance.

First Time Visitors: Please complete a blue "CONNECT" card in the pew rack in front of you; it may be given to the usher or placed in the offertory plates. We invite you to pick up a Welcome Packet at the Welcome Table before you leave.

Children are welcome to stay in worship with you. Additionally, Christ UMC offers a **staffed nursery** for children ages birth through 4 years old during the 8:30 and 11 am worship services in room 130, in the preschool hallway. An **unstaffed space**, in rooms 120-122 across from the cafe, is available in case you need a quiet place to rock your

child or some space to move around. The worship service is broadcasted through a speaker. If you have special needs or need help locating any of these spaces, please see one of our ushers.

CHRIST KIDS' ARTWORK CORNER



The prophet Isaiah tells us to have hope because one day when Jesus returns there will be great peace in the world. He says, "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat....the cow will feed with the bear" (11:6-7). Can you draw a picture of one of these animal pairs living peacefully together?

Contact Us!

1020 S. Valley Forge Road, Lansdale, PA 19446

Church Phone: 215-855-1643

Preschool Phone: 215-412-7836

Church Website: www.cumclansdale.org

Church Email: secretary@cumclansdale.org

Preschool Website: www.christumcpreschool.com

See our full staff list on our website. Click on "Meet our Staff."

A special thank you to all who help make the worship services possible!!

+Electronic Giving is an easy way to ensure that your gifts are reaching the church even when you cannot be present yourself. Visit our church website (www.cumclansdale.org) and click the "Donate" tab in the left column to set up your online giving. You are also welcome to mail your offering to the church.

++If you have a prayer request you can email it to the prayer chain (prayers@cumclansdale.org) or directly to the pastor.

+++To hear the sermon again or to listen to any sermons you may have missed, please visit our website and click "Sermon Audio", under the "[Online Worship](#)" tab.

Sign up for Weekly Emails: please visit our website and click "Events & Sign-ups" look for "CUMC EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENT LIST SIGN UP".

Announcements

For more detailed information of each event check out our weekly emails or www.cumclansdale.org under Events/Sign Ups and Upcoming Events. The QR code will take you directly to the page.

- **Christ's Kids Volunteers** - We are looking for leaders ages 18+ to serve in our nursery ministry once a month. Volunteering is fun, rewarding, and flexible! Contact Pastor Tawny if you're interested!
- **Christmas Pageant Today During Sunday School!** - Come to the Sunday School Christmas Pageant today during Sunday School! The pageant will be performed by the children you know from our congregation. Come see the action, the music, the drama, and the pageantry as the Christmas story unfolds with a few new twists and turns and a bit of humor. You don't want to miss this pageant!
- **Youth Group Christmas Dinner Tonight at 6 PM!** - Youth Group is celebrating Christmas tonight from 6-8 PM in the narthex! If you don't regularly attend or haven't RSVP'd, we still want you there!!! We will have Christmas dinner, a White Elephant gift exchange, and more! Find Nick or text him ASAP for more info & to RSVP.
- **Santa will be at CUMC on Saturday!** - The annual Breakfast with Santa will take place on **Sat., Dec. 13th, 2025**, from 8 AM - 10:30 AM. While you enjoy pancakes, sausage, and hot chocolate (with a GF option available!), you'll have a chance to talk to Santa and have your picture taken with him! It will be a great time, and remains affordable for all: \$3 for adults, \$2 for children under 12 (children 2 & under are free) with a maximum of \$10 per family. Tickets will be available at the door - don't miss this wonderful family event. We also need volunteers for this event! We're looking for **servers, set up and clean up crews** – check out our sign up on the church website. See you there!
- **Wreaths Across America** - Please come and join us for the Wreaths Across America ceremony on **Sat., Dec. 13th at 12 noon at the Orvilla Road Cemetery** in Hatfield on Orvilla Road. We have about 12-14 Veterans at this cemetery, from the Civil War up to the Korean Conflict. If you would like to **purchase a wreath, the cost is \$17**. Pastor Zach presides over a service where we honor the memory of these vets, read their names, and place a wreath on each veteran's grave. Visit the church website events page for more info. Thank you! Questions, contact Jean Davis.
- **Christmas Concert** - Join us Sun., Dec. 14th at 4 PM for an amazing concert that includes musicians of all ages from all corners of our sanctuary, illuminated for a new, unique experience! This concert is free and everyone is welcome to attend!!
- **Special Collection for CUMC Staff and Pastors** - We will once again be taking a special collection during the month of December to be given as a monetary gift to our pastors and all CUMC staff. We will have designated collection buckets (one for pastors and one for staff) at each service through mid-December for this special collection. Thank you for your support of those that help our church provide so many services to so many people!
- **Seasonal VBC Needs** - As you wrap your holiday gifts this year, don't toss those empty wrapping paper tubes! We're collecting them now for our Vacation Bible Camp crafts this July. Set them aside and drop them off at the church office any time this season. We also will be collecting long tissue boxes. Thank you for thinking ahead and giving these simple items a second life in ministry!
- **Mission of the Month** - Nov. MOTM: Heifer International, \$TBA. Dec. MOTM: Code Blue Lansdale

Who is in the Lobby: Susanna Wesley Circle Cookie Sale, Angel Tree Gift Return

Upcoming Events:

Sun 12/7: Children's Christmas Pageant (in place of Sunday School), SWC Cookie Sale, Youth Group Christmas Perky Promenaders Holiday Event (Fellowship Hall unavailable)

Mon 12/8: Deborah Circle

Wed 12/10: Men's Breakfast Grp, Endowment Mtg

Thurs 12/11: Stitching Sisters, Board of Trustees Mtg

Fri 12/12: Caregivers' Monthly Mtg, Santa Breakfast Set Up

Sat 12/13: Santa Breakfast, Wreaths Across America

Sun 12/14: Christmas Concert

Mon 12/15: Staff Mtg

150th Anniversary Events

150th Anniversary Tumblers will be available in the office while supplies last.

Thank you for your support and participation for ALL of our 150th Anniversary events!! It was a joy to celebrate with all of you as we honored the legacy of our church, the church that you help contribute to today, and the future yet to come! May God bless you throughout the rest of 2025 and beyond as we continue to transform lives in the love of Jesus Christ!



230 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given;
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 so God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 196

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man-u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. by George Whitefield, 1753, and others (Lk. 2:8-14) MENDELSSOHN
 MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856 77.77 D with Refrain

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Once in Royal David's City

250

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
 3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day, like us he
 4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing

shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 grew; he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
 love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the
 smiles like us he knew; and he feel - eth for our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

The First Noel

245

1. The first No - el the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
 3. And by the light of that same star three Wise Men
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, o'er Beth - le -
 5. Then en - tered in those Wise Men three, full rev - erent -

shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay
 east, be - yond them far; and to the earth it
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was
 hem it took its rest; and there it did both
 ly up - on the knee, and of - fered there, in

keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 stop and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 his pres - ence, their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

WORDS: Trad. English carol (Lk. 2:8-14; Mt. 2:1-12)
 MUSIC: Trad. English carol; harm. from *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

THE FIRST NOEL
 Irr. with Refrain

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

229

Unison

1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle
2. Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing

stall; ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing, Christ the babe is Lord of
new saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel

all. Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings
true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the

Interlude, Ending

bring - ing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
mor - row: Christ the babe was born for you.

WORDS: Polish carol; trans. by Edith M. G. Reed, 1925 (Lk. 2:6-20)

MUSIC: Polish carol; arr. by Edith M. G. Reed, 1926; harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

W ZLOBIE LEZY
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