

# Sunday, December 14, 2025

The Lord's Day • Third Sunday of Advent

Organ Voluntary "And the Glory of the Lord" Pat Shroff & Ouiet Reflection - Handel / Chesterton Call to Worship Psalm 2:11-12 Rev. Tim Valentino

> Shelley Miller Congregation

Hvmn 88: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers Lighting of the Third Advent Candle (Jov) Mary Ellen Angley and Stacey Marks

Prayer of Adoration Rev. Tim Valentino

Scripture Readings

Hymn:

The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 35:1-10 Shirley Long Shirley Long/ Shelley Miller The Response Psalm 146:1-10 The New Testament Reading James 5:7-10 Shirley Long The Gospel Reading Matthew 11:2-11 (Please stand) Shirley Long

Missions Moment Pat Strain

Worship in Giving Psalm 68:29 Rev. Tim Valentino Women's Ensemble Anthem Come, Lord

Prayer Hymn 117: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Congregation

Prayer Led by Pastor Rev. Tim Valentino 89: Jesus Came, the Heaven's Adoring Congregation

I Believe, Part 3: Believing Means Waiting Rev. Tim Valentino Sermon

(James 5:7-10)

Response Hymn 258: There's A Wideness in God's Mercv Congregation

Benediction Rev. Tim Valentino

Postlude O Come, All Ye Faithful Pat Shroff

- Wade / Thygerson

#### Hospital Visitor This Week: Faye Hipkiss, 717-813-4638

Lector Children's Church Leader Tracy Farmer & Deb Smith Shirley Long Responder Shelley Miller Nursery Julie Barskey & Jennifer Danielson **Organist** Pat Shroff **Narthex Greeters** Kaye & Dave Focht **Pianist** Shelley Miller Sound Technician Bob Long **Flutist** Shirley Long Video Technician Andrew Valentino Violin **Lead Pastor** Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino Rebecca Sorg Trumpeter, Pianist, Vocalist Marcy Garman, Sonya Valentino **Visitation Minister** Pat Strain Guitarist Counters (December) Shirley Long, Grace Miller Scott Auchenbach Susie Auchenbach **Director of Buildings & Grounds** Will Robertson Hymn Leader, Office Administrator Maureen Logan Acolyte Mary Ellen Angley and Stacey Marks

> 121 South College Street, Myerstown, PA 17067-1299 https://christcomm.church • Facebook@cccmyerstown WiFi Network: ChristComm Guest • WiFi Password: Churchguest1

# Call to Worship: Psalm 2:11-12

<sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with reverent fear.

and rejoice with trembling.

<sup>12</sup> Submit to God's royal Son, or he will become angry,

and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities for his anger flares up in an instant.

But what joy for all who take refuge in him!



<sup>1</sup> The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, <sup>2</sup> it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;

they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;

<sup>4</sup> say to those with fearful hearts,

"Be strong, do not fear;

vour God will come.

he will come with vengeance;

with divine retribution

he will come to save vou."

<sup>5</sup>Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

<sup>6</sup>Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup>The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

<sup>8</sup> And a highway will be there;

it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way.

The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.

<sup>9</sup>No lion will be there.

nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there.

and those the LORD has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;

everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. The Response: Psalm 146:1-10

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

<sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

<sup>4</sup>When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

<sup>6</sup>He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in themhe remains faithful forever.

<sup>7</sup>He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow. but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.

The New Testament Lesson: James 5:7-10

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. 8 You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. 9 Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup> Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples 3 to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

<sup>4</sup>Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: 5 The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. <sup>6</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

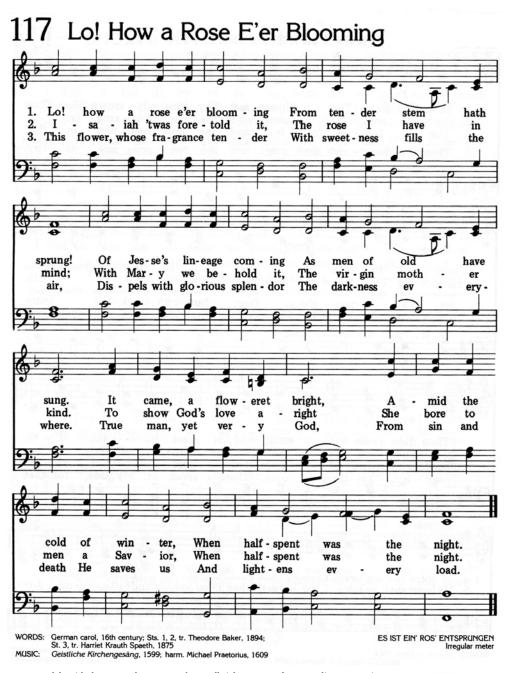
<sup>7</sup> As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? 8 If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. <sup>9</sup>Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written:

> "'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

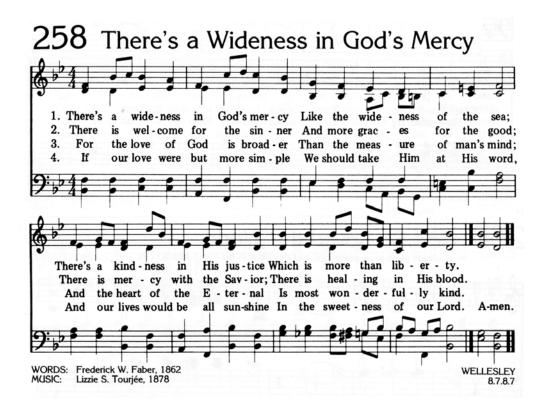
Worship in Giving: Psalm 68:29

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings will bring you gifts.



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# SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Christ Community Church will be holding a brief congregational meeting in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 28 right after the worship service. Authorization is needed ASAP to purchase three critical HVAC units as the outside temperatures continue to plunge to dangerous levels. The first unit conditions three rooms located near water pipes; the second unit conditions two rooms being used by our children; and the third unit conditions a large room being used by one of our renters. We know this date falls on a Sunday during many people's winter vacation, but we will try to reach a quorum since the need is urgent. Thank you.

#### **CHRISTMAS CARD FOR MISSIONARIES**

There are Christmas cards for our missionaries in the narthex, on the information table. Please sign them so we can let our missionaries know they are in our thoughts and prayers. Thanks!

### SHARING CUPBOARD NEEDS

- Spaghetti Sauce Canned Fruit Soup Cereal
- Snack Foods Peanut Butter Corn Chips & Pretzels
- · Cookies & Crackers · Spaghetti · Liquid & Bar Soap
  - · Toothpaste · Women's Care Items

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

If you have any prayer requests for distribution, please send them to Pastor Tim at pastortim@christcomm.church or (484) 269-4313.

### LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY! CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER @ 12:15 p.m. in Zinn Commons

Wednesday, December 17 @ 7:00 p.m. <u>BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER</u> **BOTH** on-line & in Zinn Commons

Friday, December 19 FIELD TRIP THROUGH JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM • Cleona Camp Grove

- For Christ Kid's Church students and their families All are welcome
- Please contact Tracy Farmer at 717-507-3028 with any questions.

**Wednesday, December 24** @ 7:00 p.m. <u>CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE</u> in the sanctuary. Invite a friend! (Organ prelude begins at 6:45 p.m.)

Sunday, December 28 @ 9:00 a.m. INFORMAL FELLOWSHIP & SNACKS in Zinn Commons

Sunday, December 28 after worship • Brief CONGREGATIONAL MEETING in sanctuary

**Sunday, January 4** at 1:00 p.m. <u>EPIPHANY PARTY</u> at the Valentinos 221 West Jackson Avenue, Myerstown

Monday, January 12 @ 6:30 p.m. MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING • Zinn Commons

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Christmas Eve candlelight service at Christ Community Church is one of the highlights of our church year. Our theme this year is "I'll Be Home for Christmas" from Luke 15:11-14. The prelude begins at 6:45 p.m. and the service will be held at 7:00 p.m. We feature traditional Christmas carols, brass, an inspiring message, and the lighting of candles during "Silent Night."

Plates for a **benevolence offering** will be available at the back of the sanctuary to **help needy families in our community**. Invite a friend to come find hope and encouragement in the good news of Jesus Christ at Christ Community Church.

We are looking for a volunteer or two to provide a **nursery** during the candlelight service. Please see **Pat Shroff** if you are willing to volunteer.

#### DECEMBER 28 - SPECIAL GATHERING

There will be **no Sunday school classes** on December 28, so our teachers will enjoy a much-needed day off. However, all are invited to gather in Zinn Commons at 9:00 a.m. for a time of informal fellowship and snacks. **Bring your leftover Christmas cookies and holiday treats**. Coffee and water will be made available as always.