



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

There is no Sunday School on Dec. 31

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

December 31 at 9:30AM

In-Person Worship

WORSHIP WITH US

First Sunday of Christmas

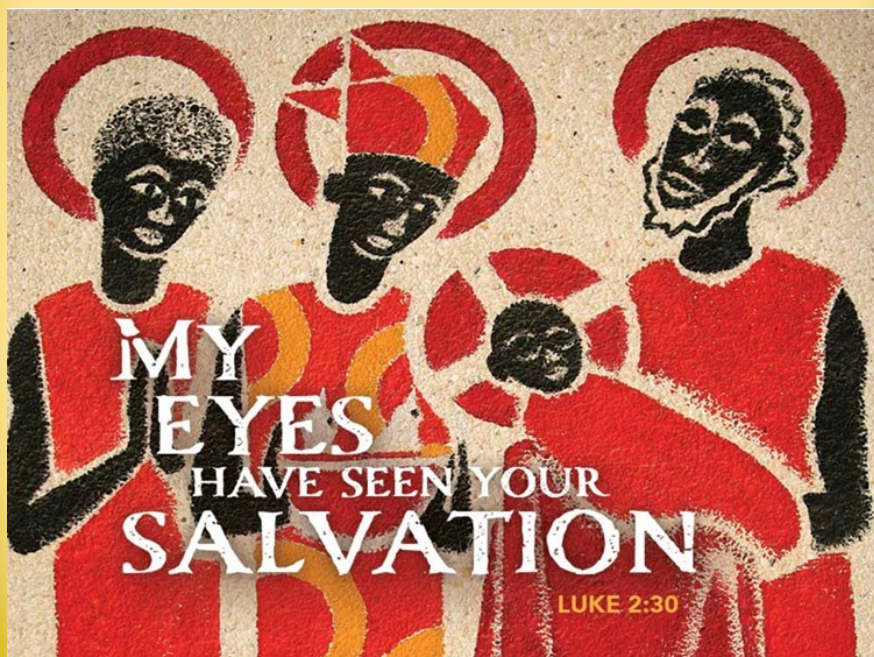
First Reading: Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Psalms 148

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Pastor Erin Evans preaching



The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world. ~

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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 New Year's Day, Jan. 1**

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CHRISTMAS PRESENT **GIVE-AWAY**

With your generosity, we provided two gifts and a stocking stuffer for SEVENTY local kids!

Due to many unexpected donations, we have a supply of gifts for next year too!



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!

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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THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Affirmation and Expectation

Imagine the baptism of an infant on a winter Sunday morning. Imagine the baby, dressed in a fragile heirloom, and family members and sponsors crowded around the font. Imagine the richness of the ritual—the pronouncement of ancient promises, wet hands and hair, an oily cross on soft skin, a freshly lit candle, laughter and applause.

Now, imagine that an elder in the congregation rises and, unprompted, takes the baby in his arms. As the people look on in stunned silence, he sings a hymn of heartfelt gratitude and wonder. Then another elder stands, turns to face the assembly, and testifies to God’s goodness on account of this child. Imagine the surprise. Imagine the indelible memory.

Something similar happens when Mary and Joseph bring the baby Jesus to the temple to present him to the Lord. Once they have done their part to mark Jesus as a member of God’s people, two strangers unexpectedly acknowledge him too. Simeon and Anna have each spent a lifetime on the lookout for a sign of God’s promised redemption. And stumbling upon him in the temple, they do not hesitate to say so: “My eyes have seen your salvation,” Simeon sings, “which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples.”

But it isn’t all good news. Peering into Mary’s eyes, the prophet also foresees that Jesus will uncover the thoughts of many a heart, and that the end result will feel like a blade to her soul. As if she did not already have plenty to ponder (Luke 2:19)!

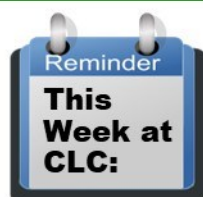
There is perhaps nothing like the arrival of a child to inspire our hopes and fears for the future. And spoken words of affirmation and expectation have the power to illuminate the possibilities. Jesus is the child in whom God makes the greatest promises. So rejoice with prophets like Simeon and Anna, those who see him for who he is. And, come what may, hold tight to their testimony until God’s promises are fulfilled. ~

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This Week at CLC:



Sunday

December 31 -

No Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

Monday

January 1 - New Year's Day

Office Closed

Food Pantry Closed

Tuesday

January 2 - 9am to 3pm 412 Food Rescue

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

Wednesday

January 3 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Community Counseling, 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY

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

Thursday

January 4 - 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts Pack 162, 6pm ESL Tutoring Library

Friday

January 5 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY

7pm NA meets in the Library

Saturday

January 6 - 9am AA meets in the Library

7pm NA meets in the Library

Sunday

January 7 -

8:30am Sunday School

CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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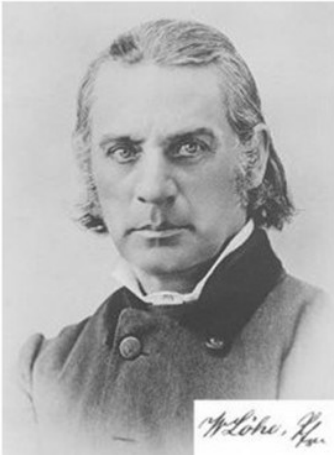
Upcoming Commemorations



Name of Jesus

Monday, January 1, 2024

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.



Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

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!

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



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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 New Year's Day, Jan. 1**

- Our thanks to SundaysAndSeasons.com © 2023 Augsburg Fortress - Worship writings and art.
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Art Attributions:

Heading Logo: Merry Christmas Heading: elegant-abstract-christmas-tree-background starline at Freepik.com

Pastor Erin Evans: displays for CLC Weekly Updates, Heading Logo-In the Neighborhood (In the Neighborhood LOGO Blue Variations_background SeekPng.com_vector-shapes-png_524200) Christmas background: Merry Christmas_7943487_Image by Freepik, Food Pantry Updates, et al.

Background Worship Services: background-with-lights-snowflakes kjpargeter at Freepik.com

Mine Eyes have Seen Your Salvation: Presentation of Jesus at the temple 1963, fresco by Dom Georges Sagat. Keur Mousa Abbey, Senegal. Photo copyright Godong Robert Harding Picture Library Superstock. Used by permission. Thanks to SundaysandSeasons

Upcoming Events: NicePng_ripped-page-png_486275

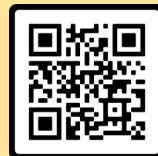
Thank You Notes: glitterbg2205 gold-glitter-stars-background-celebration-happy-new-year-design Orkidaw at Freepik.com

Affirmation and Expectation: Simeon and Anna - Jan van 't Hoff_GospelImages.com

Commemorations: Presentation of Jesus in the Temple ideas in 2023 jesus in the temple_Russian Modern Artist Andrey Shishkin Luke 2:28-32; Johann Konrad Wilhelm Löhle - public domain_Wikipedia

Cellphone with Colored Ribbon: Gerd Altman from Pixabay

**ONLINE
GIVING**



SCAN ME



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