

## Sunday, December 21, 2025

The Lord's Day • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Organ Voluntary

1. The Quiet, Holy Night - Wells
Quiet Reflection
2. The Coventry Carol - Innes

Call to Worship 1 John 4:9-10 Rev. Tim Valentino

Shawn Garman

Pat Shroff

Hymn 91: 0 Come, All Ye Faithful Congregation
Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle (Love) The Schubauer Family

Prayer of Adoration Rev. Tim Valentino

Scripture Readings

The Old Testament Reading
The Response
The New Testament Reading
The Gospel Reading
The Gospel Reading
The Gospel Reading
The Gospel Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Lisa Dreibelbis/ Shawn Garman
Romans 1:1-7
Lisa Dreibelbis
Matthew 1:18-25 (Please stand)
Lisa Dreibelbis

Worship in Giving Psalm 76:11 Rev. Tim Valentino

Prayer Hymn 102: What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest Congregation

Prayer Led by Pastor Rev. Tim Valentino

Second Hymn 97: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Sermon I Believe, Part 4: Believing Means Receiving Rev. Tim Valentino

(Romans 1:1-7)

Response Hymn 93: Angels We Have Heard on High Congregation

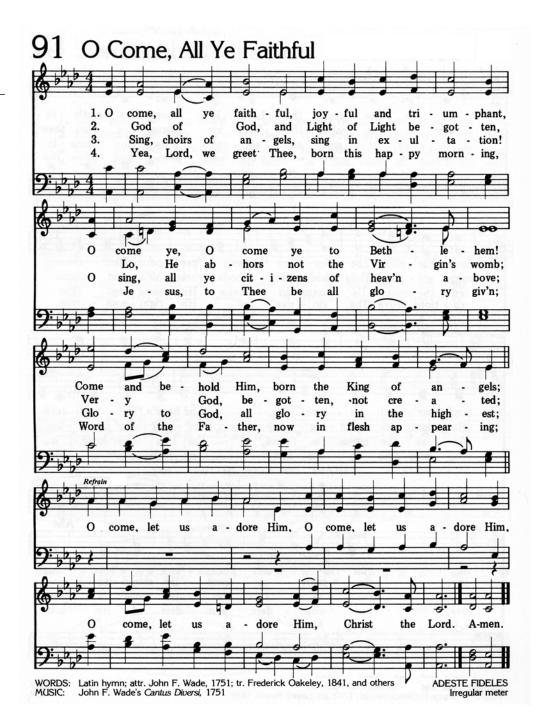
Benediction Rev. Tim Valentino

Postlude Hark! The Herald Angels Sing / Angels from Pat Shroff

the Realms of Glory - Arr. Whitworth

### Hospital Visitor This Week: Marlin Bohannon, 717-383-115

Lector Lisa Dreibelbis Children's Church Leader Deb Smith Responder Shawn Garman Nurserv Julie Barskey & Jennifer Danielson Organist Pat Shroff **Narthex Greeters** Kaye & Dave Focht **Pianist** Sound Technician Shelley Miller **Bob Lona 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 Scott Auchenbach Counters (December) Shirley Long, Grace Miller Vocalist Susie Auchenbach **Director of Buildings & Grounds** Will Robertson **Hymn Leader, Office Administrator** Maureen Logan Acolyte The Schubauer Family



## He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

<sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God,

but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

# The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

<sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, <sup>16</sup> for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste

## The Response: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

<sup>1</sup>Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim:

## Shine forth <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.

<sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

## <sup>4</sup>How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.

# <sup>6</sup>You have made us an object of derision to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved....

# <sup>17</sup> Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself.

<sup>18</sup> Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name.

<sup>19</sup> Restore us, LORD God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

## The Epistle Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—<sup>2</sup> the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup> regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup> and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup> Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. <sup>6</sup> And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### PLEASE STAND:

## The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

## Worship in Giving: Psalm 76:11

<sup>11</sup> Make vows to the LORD your God and fulfill them; let all the neighboring lands bring gifts to the One to be feared.





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# 93 Angels We Have Heard on High An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains. 2. Shepherds, why this iu - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long? 3. Come to Beth - le - hem, and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing; man - ger laid with - in Je - sus, Lord of heav'n and earth! And the moun-tains re - ply Ech - o back their in joy - ous strains. Say what may the be, Which in - spire your ti - dings heav'n - ly song? knee Christ the Lord, the bend - ed new-born King. Jo - seph, lend your aid. With us sing our Say - ior's birth. Glo in ex-cel-sis De - o. Glo in ex-cel-sis De

## SHARING CUPBOARD NEEDS

Spaghetti Sauce • Canned Fruit • Soup • Cereal
 Snack Foods • Peanut Butter • Corn • Chips & Pretzels

WORDS: Traditional French carol MUSIC: Traditional French melody

- 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

**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

Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. SPECIAL CONCERT OF PRAYER in the sanctuary

Monday, January 12 at 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.

PASTOR'S DAY OFF EACH WEEK Wednesday is Pastor Tim's day off, spending a precious day with his grandsons. We would like to honor his schedule and not contact him that day, unless it is a dire emergency. Please email Maureen Logan at <a href="mailto:office@christcomm.church">office@christcomm.church</a>, or call her at 717-304-0116 if necessary on Wednesdays. Otherwise, hold your communication until Thursday. Pastor Tim will faithfully contact you then.

