

Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
January 5, 2025



Worship 9:30am
Pastor Micheal Erickson

West Clermont Lutheran Church

Address: PO Box 327

Phone: 563-423-7170

Email: wclc@acegroup.cc

Website: westclermontlutheranchurch.com

Facebook Live @ West Clermont

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

GATHERING MUSIC: "The First Noel" ELW 300

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.

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.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW pg. 122

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC:

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise,

and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: 147:12-20 (Responsively)

¹² Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth,
a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

17 God scatters hail like bread crumbs.

Who can stand against God's cold?

18 The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

**19 God declares the word to Jacob,
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

20 The LORD has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel: John 1:1-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to John. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY: "*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*"

ELW 270

NICENE CREED:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from
heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the
life of the world to come. Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

P: God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING: *“Jesus, the Light of the World”* ACS 914

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: 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

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 130

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

COMMUNION: *“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”* ELW490

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: 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. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: “*Good Christian Folk*” **ELW 288**

DISMISSAL

P: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Love. Proclaim. Serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #025369. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Prayer List

Requested: Karen Kohls, Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Larry Kohls, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Eric Clubb, Bill and Cindy Thias, JoAnn Bishop.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Betty Erickson, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson, Madonna Stumme, Doris Guyer, Evelyn Tague.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Christmas: \$100.00

Regular: \$4,065.00

Custodial Supplies - Rebate from Clorox: \$93.17

Total General Fund: \$4,323.37

Roof: \$180.00

Attendance: 39

Loose: \$38.00


Noisy Can: \$27.20

What's Happening

Tues. 1/7	9am	Quilting
Wed. 1/8	10:30am	Copper Creek Worship
	2:30pm	Confirmation
	2-4pm	Senior Game Day
Sun. 1/12	9:30am	Worship Service <i>Sunday School</i>
	10:30am	Fellowship
	4pm	Sunday Mtg.



Direct Deposit Offering is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!

 **QUILTING.** Quilters will resume on Tuesday, January 7th. Happy Holidays!

*Where your
treasure is,
there will
your heart
be also.
Matt. 6:21*

My Offering


Name _____
Address _____
Amount _____

Offering Envelopes for 2025 have changed.


Members will no longer receive personalized offering envelopes. Instead, envelopes like the one pictured will be available for you in the church office & also at the usher's table in the sanctuary. You can pick up an envelope each Sunday or take a few home. Please make sure your name is on the envelope, so your contribution can be recorded properly.



Confirmation Class will resume on Wednesday, January 8th, following school.

 **Nominations are now open** for council positions and various church committees for 2025. Please prayerfully consider how you can play a leadership role at West Clermont. If you are interested in any position, please contact a member of council or someone currently serving on the committee you are interested in.

ANNUAL MEETING

 **WCLC Annual Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, January 19th, following worship service. Reports are now available for review. Snow date for the meeting is Jan. 26th.



CHURCH Pictorial Directory Update. The directory has gone to final print. The HOPE is that the directories will be here by the **Annual Meeting.**



How You Can Serve We are currently working on the **Worship Assistant Schedule** for *March 2025 thru February 2026*. If you are currently serving as a scripture reader, usher, communion assistant or bread provider and wish to continue; there is nothing you need to do. You will continue to serve in that position. If you would like to begin serving in one of these roles or add additional roles, please contact the office. Likewise, if you wish to be removed from the list, please contact the office. The goal is to have the new list out in the February Newsletter. Any additions or changes need to be submitted by the **Annual Meeting date, January 19th.**