

Saturday, January 24, 2026

THE Calling of the First Disciples

Matthew 4:18-22



***Christ's Lutheran Church
Murrysville, Pennsylvania***

“A Place to Believe, Belong, and Become”



Christ's Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and welcoming, Christian community committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life-changing discipleship.

Welcome! If you are new to worship in a Lutheran church, this introduction will help guide you through our worship service. The prayers, responses, and service music are printed in this bulletin. You will need to use the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnals to sing the hymns. Our Sunday morning service is livestreamed on YouTube and your image may appear.

Communion - All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the gift of Holy Communion. Children who haven't received Holy Communion may also come forward for a blessing. You can either kneel or remain standing when you come to the altar. We offer both wheat and gluten-free wafers, and both wine and grape juice. If you would like to receive grape juice, please take a glass from the tray that has already been filled when you come forward. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please let the Pastor know when you are given the bread.

Children are always welcome! Please feel free to walk around in the rear area of our worship space if your child becomes restless. Rest rooms (with diaper decks) are located in the hallway to the right of the entryway. You can find cloth bags containing activities for children aged 3 and older in the back of our worship space. We ask you to please return the cloth bags and their contents (minus any artwork your child creates while you are worshipping) at the end of today's service.

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668

Office: 412-795-1212

Church Office email: office@christsmurrysville.org

Website: www.christsmurrysville.org

App: Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)

Third Saturday After Epiphany

(Please silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

Instrumental

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF CONCERNS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

L: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection

L: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

L: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

ELW #582

GREETING

L: 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:1-4

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you.

What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas "; still another, "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not

send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

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

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets and followed him. Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Christine Weller

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Will You Come and Follow Me" (The Summons)

ELW #798

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority in our communities, in our state and in our government. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick. We pray for all who are affected by natural disasters. Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

**TODAY, WE ARE INCLUDING
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Lindsey Boyer, Shirley Daum, Joel Erwin, Pearl Elliott,
Lisa Homberg, Peggy Henry, Lisa Lehman, John
Magnus, Derwood Montgomery, Evan Pavloff, Betty
Reagan, Paul Rizzo, Lonnie Shurnia, Ron Spagna,
Marianne Trainor, Sue Werner, family and friends of Bill Farrell,
family and friends of Bertha DeCecco



**PRAYING FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS AND
FRIENDS:**



Gail Southern
Lindsey Sovak
Ron & Fran Spagna and Christian Titus
Jenel Sprumont

L: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The congregation greets one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERING

To Support God's Work in Our Church and Beyond

This is a time in our service that we use to remember that all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do, is an offering to God.

You can place your offering in the offering plate that is passed at this time in our service,

You can scan this QR code to go to our online giving page,

You can use our app to send your offering,

or mail your offering to the church:

*Christ's Lutheran Church
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668*



OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Musical notation for the Offertory Response, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

L: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. By water and the word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in

the one body of Christ, anointed with the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Let us pray: Merciful God, we thank you for those who are gathered here – people whom you have made your own by water and the word in Baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in this community of faith. Uphold us in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite our hearts in love and service. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen

L: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

L: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

L: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by 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.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

L: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word
and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

L: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in all of your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Let us now pray together as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

L: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise + bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

ELW #674

THE DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Pastor Emeritus | Rev. Steven J. Myers |
| Organist | Joshua Beck |
| Pianist | Nancy Finke Sheehan |
| Parish Administrator | Laura Vincenti |

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



*To Lay Pastor Christine Weller for
leading our service this weekend.*



Ash Wednesday Services at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm
with communion
7:00 pm service will be livestreamed

Youth Group Meeting

Sunday, February 1 @ 11am

Join us to plan activities and a service
project for the coming months!



2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES



2026 offering envelopes are arranged alphabetically on
the card table in the Entryway ready for pick up.

If your envelope box is not there, or you'd like to request
2026 envelopes, please contact the church office.

office@christsmurrysville.org

412-795-1212

"Souper" Bowl Weekend



Bring your soup donations or your checkbook to vote for the team you know is going to win.

February 7 & 8

The big "Souper" Bowl winner will be our Little Pantry

Confirmation Class

Teen Talk

New Way to explore life and Faith



**Sunday,
February 1st
6:00 pm**

Pastor Linda Theophilus *is providing pastoral services to CLC members.*

To reach out to Pastor Linda, contact the church office at (412) 795-1212 or office@christsmurrysville.org



Annual
CONGREGATIONAL
Meeting

**Sunday
February 15
11:00 am**



**homemade soups,
breads and cookies
will be served**

**Sign-up on the sheet in the
Entrvway to help provide the food.**

Create a Lasting Legacy

Are you considering a special gift or an estate gift to Christ's Lutheran Church?

Gift planning services are available at no cost to you through the services of the ELCA Foundation and our Regional Gift Planner, Ryan Ebner.

Ryan can assist you with establishing a comprehensive estate plan that provides for your family and the ministries you care about.

See the "Legacy and Special Gifts" brochure in the rack outside of the office for more information. You can contact Ryan at (814)-823-3285 or ryan.ebner@elca.org.



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When Thrivent donors direct their Choice dollars through the Thrivent Choice program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations. **Christ's Lutheran is an eligible recipient.**

2025 Choice dollar allocations must be made by **March 31, 2026**, or the allocations will expire unused. ***Please consider Christ's Lutheran as your designee.***

For additional information, contact Erich Sill at 412-378-1051 or [sillec@hotmail.com](mailto:sillec@hotmail.com)

***Thank you!***

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Dear members of Christ's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the kindness and friendship in these last 13 years. It was truly an honor to serve as your pastor in these times of dramatic change in the Church.

Thank you, also, for the time of fellowship that you hosted to celebrate my retirement and for the generous gift that you shared. May God continue to bless and guide you as you move forward together in faith.

Pastor Wayne

MAKE NOISE FOR MISSION! February 7th & 8th



We celebrate the first weekend of each month with the donation of your loose change to benefit *our sister church*, Trinity Lutheran on the North Side. Collection cans will be located on the offering table and up front by the baptismal font.

So, gather up your change and let's all make some **NOISE!!!**



Weekend Worship Team



to our worship assistants, greeters, ushers, all who set up for services and straighten up afterwards, the reconcilers, and the Tech Team who offer their time and talents to make our worship services go smoothly.

Please consider joining our Weekend Worship Team. You can talk with anyone on the team about their tasks and short commitment of time or contact the office for more information.

To join our Weekend Worship Team, you can



- Scan this QR code
- sign up on our app: Click on “Join a Weekend Worship Team”
- Visit christsmurrysville.org, choose CONNECT on the blue menu at the top then scroll down to VOLUNTEER.

Thanks to all who help make our weekend worship services possible!



CLC’s Prayer Circle

Ann Rockette is our Prayer Circle Coordinator. You can reach Ann by email: annrockett@aol.com, or by phone at 412-334-9607 or 412-793-0108.



You can also send your prayer request through CLC’s website or app—click on Connect on the top menu and scroll down to Prayer Request.

Do you want to be part of our ministry of prayer? Contact Ann to be added to the list of those notified of requests for prayers.



Christ’s Lutheran’s 2026 congregation-approved annual budget is available in the information rack outside the church office.



Caring Hearts and Hands meets on the second Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is on **Thursday, February 12th** in the downstairs fellowship hall at 9:30 AM.

We'll be packing our *Valentine's Day Box Lunches* to deliver to the many homebound members of our congregation who are on our Caring List. Please let us know if you, or someone you know, could benefit from our caring mission. If you have any questions, contact Romaine Miller at 412-996-4915.

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Men, ***come hungry for food and fellowship*** to the Men's Breakfast held on the second Saturday of each month at 8:30 am. We serve up a traditional breakfast and good fellowship.



Our next breakfast will be held on **February 14<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 am in the downstairs social hall. No reservation needed.

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THANK YOU for continuing to recycle your plastic bags!

Through your good work, we have two NexTrek benches. Now we are collecting plastic bags for our sister congregation, Trinity Lutheran on the Northside so that they can receive their own bench. It is **fantastic** that we are doing our part to be good stewards by keeping plastic out of the landfills.



As a reminder, this is a chart of acceptable **clean and dry** plastic bags (no plastic containers): All plastic must be **clean, dry, and free of food residue.**

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We're collecting aluminum tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Working with a local recycler, pop tabs from soda cans, soup cans, pet food, and other canned goods are turned into money to support RMHC's mission.



That money helps RMHC provide comfort, care and support for families with children who are sick. You can help by depositing tabs you collect in the container in the Church Entryway.



**CHRIST’S LITTLE PANTRY WEEKEND**

**February 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Are you, or someone you know, experiencing food insecurity?*

*If you need food, “Take what you need.”*

*If you have extra food to share, please “Leave what you can.”*

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU ... to everyone who has been contributing to the success of our Little Pantry. We’re so grateful to all who continue to donate. The food in the pantry goes quickly. We have been attempting to replenish the pantry daily.



As food insecurity continues, variety is important in choosing the items that people can find in the Little Pantry. We are asking you to focus on cereal and other breakfast items, complete pancake mixes (made with water), syrup, peanut butter, jelly, soup, tuna & other canned meats, fruit (canned or in individual packs), lunchbox foods and baby food. Please remember, when you bring your donations to the church, you can put your items directly into the Little Pantry or leave them in the grocery cart in our entryway.

You can also support the Little Pantry with a cash donation that’s clearly marked, “Little Pantry.”

NOTE: We recently learned that we need to have special permits from the State and Health Department if we want to put any type of fresh food (fruit, veggies, eggs, potatoes, etc.) into the pantry. Your generous gifts of canned and boxed items continue to change the lives of individuals and families in our community. Thank you!

Please remember that our Little Pantry may provide the only food a family has to meet its needs — protein is very important.

Please continue to support this ministry, knowing that your generosity will help families right here in the Plum & Murrys ville area.

**Let’s work together to keep our Little Pantry full every week!**

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The deadline for our weekly bulletin is:

End of the day on Wednesdays

Email your article to

office@christsmurrysville.org

or drop off at the office.





Our church office is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm *and* 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm. Please call before coming to the church to be sure someone is available to help.

office@christsmurrysville.org

412-795-1212

WEEKLY CALENDAR

January 25th – February 1st, 2026

Keep our Ministry and Community in Your Prayers Each Day This Week

Sunday 1/25

9:00 am
10:00 am
7:30 pm

Those who faithfully serve our congregation

Sunday School
Sunday Morning Worship
Narcotics Anonymous

Monday 1/26

5:00 pm
8:00 pm

Those who work for world peace

Kindermusik
Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday 1/27

9:00 am
9:30 pm
5:00 pm
6:00 pm

The ministry of Heiffer International

Stitched With Love
Kindermusik
Kindermusik
Girl Scouts

Wednesday 1/28

10:00 am

Those who are grieving

Kindermusik

Thursday 1/29

9:00 am

Our Church Musicians – Joshua Beck and Nancy Sheehan

Kindermusik

Friday 1/30

Those who are traveling

Saturday 1/31

6:00 pm

Our local police, fire and ambulance services

Saturday Evening Worship

Sunday 2/1

9:00 am
10:00 am
11:00 am
6:00 pm
7:30 pm

Our tech team and those who livestream our worship services

Sunday School
Sunday Morning Worship
Youth Group Meeting
Teen Talk Confirmation Class
Narcotics Anonymous