

Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church
419 Bossardsville Road
Stroudsburg, PA

Celebrating the 2nd Sunday of Christmas
A Service of Word & Sacrament

1/2/2022

*The Word became flesh and
made his dwelling among us.*



John 1:14

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Please wear masks when in the buildings. Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. **Unfortunately we are masked while inside any of our buildings as per CDC guidelines.** This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.chrighthamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers.

Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Visit us on our website: chrighthamilton.org and check out our Facebook page.

Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. If you don't know your neighbor please welcome them. We welcome those of all ages, color, sexual orientation, political preference, and those vaccinated and non-vaccinated.

Today's service: *Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

PRELUDE

Preludio

C. Adolphi Bossi

Nun Freut Euch, Lieben Christen

J. S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

You Servants of God

1 You ser - vants of God, your mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 Our God rules on high, al - might - y to save; and still he is
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and

broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with

Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Minister: Let us pray. . . . Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 31:7-14

Reader: A reading from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

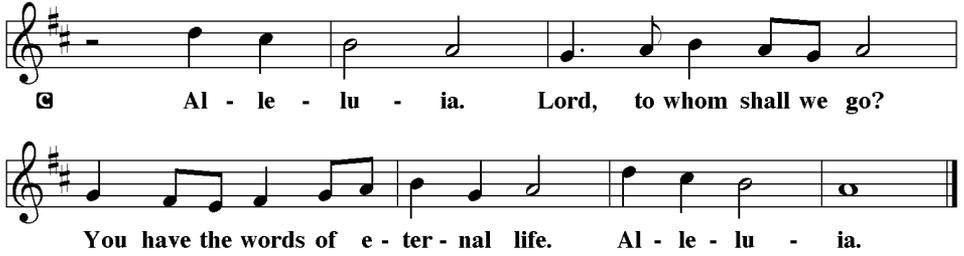
¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

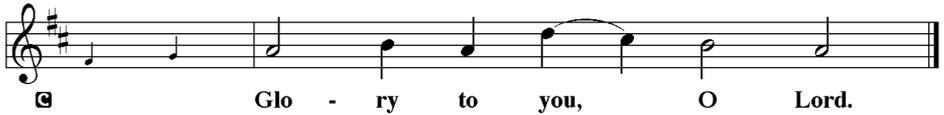


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 1:10-18

Minister: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

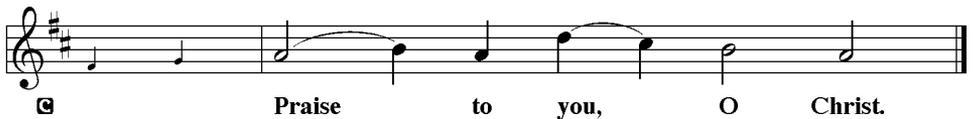
¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Of the Father's Love Begotten



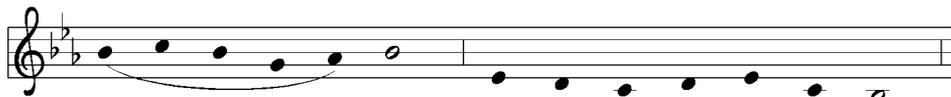
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
A - men.

NICENE CREED

Minister: Let us confess our faith together.

**All: 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 the virgin 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 in 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.**

Prayers

Assisting Minister: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated.
Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need especially those we lift to you now Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges.
Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

All: Receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

Offering

And the Child Grew Strong

Joseph Martin
Adult Choir

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This

LBW # 40 v. 3

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . . Blessed are you,

All: Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness

you have blessed us with these gifts.

With them we offer ourselves to your service

**and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that
you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



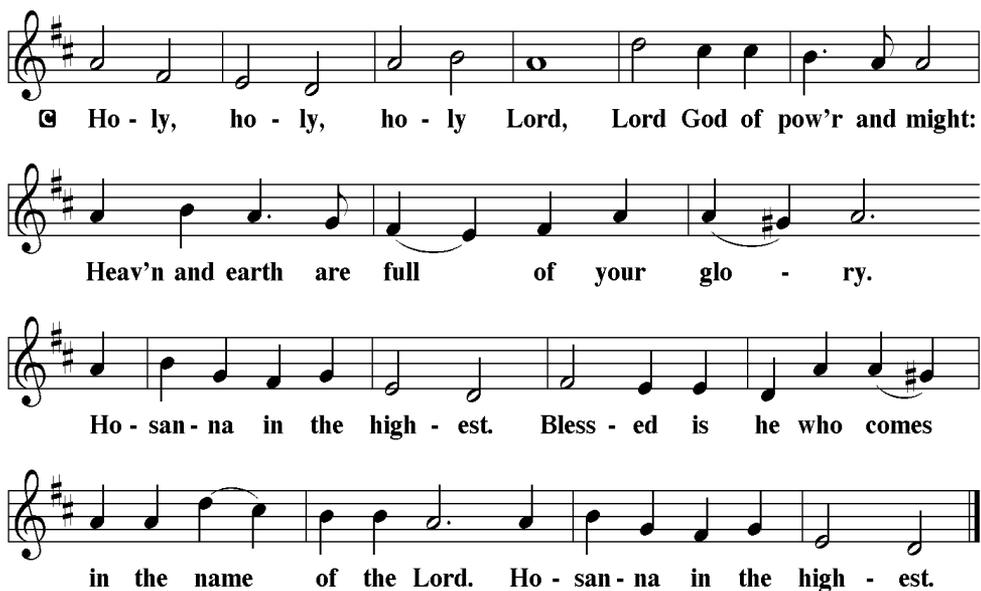
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface

Minister: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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.

Minister: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
 that all those who believe in him should not perish,
 but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you
 for the salvation you have prepared for us through
 Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
 that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
 as he comes to us in his holy supper.

All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Minister: In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

Minister: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**All: 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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. For those who would prefer not to have wine, pre-filled glasses of grape juice are available in the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the Pastor.

Please come forward by way of the right hand aisle, fill in along the railing from right to left and return by way of the left hand aisle.

Minister: The body of Christ given for you.

Communion Assistant: The blood of Christ shed for you.

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Almighty God, you provide the true bread from
heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who
have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may
abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the
power of his endless life, now and forever.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

Minister: May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into
new and abundant life.

All: Amen.

Minister: May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you
with love and strength.

All: Amen.

Minister: May the Word proclaimed in song bring harmony
to our world.

All: Amen.

Minister: And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the +
Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain
with you always.

All: Amen.

Build Us Up, Lord



1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our



us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our



ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.



Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us



guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us



world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain



Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in



faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your



word to spread the news of your Son!

Dismissal:

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fantasia

Tomas de Santa Maria

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Worship Leaders

Minister: The Reverend Steven C. Claycomb

Lay Minister/Cantor: John Balas

Reader: Shirley Frable

Communion Assist:

Organist: Lynda Chryst

Announcements: Amanda Balas

Greeters/Ushers: Deb & Tom Huber, Ellie Balas

Coffee Hour: Gloria Shupp & Camille Maillet

Altar Flower are given in honor of Pastor Steve's birthday by Bonnie!

Please Remember in Prayer: Gary Kapostas, Sandy Haney, Henry McCool, Ruth Ann Helriegel, Evelyn Seidof, Patty Budin, Bruce Everett, Nancy Robertson and Dumitru David.

Music Planning: There will be a music planning **TODAY** after the worship and music meeting in the LH music room about 10:45 a.m. Join us and help pick out hymns for the seasons of Epiphany and Lent.

Poinsettias—If you sponsored a poinsettia for Christmas please feel free to take one from the windowsills after service today.

No Sunday School or youth groups meeting today. We will start meeting again next Sunday, January 9th after service...bring a friend!

2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the Covenant House. If you can't find your envelopes please send an email to our treasurer, Paula Bond chulctreas@gmail.com.

Annual Reports please email your annual reports to Amanda by January 3rd, 2022. chulcsts@gmail.com. Our annual meeting will be February 6th, 2022 after the 9am service.

Dinner Group will be meeting on Tuesday, January 11th 2022. We will be meeting at Cherry Creek Hideaway in Cherry Valley. Due to limited seating we can only fit the first 25 people that sign up. R.S.V.P by Sunday, January 9th 2022. Call the office 570-992-4085. Dinner group

Committee Sunday will be held next Sunday, January 9th after the service for the following committees: Christian Education, Hospitality, Pastoral Care & Genealogy meeting rooms are as follows:

Christian Education—LH room G
Genealogy—CH Genealogy Room
Hospitality—LH Serving Area
Pastoral Care—LH Serving Area

Thank you to everyone who gave to our ELCA Good Gifts benevolence project and those who bought gifts for the Office of the Aging seniors. Your generosity to help and serve others is truly a gift to Christ Hamilton, our community and needy families around the globe, we are blessed!

Youth Events

February 4-6th: 30 Hour Famine – thought-provoking Bible studies, games, inspirational videos, and more — and mash them all up into an unforgettable retreat of going without food to raise funds for the hungry. We'll work on some local projects during the retreat to help the hungry and homeless. We'll also have a doctor with us to monitor the nutritional status of the teens (and provide non tasty nutrition for those who need it). There is no cost associated with this event but churches are encouraged to raise money for the hungry.

June 19-25th: Youth Works Mission trip to Charleston, West Virginia - During a week in Charleston, your group will have the opportunity to learn firsthand about the people, history and culture of this city. Serve and build relationships with a variety of people in Charleston through the Boys & Girls Club, Union Mission and local senior centers. Partner with a local church through facilitating children's programming. During the evenings, worship with a local congregation and feast with friends old and new at a community potluck, which almost always includes a famous homemade cobbler! YouthWorks has partnered with this community since 2003.