

On December 24th, 2023  
**4th Sunday of Advent 9:30AM Worship Service**  
and  
**Christmas Eve 7:00PM Worship Service**



*Merry Christmas*  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Christ Lutheran Church  
917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209  
Phone 412-821-4300 ~ Fax 412-693-9742  
CLC Website: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/>  
Youtube: clcmillvale Twitter: ChristMillvale  
Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale  
Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

Visit Us at [CLCMillvale.com](https://www.clcmillvale.com)



*To you  
is born this day  
a Savior*  
LUKE 2:11



In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world. ~

**There is no Sunday School Dec. 24 or Dec. 31**

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**9:30AM**

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

**Luke 1:46b-55**

**Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27**

**Gospel: Luke 1:26-38**

**Pastor Erin Evans preaching**

**7PM**

## **Christmas Eve**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

**Psalms 96**

**Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14**

**Gospel: Luke 2:1-20**



*Use this QR CODE  
to give online and do  
your part!*



**SCAN ME**

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## Upcoming Events

Sunday Dec. 31st 9:30am Worship

"The First Sunday of Christmas"

Sunday Jan 7th 9:30am Worship

"Epiphany Lessons and Carols"

Sunday Jan. 14th 9:30am Worship

"2nd Sunday after Epiphany"

**New Members Class:** Pastor Erin is hosting an informal class for those who desire to become a member of CLC after worship on Sunday, January 14th. Any visitor is welcome, as well as any CLC member! New Members may join on Sunday January 21st.

Sunday Jan. 21th 9:30am Worship

"3rd Sunday after Epiphany"

Sunday Jan. 28th 9:30am Worship

"4th Sunday after Epiphany"

(Installation of Council Members)

**Annual Meeting and Potluck Luncheon immediately following worship**

*Join us for a year in review and then looking ahead!*

**The Food Pantry is Closed on Christmas Day,  
Dec. 25 and New Year's Day, Jan. 1**

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# Thank You Notes

**Dear Folks,**

My husband and I wanted to thank all of you so very much for the beautiful ordination service and supper afterwards for our son, Stephen.

The service was beautiful and all the lovely music made it so special. The ordination (when all the ministers and clergy placed their hands on Steve's shoulders) was so moving it was hard not to cry. The church looked and sounded wonderful. And the supper afterward was absolutely delicious. The tables all looked like they had been lovingly decorated. I can only imagine all the hard work and planning that went into the service and meal later. These are memories that we will hold dear in our hearts forever.

**Sincerely,**

**Lee and Steve Slepecki**

**Dear Members of CLC,**

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness this season! We appreciate the beautiful cards and generous gifts for our family!

**Love, Pastor Erin, Pastor Brian and Vivian**

**Thank you to the Food Pantry Volunteers!**

Between November and December we gave away 72 turkeys and over 60 hams. We cared for over 160 local families in 2023 so far.

20 dedicated members and friends stock and serve our pantry and our community on a regular basis. We receive a generous grant from the synod to operate the pantry, but we could not do this ministry without YOU!



**CLC FOOD PANTRY**  
Donations are requested for

# SOUP

The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm. It will be closed on Christmas Day, Dec.25 and New Year's Day, Jan. 1

## Staff Update

We announced at the Congregational Meeting on December 3rd that our Director of Music and Liturgy, Ed Kapsha, had submitted his resignation effective December 31. Our staff support committee will be meeting soon to begin the process of hiring a new church musician. Please keep Ed in your prayers and wish him well in his next ministry. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Erin or Pat Bauer, chair of the Worship and Music committee.

## CALL COMMITTEE NEWS

We also announced at the Congregational Meeting that the Call Committee has been given the profiles of 2 pastoral candidates to interview. Please keep the committee and candidates in your prayers as they plan and discern.



## COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome our new council members elected at our Congregational Meeting on December 3rd: *Pat Bauer, Morgan Boyd, Tina Galioto, and Jackie Marfisi.*

We give thanks for those out-going council members who have faithfully served and continue to serve the church: *Diane Curry, Tim Komoroski, Becky Nyren.*

Our council is a three year term with monthly meetings. Please consider this possibility in serving and leading your church!

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## NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS EVE

### You Belong

Who belongs? That is an enduring question for people of faith, and the beloved story of Jesus' birth in Luke's gospel helps to give us an answer.

Of course, Mary and Joseph have a place at the Savior's side on the night of his birth. Yet despite her call to bear none other than the Son of God (Luke 1:35), Mary is subject to the whims of earthly power. In compliance with the emperor's order, the couple make the trek to Bethlehem to be counted. But the baby will not wait to be born, and the guesthouse is so crowded that they have to lay him in a manger. Not the ideal conditions for labor and delivery! Nonetheless, for these new parents, home is where they make it. Wherever Jesus lies, that is where Mary and Joseph belong.

And perhaps to the dismay of exhausted parents, the shepherds also belong in the presence of the Savior, the Messiah, the Lord, that first night. Noteworthy infants usually attract noteworthy visitors, but the messenger of God sends the birth announcement to lowly field hands instead. Jesus is born in the city of David not just to anyone, but to them; he is a sign of God's salvation not in the abstract, but for them. No wonder these marginal, mostly neglected members of the community glorify and praise God for all they hear and see (Luke 2:20).

The wonder of Christmas is that you belong in Jesus' company too. The baby in the feeding trough foreshadows the Lord at his table. And if the child in the manger is for you, then so is his life, given and poured out. Come, taste and see for yourself. Receive this good news of great joy, peace, and God's favor, then sing your praise to God in reply. ~

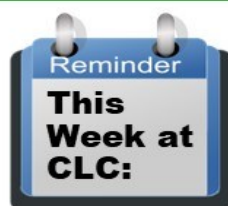
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## This Week at CLC:



### Sunday

December 24 -

**4th Sunday of Advent**

No Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

**Christmas Eve**

CLC Christmas Eve Worship Service at 7pm

### Monday

December 25 - Christmas Day

Office Closed

Food Pantry Closed

### Tuesday

December 26 - 9am to 3pm 412 Food Rescue

5:30-8:30pm Violin, 6pm ESL Tutoring Library

### Wednesday

December 27 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Community Counseling, 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY

7-8pm Choir Practice, 6:30-8pm ESL Tutoring

### Thursday

December 28 - 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts Pack 162, 6pm ESL Tutoring Library

### Friday

December 29 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

7pm NA meets in the Library

### Saturday

December 30 - 9am AA meets in the Library

7pm NA meets in the Library

### Sunday

December 31 -

No Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

The Food Pantry is Closed on Monday, January 1st



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## Upcoming Commemorations



### Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

**Tuesday, December 26, 2023**

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

### John, Apostle and Evangelist

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.



### The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

**Thursday, December 28, 2023**

This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.



### In case of emergency....

**Did you know** we have an emergency defibrillator? It's on the wall, near the office and food pantry check-in table.



**Did you know** we have Narcan available? With the first aid kits in the narthex and in the office too!

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**LOST:** Prescription Men's Reading Glasses, Dark Frame, left in church or Toddler Sunday School Room on Sunday, 11/26.

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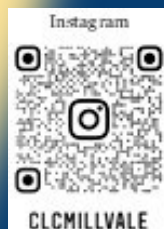
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