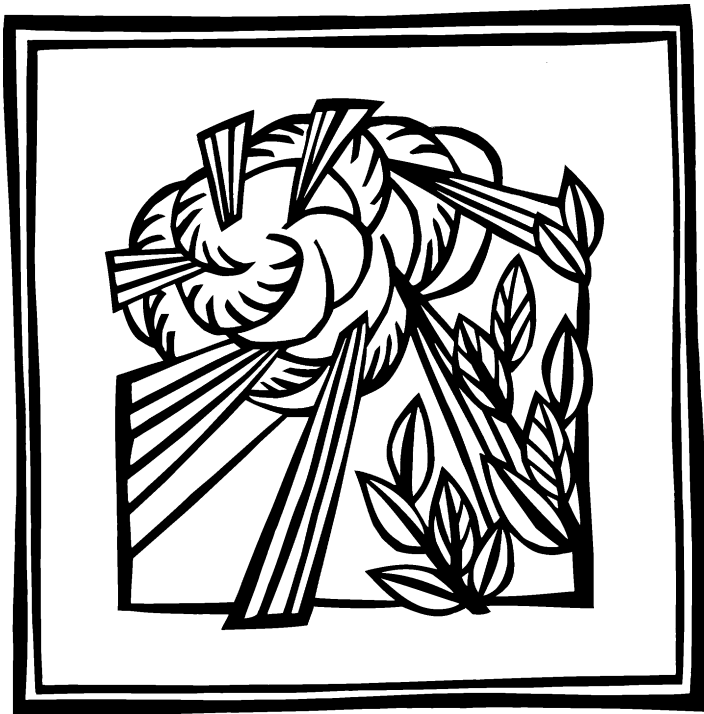


# **St. Luke Lutheran Church**

PO Box 278 Schaefferstown, PA 17088 717-949-3375  
office@stlukelutheran.org www.st.lukelutheran.org

January 5, 2025

Service of Holy Communion  
Second Sunday of Christmas





St. Luke Guiding Story and Mission:  
The Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:13-35  
As the Body of Christ, we proclaim the Gospel by  
serving and doing God's will in a manner that  
meets the needs of our changing world.

### *Welcome!*

We are glad you have joined us today.

Visitors: please sign the visitor book  
upon entering the sanctuary.

Guide to abbreviations:

P: spoken by the Pastor     **C: Congregation responds**

WOV—With One voice— blue hymnal

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship—green hymnal

\* stand as you are able

On our website ([stlukelutheran.org](http://stlukelutheran.org))  
you can find current events and links to our online worship services.

Direct access to our online services:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran](http://www.facebook.com/StLukeEvangelicalLutheran),

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukeschaefferstownpa)

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

#### Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God-with-us,

**C: we confess that we have turned away  
those seeking shelter,  
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.  
We have made power and wealth our idols,  
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.  
We have overlooked the shepherds,  
expecting good news in prettier packaging.  
Too often, we have valued violence  
instead of your peace.  
Turn us from our ways to your ways.  
Grant us the grace to begin again.  
Free us from all that keeps us bound,  
and forgive our sin,  
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.  
Amen.**

P: Hear the good news and rejoice!  
You are God's chosen ones,  
holy and beloved,  
† forgiven in Christ,  
and freed to respond in joy.

**C: Amen**

**Opening Hymn:** Of the Father's Love Begotten      LBW 42

**\*Apostolic 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.**

P: Let us pray...

**\*Prayer of the Day:**                      Please see Celebrate insert

**WORD**

**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song**

Please see Celebrate insert

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 31:7-14

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Psalms 147: 12-20**      Read responsively

**Anthem: Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine**

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 1:3-14

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

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

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel:** John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day: As With Gladness Men of Old

LBW 82

**\*Apostles' Creed:**

P: United by the Holy Spirit, let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of 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**

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

Please see Celebrate insert

*Be Welcome...  
and Worship  
with Us!*

**\*Passing the Peace:**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share his peace with one another.

*(Congregation may share the peace with a gesture)*

**\*Offering Prayer:**

God of heaven and earth,

from the beginning, you have called forth life,  
in which you take delight.

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,  
that we may join the chorus of creation  
to tell of your salvation from day to day.

**C: Amen**

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ



**\*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.**

**\*Preface:**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

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 all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest.

**\*Eucharistic Prayer:**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



P: God, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

### **\*Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

### **Distribution of Communion:**

All are welcome and encouraged to receive the forgiveness  
and community that are given in the bread and wine. Come  
forward as directed.

### **\*Communion Blessing:**

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

**C: Amen.**

**\*Prayer After Communion**

P: Merciful God,  
we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.  
Strengthened by this goodness,  
send us forth to announce your peace,  
comfort the afflicted,  
and share the good news of great joy.  
**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

God sends us boldly into the world to share the good news

**\*Blessing:**

P: The God of love,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
lavish you with grace,  
illumine your path,  
and increase your joy,  
today and always.  
**C: Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn:** I Wonder as I Wander

WOV 642

**\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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**Our worshipping community:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Angela Hammer      **Minister of Music:** Linda Holt

**Ministers:** The People of St. Luke

**Worship Assistant:** Sarah Kneller

**Worship Assistant next week:** Karen Stump

**Today's Lay Reader:** Sarah Kneller

**Lay Reader next week:** Sue DeLong

**Seminarian Field Student:** Wendy Harrison

**Live Streaming Technician:** William Hoffman

**Technical Assistant:** Beverly Hoffman

Attendance/Offering 12/24

In person: n/a    Online Plays: 94    Offering: \$1,152

The church office is currently closed. Phone messages and emails are monitored. Please see Mike DeLong for questions.



## This week at St. Luke

### Sunday, January 5—Christmas 2

8:30 AM	Holy Communion
9:30 AM	Congregation Meeting for Council Nominations
9:30 AM	Coffee Hour
9:30 AM	Sunday School (Children)
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Community Free Meal

### Monday, January 6

7:00 PM	Lions
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### Tuesday, January 7

10:00 AM	Band Together
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### Wednesday, January 8

9:00-2:00 PM	LWR Quilting
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 9

10:00 AM	Band Together
10:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Community Free Meal
6:30 PM	Beer and Bible

### Saturday, January 11

9:00 AM	Council Retreat
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### Next Sunday, January 12—Baptism of Our Lord

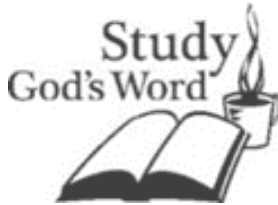
8:30 AM	Holy Communion
9:30 AM	Sunday School (Children/Adults)
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Community Free Meal



## NEWS IN OUR PEWS

Band Together: meetings Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00-11:00 AM in the Chapel. Contact Sue DeLong for additional information.

Beer & Bible: A Thursday evening monthly meeting for dinner, drinks, and conversation. Join us on January 23 at 6:30PM. The location will be announced at a later date.



Bible Study—Thursday morning ZOOM: Join Pastor Angie online on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM to explore the texts coming up for the Sunday lectionary. A ZOOM link will be emailed out the week of each study. Contact the church office to be added to the email. Next dates are:

January 9 – Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 23 – Luke 4:14-21

Book Club: Next meeting is on Thursday, January 23rd at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. We will be discussing *The Cartographers* by Peng Shepherd. All are invited to attend for a great discussion. Please contact Richelle Deysner with any questions.



Choir Rehearsals – come share your musical gifts!

Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday at 7:00 PM. Contact Linda Holt for more information.



Coffee Hour: Join us on the Second and Fourth Sundays following worship. Volunteers are invited to sign up in the narthex.



Council Invitation: For the upcoming year, new members are needed. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. Being on Church Council is a great way to share some love, faith, and perspective to help the church grow in its ministry and service toward the community and each other. Please prayerfully consider serving on the church council. See a council member for information. There is a Congregational Meeting on January 5 for nominations and elections.

Ministry Emphasis for January: William Miller  
Seminary Scholarship



Women of the ELCA: Meetings are on the second Monday of every month (excluding summer months). The meeting time is 7:00 PM in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to attend!

# Happy Epiphany!

Epiphany, (from Greek *epiphaneia*, manifestation) is a Christian holiday that commemorates the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by Magi.

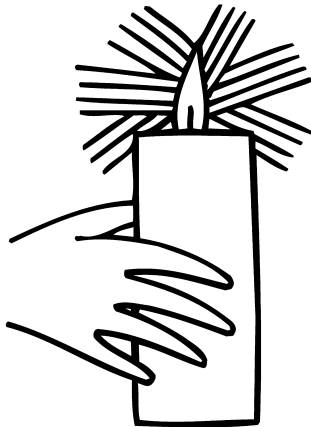
Epiphany occurs on January 6, which is 12 days after Christmas.

Christ's divinity occurred at his baptism in the Jordan River and at his first miracle, at Cana in Galilee. The Baptism of Our Lord will be observed next Sunday.

Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church (the other two are Easter and Christmas).

Lutherans along with Roman Catholics, Anglicans, and other Western churches observe Epiphany on January 6.

Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Theophany on January 19, since their Christmas Eve falls on January 6.



## *Prayers for:*

### **Those who are ill, recovering, or shut-in, especially:**

John Adams, Marilyn Adams, Claudia Addison, Brenda Boyer, Amanda Cupernall, Alexandria (Lexxi) Ditzler, Cathy Dunkelberger, Henry Fasnacht, Deb Glassmoyer, Peg Griffie, Kim Lenhart Hale, John Hassinger, Barbara Hehny, Dean Hettinger, Lilly Higgins & Family, Richard and Nancy Hollen, Christopher Johnson (D Hettinger), Landon Kreider, Richard Leshner, Donald and Sue McClure, Steven McCracken, Casey McGarvey, Dana McKinney, Maureen Marinkov, Harold (Spike) Moore, Howard Moore, Brian Navarre, Kathy O'Roark, Ruth Parson, George Pastore, Ronald Ream, Lance Rhodes, Landon Rhodes, Al Shade, Barry Shriver, Lloyd Smith, Richard Strohl, Caitlyn, Gretta and Mike Stuber, Robert Todisco, Landis Wenger, Josephine Wenrich, Janet Wharton, Josie Williams, Eddie Wolfe, Marian Yoder, Ashton Zohn.

**Those who are serving in the military, especially:** David Deysher, Tyler Fleagle, Shane Gettler, Steven Ginder, Greg Rucker.

### **Congregations and ministries with whom we share mutual ministry:**

The congregations and pastors of the Heidelberg Ministerium and Lebanon Conference, Agape House, Lebanon Co. Christian Ministries, Women's Shelter, Lancaster/Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support Connections of Lebanon County, St. Paul's Penryn, Our Bishops: James S. Dunlop and Elizabeth Eaton and their staff.

**The St. Luke Vision to Mission Team** - Kit Ahnert, Richelle Deysher, Elaine Matternas, Scott Rights, and Todd Snyder.

Please notify the church office and Pastor Angie when the prayer chain is activated and for pastoral care & emergencies.

For revisions to the above list, please contact the church office