



This Week at Christ Lutheran

Celebrating 92 Years in Forest Hills

December 21, 2025

Christlutheranfh.org

Facebook: ChristLutheranChurchFH

BULLETINS, SERMONS AND LIVE WORSHIP: Bulletins and sermons are available for download on our website. A live stream of worship services is available on our Facebook page. See the top of this page for our website and Facebook locations.

FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by the Breight family to celebrate Pastor, Miguel and Timothy's birthdays.

THANK YOU: Thank you to all who have contributed flowers during this Christmas season.

SERVICES THIS WEEK: Christmas Eve at 4pm and 7pm and Christmas Day at 11am.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2026 Offering envelopes are on the counter in the library. Please take yours.

ORNAMENTS: If you would like this year's Christmas ornament, they are available in the office. 2 for \$10 or 1 for \$7.

LIBRARY CHRISTMAS TREE: Check out the cards that are on the tree in the library which are from our members. You can give a card also rather than mailing it to individual members. Just drop it off in the office.

WOMEN'S SERVICE GUILD DATES TO REMEMBER:

Now 'til January 25: Food and medical equipment gathering: boxes will be in the Narthex.

January 10: Undecorate Fellowship Hall and WSG meeting at 10am.

AS WE GATHER: It is still Advent, but today we hear an account of the Christmas story early so that we may know what to look for later this week. The Son of Mary by the Holy Spirit is Jesus, who saves us from our sins and who fulfills the promise of Immanuel: God is with us. Perhaps the richness of the details of Luke's account sometimes distracts us from the message. The Lord has come to keep His Word, to save us from our sins, and to keep us in His hand so that we may be His eternally. None of this was obvious to either Mary or faithful Joseph, and yet the Lord was at work through it all to deliver to us His Son to be our Savior. We will still worry when things do not go as we plan, and we will still struggle with doubts and fears, but the angel of God's presence is no mere messenger sent in His place. No, the angel of God's presence is His only-begotten Son, whose name is Jesus and whose work is our salvation.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please fill out a Welcome Card (located in the card holders in pews) and give to Pastor after the service and receive a special welcome gift. A mother's room and restroom are located at the left rear of the church. May you find this a place of spiritual rest and renewal.

DECEMBER SAINTS CONTINUED: St. Ambrose was born in Trier, Germany, in 340 A.D. These were the days of the Roman Empire, recently declared for the Christian faith. He was of noble birth, & his father was of the ruling Senatorial class. He was educated for & pursued for a time a career in politics. His father died; he moved to Rome, & became governor of the region of Milan. One thing led to another, & he wound up, being elected Bishop of Milan. He took his appointment seriously, spent long hours in study, and gained a reputation as a brilliant theologian, & wrote many works on theology.

Ambrose is often pictured in a bishop's garb, with pastoral staff and with a beehive. Legend says that when he was an infant, bees built a hive under his cradle, signifying that one day he would be great. He packed a lot into a few short years, producing many robust theological works, which are read & studied by seminary students to this day. It is well documented that Ambrose really practiced what he preached. When he was elected bishop, he divested himself of his riches, donating the proceeds to the poor, lest his role as bishop & commitment to Christ be compromised.

Secondly, Ambrose was an excellent preacher, but an even better teacher. He is a reminder to us of the importance of Christian education. Ambrose had a "run in" with the Roman Emperor, Theodosius the First. The emperor had slaughtered thousands during the uprising, including women & children. Ambrose confronted him and let him know he was wrong. Government has its place, the scriptures tell us. But what about when government crosses the line and compels us to act against our faith? The apostles when told to stop preaching responded by saying: "We must obey God rather than men." Ambrose sets before us that our allegiance above all is to God and His Word.

ISSUES, ETC.: SACRED MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON... "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come," "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is," "Once in Royal David's City," "Silent Night, Holy Night," "Joy to the World." Beginning Christmas Eve, you can listen to sacred music for the Christmas season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, & SERVICE

at

CHRIST LUTHERAN

December 21-December 28, 2025

SUNDAY—Holy Communion

8:45 AM Adult Bible Classes
 10:00 AM Divine Service
 11:30 AM Sunday School
 11:30 AM Confirmation Class

MONDAY

7:00 PM AA Meeting

TUESDAY

6:30 PM Girl Scouts

WEDNESDAY

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Worship Service
 7:00 PM Worship Service

THURSDAY

Merry Christmas!

11:00 AM Worship Service

SUNDAY

8:45 AM Adult Bible Classes
 10:00 AM Divine Service
 11:30 AM Sunday School
 11:30 AM Confirmation Class

To make contributions online, visit
christlutheranfh.org and click on DONATE.

This Week in Prayer

Frank Elaschat	Lynn Fisher
Carol Sapanara	Sandy Uram
Bill Hite	Mike and Barb Lis
Rosalie & Glenn Filler	Linda Kuenzi
Jim Law	

Shut Ins

Jim & Evelyn Wise	Ann Tubbs
Bob and Bette Hamill	Russell Long
June Kolb	Katherine Mastrocola
Carol Logsdon	Cathy Ertman
Audrey Karpinsky	Bob Lindke
Audrey Marvenko	

Serving Our Country

Kyle Schoenthal	Miguel Breight
David Lisovich	Carson Starke

Family and Friends

Family of Dave Hoff (Laura Schumm's husband)	
Rich Little (friend of Janice Polidora)	
Deb, James, Tim Bassett, Kim Powers friends of the Elaschats	
Michelle Lydon (sister-in-law of the Catons)	
Pat Ricketts	
Nathan Glasser (son of Randy and Cathy Glasser)	
Alex Russo (friend of Lee & Stephanie Caton)	
Justin, Christian, Joshua & Matthew Riddle (nephews of Mike Lis)	
Greg Filotei (friend of Norm & Nancy Johnson)	
Deb Albaugh (Tatia O'Connor's friend)	
Megan (friend of Lee and Stephanie Caton)	
Ruth Johnson (Norm's sister-in-law)	
Donna Madia (friend of Kathy Ertman)	
The Rev. Ernest Knoche	
Ken Stern (brother-in-law of Gloria)	
Jake Benedum (friend of Tammy Donaldson)	
David Kaclk (Kathy's husband)	
Dan Johnson (Norm's brother)	
Shelly Winfrey (Tammy Donaldson's sister)	
Larry Lamp (friend of Nancy Johnson)	
Linda Augustine (friend of Georgia Hanley)	

Date	Attendees	Offering	To date	Budget
12-10-25	31	\$752	\$77,553	\$84,019
12-14-25	19	\$1,855	80,160	\$87,672

The purpose of this congregation shall be to seek the honor and glory of God. The congregation exists to this end as a community of baptized Christians wherein the following is provided for: Worship, Nurture, Fellowship, Outreach and Service.