



CHRISTLUTHERAN
providence | online



Traditional

Celebration of Holy Communion

December 14, 2025



WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN'S PROVIDENCE CAMPUS

If you would like to learn
more about the church,
contact Kathy Hofmann, our
Guest & Hospitality Director
khofmann@christelca.org

-or-

Fill out one of the Connect
cards located in the pew
racks in front of you, and
place in the offering plate.

The order of service
is divided into several
sections. Use this bulletin to
participate in the worship
service, noting parts
spoken by the leader or
the people, when to stand,
sit, or kneel, and music for
congregational singing.



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christelca.org



Traditional Order of Worship

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The First Noel

arr. Moklebust
Luther Ringers

HYMN (stand)

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (sit)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(stand)

Light the Candle

Vajda, Schalk



Light the can-dle of joy to-day, the Giv-er of joy is here!



Wel-come the joy we crave and pray for, but on - ly Christ can give.



Flick-er and flame and glow with joy, light up the world a-round you.



Flick-er and flame and glow with joy, light up the world a -



round you.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

SILENT REFLECTION & SELF-EXAMINATION (kneel/sit)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

SHARING OF THE PEACE (stand)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OPENING HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arr. Ferguson



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

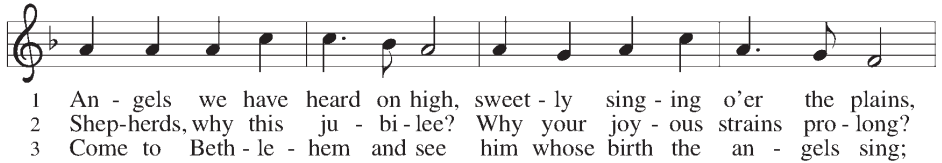
**APOSTOLIC
GREETING**

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

And also with you.

**GLORIA IN
EXCELSIS**

***Angels We Have
Heard on High***



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**PRAYER
OF THE DAY**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Let us pray. God of mystery whom no eye can see, you yourself have given us a sign
we can behold: The virgin is with child and bears a son whose name is Emmanuel,
God with us. Plant within our hearts your living Word of promise, that, into a
world grown weary of empty dreams and broken promises, we may bring forth
the living presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*

READING
Isaiah 55:8–11
 (NRSV)
 (sit)

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings

Wednesdays Ablaze PreK–5th Grade, Christ Choir, Orchestra

HOLY GOSPEL
Matthew 1:18–25
 (NRSV)
 (stand)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter.



Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do 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 as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.



ANTHEM
 (sit)

Away in a Manger

James Murray

Wednesdays Ablaze PreK–5th Grade

CHRISTKIDS DISMISSAL

Children ages 3 years through 2nd grade are invited to an age-appropriate lesson in the Ministry Center (M241/242). They will return during the offering.

SERMON

Fear Not

Fear of the Unknown
Pastor Ryan Ritzmann

ANTHEM

Be Born, O God

Philip Biedenbender, Laurie Gauger
Christ Choir

NICENE CREED (stand)

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

THE PRAYERS (kneel/sit)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING (sit)

Place cash or checks in Give envelopes, located in pew racks, and drop in offering plate. Credit cards can be used via online giving. Text "PRAISE" to 73256 or scan QR Code on envelope.

See Amid the Winter's Snow
arr. Forrest
Christ Choir, Orchestra

OFFERTORY
*Bring a Torch,
 Jeanette, Isabella*
 (stand)



Bring a torch, Jean - nette, Is - a - bel - la! Bring a torch, to the
 cra - dle run! It is Je - sus, good folk of the vil - lage;
 Christ is born and Mar - y's call - ing. Ah! ah! beau - ti - ful
 is the moth - er! Ah! ah! beau - ti - ful is her Son!

**OFFERTORY
 PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful Father,
we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us:
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


MEAL

**GREAT
 THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS
*Holy, Holy, Lord
 Most Holy*

It is our duty and delight... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of might:
 heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!
 Bless - ed be the com - ing Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who have been instructed in the sacrament and believe Christ is present for the forgiveness of sins are invited to commune. Young children are invited to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
arr. Dobrinski
Luther Ringers

BLESSING (stand)

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the World* arr. Benton

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing joy.
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found.
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his love.

DISMISSAL *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella. Public domain.

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Christmas Eve Worship
Wednesday, December 24

10 a.m. Children's Service
 (Sanctuary • in person only)

3 p.m. Contemporary Service (Sanctuary)  

5 p.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)  

7 p.m. Contemporary Service (Sanctuary)

9 p.m. Traditional Service
 (Christ Chapel • in person only)

WORSHIP IN PERSON -or- ONLINE christelca.org/online



The Charlotte Concert Band presents

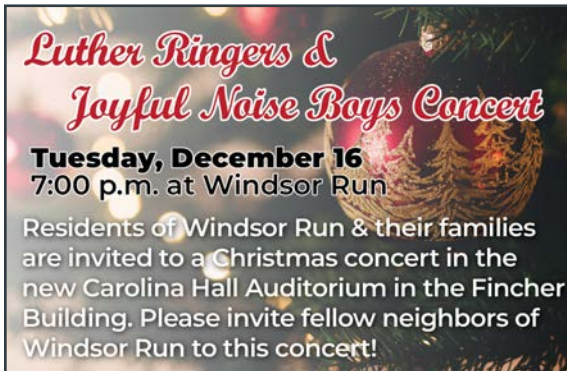
Holiday Echoes

Sunday, December 14 • 3 p.m.
in the Sanctuary

Tickets: \$14 in advance or \$15 at the door

 CHARLOTTE CONCERT BAND

MORE INFO & TICKETS:
charlotteconcertband.org/holidayechoes



*Luther Ringers &
 Joyful Noise Boys Concert*

Tuesday, December 16
 7:00 p.m. at Windsor Run

Residents of Windsor Run & their families are invited to a Christmas concert in the new Carolina Hall Auditorium in the Fincher Building. Please invite fellow neighbors of Windsor Run to this concert!



Third **THURSDAY**
 for adults of all ages

December 18
 11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Pit

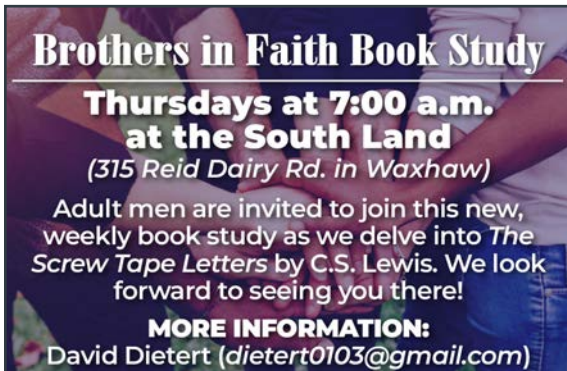
Welcome the Carolina Carolers as they sing your favorite Christmas songs in full Victorian clothes. Lunch will be served along with hot chocolate & delicious cookies for dessert.

\$15 • Click/Scan to Register>>

MORE INFO: awallace@christelca.org



REALM



Brothers in Faith Book Study

Thursdays at 7:00 a.m.
at the South Land
 (315 Reid Dairy Rd. in Waxhaw)

Adult men are invited to join this new, weekly book study as we delve into *The Screw Tape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. We look forward to seeing you there!

MORE INFORMATION:
 David Dietert (dietert0103@gmail.com)



The Charlotte Singers
 10th Anniversary

CONCERT

Sunday, December 21
 4:00 p.m. in Christ Chapel
 Helen McCorkle Finch, Director

FREE ADMISSION • DONATIONS WELCOMED



GRIEF SHARE  **STARTS JAN. 14**

Wednesdays • 6-7:30 p.m.
 in the Church Office Great Room

This Christ-centered, grief support group helps those who have lost loved ones find healing and hope. Open to members & nonmembers.

Griefshare follows a 13-wk. curriculum • Cost: \$20
 For questions, please email cpmengel@gmail.com

Scan/Click to Register>



260121



Baptismal Class

Sunday, January 11
 1:00 p.m. on Christ Online

For info, email Caroline at cdiffley@christelca.org

VIRTUAL LINK:
christelca.org/online



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Light the Knights Festival

Sunday, December 14
4 - 7 p.m. at Truist Field

All youth are invited to join us for an evening in Uptown Charlotte. We will meet up at church to drive together at 4 p.m.

Parent volunteers are also needed.
\$15 • Scan/Click for info & RSVP



REALM

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, December 17
5:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Pit

Join us for a cozy night around the couch as we watch a classic Christmas movie! We would love for you to join us!

Click/Scan to Register



REALM

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH


FOSCOE TUBING RETREAT

February 6-8, 2026

Join us for a weekend in the mountains! High school youth will serve with Foscoe Home Team and spend Saturday afternoon snow tubing.

For lodging & meals we will be staying in Lutherock's hotel-style lodging, The Crow's Nest. Cost: \$100

Scan/Click to Register by 12/31
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE



REALM

Hand-in-Hand

TEC Retreat



Take part in a faith-building experience where others share their faith stories & how being in Christian Community has affected their life. *Open to 9th graders through adults.*

January 17-19, 2026
at Tekoa Foothills in Casar, NC

\$50 • Click/Scan to Register>>
MORE INFO: tweller@christelca.org



REALM

Christmas Decorations Removal

Please help us take down Christmas decorations and package everything up! Please register so we know we have enough help.

WE WILL MEET FOR TEARDOWN ON
Sat., January 10 • 9 a.m.

Scan/Click to Register



REALM

ROOM IN THE INN

Christ Providence is now hosting our neighbors in need each Thursday evening - **overnight hosts, transportation/drivers, & one additional coordinator are needed!**



<< Info & Signup:
signupgenius.com
lane.goode@gmail.com



260326

CHRIST LUTHERAN

cornerstone gifts

located between the Ministry Center & Lower Commons

SUN | TUE | WED | THU
9:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.

or by private appointment
call 704-366-1595 ext. 0

BEAUTIFULLY UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFTS
ON SALE NOW!!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Dates to Know

Wednesdays Ablaze
resumes January 7, 2026

Sunday School
ends December 14 • resumes January 4, 2026

Worship on December 28
There will be only 1 service on Dec. 28 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary & Online




Prayers

- † Israel and Palestine War
- † Conflict in the Middle East
- † Nigeria
- † Caregivers
- † Prayers for escalating turmoil and divisions
- † Remove fear & bring peace in our community
- † Chris Simmons
- † Donna Emmans
- † Harper Nau
- † Diane Jones
- † Lauren Wright's mother, Deborah Cornwell
- † Kim Sciacero
- † Kristen Kilpatrick
- † Pastor Scott and family
- † Lois Witham
- † Susan McWhorter
- † Ashley and Stephen Deal on the birth of their twin girls, Maddie and Hallie. Proud grandparents, Steve and Mitzi Deal
- † Jane & Randy Satterfield's grandson, James Paul
- † Fred Reddel

Hospice List

- † Mark Lanoue's aunt, Glenda Baer
- † Ellen Zoutewelle's mother, Barbara Metzler

*The flowers today
are given to the Glory of God...*

In memory of Charlie Gluodenis,
from Anita Gluodenis

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

December 7, 2025

Traditional: 243

Bridge: 109

Contemporary: 257

Christ Online: 316 (Sun - Tue)



CHRIST LUTHERAN
providence | online

— Our Ministry Leaders —



Dr. Scott Suskovic
Senior Pastor



Pastor Ryan Ritzmann
Evangelism
& Faith Formation



Pastor Adrienne Ladd
Family Ministries



Alexis Williams
Christ Online
Minister



Mark Johanson
Minister of
Music & Worship



Angela Davis
Director of
Outreach

— Serving in Worship —

Philip Biedenbender Minister of Music
Shelby Johns Tech Director
Kevin Lane Associate Tech Director
Olivia Gerik Media Producer
Dennis Contreras Music Associate
Craig Cole Music Associate
Noah DePalma Tech Associate



FREE WI-FI NETWORK: CLC-Guest PW: OneChurch!

4519 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28226
(704) 366-1595



christelca.org

