

Sunday, October 18, 2026



***Christ's Lutheran Church
Murrysville, Pennsylvania***

"A Place to Believe, Belong, and Become"



Christ's Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and welcoming Christian community committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life-changing discipleship.

ARE YOU VISITING? START HERE!

Welcome! If you are new to worship in a Lutheran church, this introduction will help guide you through our service. Here are some things to know!

There is a quiet space in the back of the sanctuary if you or your child needs less sensory input or a chance to stretch and move. There are also blue cloth bags with fidget toys and other activities in that space. Please return the bags and their contents (minus any artwork your child creates).

Restrooms (with diaper decks) and a nursery are down the hall on the right. The nursery is unstaffed but has a TV displaying the worship service.

General info:

- The prayers, responses, and service music are printed in this bulletin. Just follow along!
- Words for the longer songs (hymns) are in the red pew books. The hymn numbers are in the bulletin and look like this ELW #.
- All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward for Holy Communion. Children who haven't received Holy Communion may also come forward for a blessing. Please take an empty cup for wine or grape juice on your way forward. We serve both wheat and gluten-free wafers. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please let the Pastor know.
- Our Sunday morning service is livestreamed on YouTube. Your image may appear. Can't make it to worship? Find us here: <https://www.youtube.com/@christslutheranchurchmurry443>
- We do receive an offering or donation as part of the service. There is a QR code in the bulletin or an envelope in the pew.

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668

Office: 412-795-1212

Church Office email: office@christsmurrysville.org

Website: www.christsmurrysville.org

App: Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)

Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost

(Please silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

Instrumental

*Please use this time to silently prepare
your hearts and minds for worship*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF CONCERNS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: If we say that 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 us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please take a moment in silence for confession.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. Holy God,

C: We confess that sometimes we get things wrong. We hold the wrong opinions. We love the wrong things. We act the wrong way. But you, God, can show us how to make things right. Forgive our desire to do it ourselves and give us the trust that we need to follow your commands rather than our instincts and traditions.

P: Now hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. Yet, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ remains in power for us. Christ prays for you and for me. In Christ we are a new creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: Let us now share the peace of Christ with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

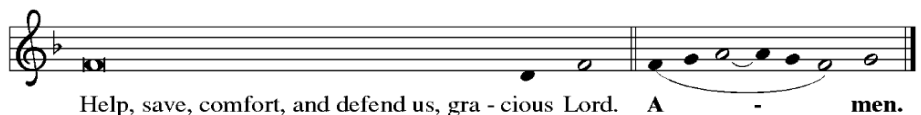
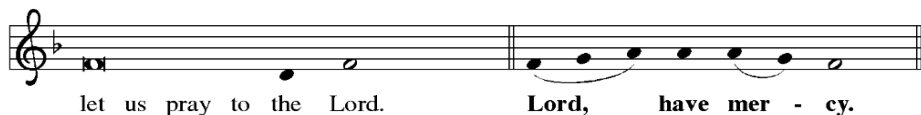
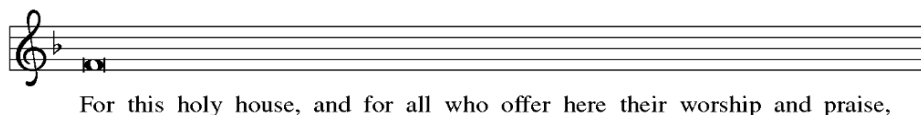
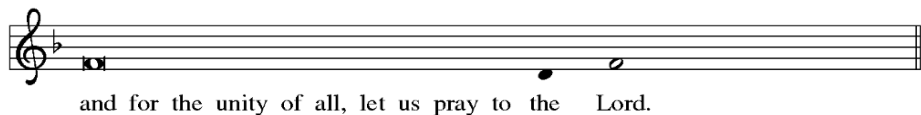
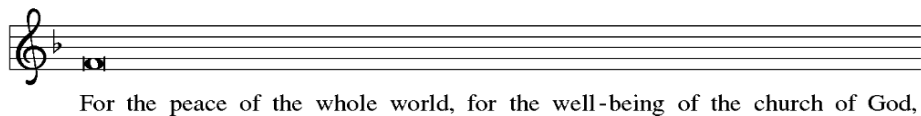
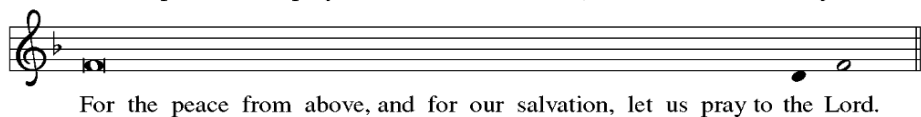
ELW #618

GREETING

P:  The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: God of abundance, we praise your life-giving love. We need you like the earth needs seasons of rain and sun. We come to you in prayer to ask that you breathe new life into us. Grant us the clarity needed to hear your Word anew. And as you do, restore us to your will. Restore us to your Word. Restore us to one another.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: PSALM 37:18-28 *(please be seated)*

A: The Lord knows the days of the blameless,
and their heritage will abide forever;

**C: They are not put to shame in evil times;
in the days of famine they have abundance.**

A: But the wicked perish,
and the enemies of the Lord are like the glory of the pastures;
they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

The wicked borrow and do not pay back,
but the righteous are generous and keep giving;

**C: surely those blessed by the Lord shall inherit the land,
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.**

A: Our steps are made firm by the Lord
when he delights in our way;

**C: though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong,
for the Lord holds us by the hand.**

A: I have been young and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.

**C: They are ever giving liberally and lending,
and their children become a blessing.**

A: Depart from evil, and do good;
so you shall abide forever.

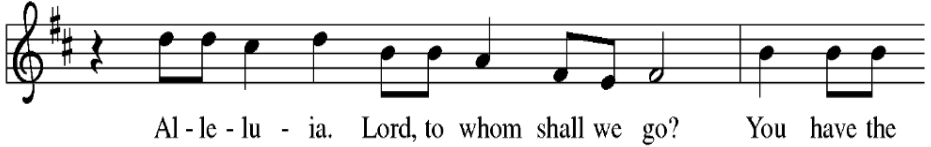
**C: For the Lord loves justice;
he will not forsake his faithful ones.
The righteous shall be kept safe forever,
but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.**

SECOND READING: GENESIS 33:1-17

Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. He put the maids with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. He himself went on ahead of them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near his brother. But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. When Esau looked up and saw the women and children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." Then the maids drew near, they and their children, and bowed down; Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down; and finally Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor with my lord." But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." Jacob said, "No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand, for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God, since you have received me with such favor. Please accept my gift that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me and because I have everything I want." So he urged him, and he took it. Then Esau said, "Let us journey on our way, and I will go alongside you." But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are frail and that the flocks and herds, which are nursing, are a care to me, and if they are overdriven for one day, all the flocks will die. Let my lord pass on ahead of his servant, and I will lead on slowly, according to the pace of the cattle that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord in Seir." So Esau said, "Let me leave with you some of the people who are with me." But he said, "Why should my lord be so kind to me?" So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. But Jacob journeyed to Succoth and built himself a house and made booths for his cattle; therefore the place is called Succoth.

IMAGINATION TIME with Pastor Sue

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 21:1-14

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them

and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE *(please be seated)*

Pastor Sue Washburn

HYMN OF THE DAY *(please stand)*

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

ELW #606

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

We say together what Christians have believed for centuries.

A: Please join me in affirming our faith together

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please stand)*

P: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence

P: God of creation, we give you thanks for the majesty of your earth. Protect the abundant life with it and sustain all those who work to preserve it. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Omniscient God who knows everything, we seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Omnipotent God who has all power, thank you for the abundance with which you have blessed this church. May we discern your will, throw out our nets in the right places and bring in all that we might need for ministry.

C: hear our prayer.

P: Benevolent God, we ask your blessing on all of those who give of their time and talent to your church. Bless them all as we remember those who do the quiet, unseen work below the surface. We give thanks for all that you have given us. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Faithful God, we pray for Christ's Lutheran Church as it discerns your call for future ministries. Be working in the heart and mind of the next pastor as you prepare them to lead this congregation. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Omnipresent God who is always with us, we thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. We pray for those in need of your care, including:

Tammy B. & Family, Tom C., Marilyn C., Randy Clouser, Joel Erwin, David Favero, Chuck G., Marlene Gerdes, Joseph Grabowski, Sr., Peggy Henry, James Holt III, Marlene Karl, Phil Ann Karl, Holly Kirsch, Bob L., Lisa Lehman, Tom M., John Magnus, Bela Molnar, Derwood Montgomery, Michael O'Donnell, Jeff Pope, Betty Reagan, Michael S., Paul Rizzo, Sandi Shaffer & Kate Hall, Mary Jane Snyder, Ron Spagna, Marianne Trainor, Terri Veltre, Sue Werner, Manny Whittaker, Cheryl Zamule, the family of Linda B., and family & friends of James Pfeiffer





And for our church members and friends:

Dan, Amanda, Ximena, & Juliana Hogan
Shari Holcomb
Mark & Nancy Holland
Carol Hudson

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

OFFERING *(please be seated)*

P: Our offering is an act of ministry and worship as well as a response to God's grace. We recognize all that God has given to us and with thanksgiving we return those gifts to the LORD.

You can place your offering in the offering plate that is passed at this time in our service,

You can scan this QR code to our online giving page,

You can use our app to send your offering,

or mail your offering to the church:

*Christ's Lutheran Church
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668*



THE OFFERTORY

Instrumental

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(please stand)*



The musical score is written on six staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing. we are an of-fer-ing." The music is in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over the notes) on the third, fifth, and sixth staves. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you,
we are an of-fer-ing. we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Giving God, today we bring our hearts, minds, and money back to you to be transformed into ministry. Use these gifts to restore your hurting world, bring about your justice, and build your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Give us the wisdom to know how to use these gifts for others.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Let us pray, Lord come to the table week after week because we are forgetful and fearful people.

It is part of our human nature;

That is why we long for this space at the table week after week

So that the bread and the cup may remind us of who we are and whose we are.

Remind us again, dear Jesus, of your great love.

Whisper to our hearts how our lives begin and end with you.

Tell our hearts of your great love for this world shown in life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Remind us of these things, so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we may praise your name and join the unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us now pray together as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: When we gather around this table,

we release the worldly stories that only those with status or wealth deserve to be fed.

When we gather around this table, we can reimagine what could be -- what a world could look like when all belong.

We gather around this table as an act of restoration, as an act of resistance, as an act of faith in God.

So, come.

Come with your dreams and your memories.

Come with your full authentic self -- the self that is full of hurt and hope, pain and joy.

Come with your questions, your wonderings, and your prayers.

Come—not because you have to, but because here you can taste God's grace.

Come because this is a moment of restoration,
a moment where everything is holy.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the gift of Holy Communion. You may come forward and take an empty cup for wine or a filled cup of grape juice to the altar. If you are unable to come forward, please let us know and we will come to you. When Communion is finished, please stand.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

COMMUNION RESPONSE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Holy God, as we leave this table, may we remember that you have met us here. Help us remember that with you, all are invited. With you, there is a seat for everyone. With you, there is enough to go around. With you, we can build tables like this in the world. We need more tables like this in the world. Gratefully we pray.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"O Christ, Our Hope"

ELW #604

THE DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Pastor
Pastor Emeritus
Organist
Pianist
Parish Administrator

Rev. Sue Washburn
Rev. Steven J. Myers
Joshua Beck
Nancy Finke Sheehan
Laura Vincenti

ONE LICENSE LICENSING PERMISSION: REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE A – 739156; STREAMING PERMISSION LICENSED UNDER A – 739156. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED* CCLI LICENSING PERMISSION: REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION UNDER CCLI 23176819; STREAMING PERMISSION LICENSED UNDER CCLI 23176826. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED* Sunday worship materials are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal, copyright © 2006, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under License # SB177840. Bible readings are from the *English Standard Version*, copyright 2001, Good News Publishers. Prayers are from *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright 2026, Augsburg Fortress.

Pastor Sue's
"Drop-In Wednesdays"
Community Outreach

In **OCTOBER**, Pastor Sue's community hours will be at Dunkin on Rt. 286. Stop by and bring friends to meet and talk with Pastor Sue.

October Drop-Ins
Wednesdays: 10 am-12 pm
on the 21st & 28th

Dunkin, Holiday Park
1803 Golden Mile Highway
(Route 286)

Pastor Sue's Open Office
Hours at the Church

Fridays from
10 am to 12 pm

Please feel free to stop by
to talk about what's
on your mind.

You can also schedule private time with Pastor Sue by using this link to her calendar, where you can set up a specific time and location:

<https://calendar.app.google/HfC4jyoazNMnGwnW6>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

October is **Pastor Appreciation Month!** On the table in the Ministry Center is a clipboard with several sheets that you can sign, and add a message if you care to. Council will be presenting our notes of appreciation to Pastor Sue at the end of the month.

~~~~~  
**Celebrating The Festival of All Saints                      Oct 31 & Nov 1**

To order white carnations in memory of loved ones for the Festival of All Saints on November 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, please take an order envelope from the table in the Entryway. Each carnation is \$1.50 and may be taken home after the Sunday service on November 1st.

***Deadline for orders is Sunday, October 24th.*** Place your order envelope in the offering plates or drop off at the church office.

~~~~~  
Photos of Loved Ones for All Saints Weekend Celebration

We invite you to bring a picture of a person in your life that you've loved and lost, not only during the past year, but at any time. There will be a table in the Sanctuary for you to place your photo(s) among members of our congregation, family members and friends whom we remember on this special weekend.

You may place your photo before service on Saturday or drop it/them off in the office during the week before. We ask that you consider including your photos for both services during the weekend. You may collect your picture after Sunday service. All pictures not collected at the end of the Sunday Service may be picked up at the church office during the following week.

~~~~~  
**HONORING ALL WHO SERVED**

Are you a veteran? We will be honoring the members and friends of our church who have served our nation (during a time of peace or war) during our worship services on Saturday, November and Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. If you served our nation in the armed forces, please sign the sheet in the Entryway and share your branch of military service.

~~~~~  
Ladies' Brunch Saturday, Oct 24th 11 am

Ladies of the church - Please join us as we celebrate the sisterhood of the women of Christ's Lutheran.

Any tasty treat you'd like to share is appreciated but not required.

- ~ Register via the calendars on our website or app
- ~ Or sign-up on the sheet in the entryway

Puzzlers: Join us on the 4th Saturday of the month for puzzling fellowship. We'll gather at 1:00 pm, after the Ladies' Brunch. Or, puzzle on your own, the current puzzle is on a table in the lower fellowship hall.

~~~~~  
**Winter Coat Drive for Trinity Church**

Throughout the month of October, donate *gently used coats* to benefit the Northside neighborhoods served by our sister church, Trinity Lutheran.

Drop your coat donations in the large boxes in the Ministry Center. Thank you.



~~~~~  
Pianos, Pipes, Peals & Premiers Sunday, October 18th 4:00 pm

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Greensburg, PA. CLC pianist Nancy Finke Sheehan & CLC organist Josh Beck are performing. The free concert includes additional musicians and singers and features the premier of two pieces.

One of the pieces being premiered is in honor of Gwen Irwin's 100th birthday! Gwen is the mother of CLC member Kris Meade.

~~~~~  
Christ's Lutheran has **Prayer Shawls** available for anyone who wants to share an expression of care in the form of a warm shawl. The shawls can be used by you personally or given to anyone you know who is going through a hard time, illness, grief, or good times like celebrating a newborn, reaching a milestone, or for any other reason. Think of the shawls as a warm hug to let someone know they are thought of and cared for.

Prayer Shawls are displayed below the Prayer Shawl Ministry poster in the church narthex. Please feel free to take as many as you'd like for those you love.

~~~~~  
Light of Life, in partnership with agencies all over the Pittsburgh area, will prepare and gift 3,000 Thanksgiving food baskets to families who have a home, but do not have the means to purchase food for Thanksgiving dinner.

Again this year CLC is accepting monetary donations to help with needed items for the baskets. You can donate by writing a check payable to Christ's Lutheran Church and marking "Light of Life" on your check or offering envelope or donate via our website or app. Choose Light of Life as the fund.

Please make your donation by **October 31st** . We gratefully thank you.



**CLC's Youth
Group meets
the first Sunday
of the month at
6 PM**

**ALL TEENS ARE
WELCOME TO OUR
UPCOMING EVENT:
A BONFIRE AT THE
FIRE PIT ON
SUNDAY, NOV. 1ST**

Election Day Bake Sale

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 3RD** and we need lots of goodies to make our annual bake sale a success. Sign up in the Entryway to bring goodies and/or to help the day of the sale.

Cindy will be in the lower kitchen on Monday, November 2nd from 1-3 to accept your bake goods. Contact Cindy Shaner at 724-335-0801 or cindyshaner2@gmail.com or with questions.



Follow us on
facebook





Christ's Lutheran Church - ELCA
213 followers • 0 following



Our church office is open:
Monday, Tuesday Thursday, Friday
9:00 am-12:00 pm, 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Oct 18th - Oct 25th, 2026

Keep our Ministry and Community in Your Prayers Each Day This Week

Sunday 10/18

9:00 am Kids' Sunday School, Bible Study for Adults
9:00 am Parent/Caregiver Small Group Class
10:00 am Sunday Worship
7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Bible study teachers

Monday 10/19

8:00 pm

The youth of our church as they begin a new year of service projects in our communities

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday 10/20

9:00 am

6:30 pm

The residents of Pittsburgh's North Side who will receive winter coats donated by Christ's Lutheran members and distributed by our sister church, Trinity Lutheran

Stitched With Love

Support Team Meeting

Wednesday 10/21

10:00 am

Doctors, nurses and all those providing healthcare

Pastor Sue's Community Hours

Thursday 10/22

The ministry of Kindermusik

Friday 10/23

10:00 am

3:30 pm & 5:00 pm

Homebound members of our congregation

Pastor Sue's Drop-In Office Hours

K9 Ministry - Scent Training for Dogs

Saturday 10/24

11:00 am

6:00 pm

Pastor Ed and Nancy Sheehan

Ladies' Brunch

Reformation Saturday Worship

Sunday 10/25

9:00 am

9:00 am

10:00 am

7:30 pm

Every member of our congregation as we each continue our walk of faith

Kids' Sunday School, Bible Study for Adults

Parent/Caregiver Small Group Class

Reformation Sunday Worship

Narcotics Anonymous