



## **“Agree to Disagree—On That We Are Agreed”**

*“... that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose.”*

### **CHRIST CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

247 South Market Street, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

*Founded 1743*

**A Creation Justice Church**

**An Open and Affirming (ONA) Congregation**





# CHRIST CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



January 25, 2026  
WORSHIP 10:00 a.m.

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## GATHERING

Gathering Music

Ray Edmison, musician

Welcome, Announcements,

Call to Worship, Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

*"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"*

Wilbur Held

Ray Edmison, musician

## PRaising (Please rise whether in body or in spirit.)

Opening Words (*responsive*)

based on Psalm 27 assorted verses

One: God of all time is our light and salvation. The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

**Many: Fear dwindles in the presence of the Lord. We are confident of our trustworthy God.**

One: One thing we ask from God, one thing we seek after: to live in God's presence, to discern God's light in our lives, in the sanctuary, in the magnificence of the earth.

**Many: Our hearts are lifted up! Above all that can distract us, above all powers, above all things, we worship our God. We offer our sacrifices and our shouts of praise. We sing and make melody unto God!**

Hymn

*"Lift Up Your Hearts"*

No. 38

Prayer of Praise (*unison*)

**We are called to worship you, O living God, in this time and sacred space. May we see your great light which you shine into our lives. You increase our joy. You heal our divisions. You comfort us with your peace. With the risen presence of our Savior Jesus, the Messiah touching our lives, we affirm that your foolishness is higher than the wisdom of the world. By your cross we are being renewed. And your glory moves us from a dark and gloomy scenario to the bring light of a new age. Thanks be to you, O living God! Amen.**

Response

*“Arise, Shine”*  
*(Please be seated.)*

Sing! Prayer and Praise 68

## SHARING

Offering our Gifts, Tithes, and Other Offerings

Offertory

*“It Is Well With My Soul”*  
*(Please rise whether in body or in spirit.)*

Wilbur Held

Response

*“Arise Your Light Is Come”* (vs. 1 only)

No. 164

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**In this offering, O God, we proclaim that our work and worship are one. We proclaim that in your light, we are undivided as fellow faith sojourners. With joy we pray in Christ. Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## LISTENING

Gospel reading

Matthew 4: 12-23

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. <sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose.** <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

<sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

<sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Sermon

Pastor Galen Russell

### **"Agree to Disagree—On That We Are Agreed"**

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Moment of Quiet Reflection

## **AFFIRMING**

Joys and Concerns

May the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**Morning Prayers with the Lord's Prayer (*unison, on screen*)

## **RESPONDING** (*Please rise whether in body or in spirit for the remainder of worship.*)

Hymn

*"The Church's One Foundation"*

No. 386

Blessing

Postlude

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

John Behnke

**End of Worship - Beginning of Service**



## **Our Church in Action**

**WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!** If this is your first time to Christ Church, please fill out a "Connection" card found at the entrances to the sanctuary or pew racks, and put it in the box. Or visit <https://2hac.page.link/mdHS>. Please visit our website: [www.etownucc.org](http://www.etownucc.org) for more information. Welcome!!

**ALTAR FLOWER ORDERS:** Please call Denise Clissold (717) 689-3333 with your order and wording for your tribute. If you would like a special flower request, please contact Diane in the office. You can also sign up on the chart in the hallway. Please note if you would like to donate your flowers to a home bound individual or take them with you.

**OUR ANNUAL MEETING** is re-scheduled for February 8th at 11:00 a.m. after worship. The agenda and links to supporting documents will be re-sent sent to the entire congregation via email a few days prior. We will review the 2025 year in ministry. The Boy Scouts Pancake Brunch will be available afterwards. Please make your reservation.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 117** is holding their Pancake Brunch after Scout Sunday service on February 8th from 11am-1pm to support Boy Scout Troop 117. Adults are \$10, children are \$5 and children under 3 are free. Meals include pancakes (plain, chocolate chip, and blueberry), sausage, and drinks. See Connor Templin to purchase tickets.

**MUSIC FEST** presented by Lancaster Association, Sunday, February 1 at 3:00 PM. The Fest will be held at Church of the Apostles UCC, 1850 Marietta Ave. Lancaster. Come for a wonderful afternoon of choral music offered by local UCC church choirs!

**COMMITTEES THAT CAN USE YOUR GIFTS** As the new year gets started, we have several committees that can use your gifts and skills in ministry. Our Outreach Committee could use two more people to help coordinate our outreach projects. Our Board of Faith Formation could use a person who loves children and Christian faith formation. Our Ministry Committee could use one or two more people who have gifts in human resources. Our Property Committee could use one or two more people who can work with our Trustees in caring for our building and grounds. The church is only as strong as its people. Thank you for serving God at Christ Church!

**JANUARY MISSION FOCUS—THE CLOTHING BARN** Looking to clean out your closet? Good thing a clothing drive is being held at Christ Church UCC! Drop off gently used clothes throughout January. All clothes are accepted, but the most needed items are: men's jeans (sizes 29, 30, 32, 42+), men's boots/sneakers, men's sweatpants, men's gym shorts, and size 3-5t little girls clothing. No summer clothing please. Clothes will be donated to The Clothing Barn next to ECHOS. Thank you so much for your donations! For questions, please contact Emily Addams at (717) 538-6691. The Clothing Barn is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays. All clothing distribution is done by appointment. Some appointments can be scheduled in the evening.

**ELIZABETHTOWN OUTREACH:** There are several programs available in the Elizabethtown area for those in need. ECHOS sponsors the Winter Shelter is available for those without homes. The Community Cupboard has food available. The Coptic Church has a Food Bank available Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. The Communities that Care organization has several programs for students who struggle with drug abuse or have academic concerns. And Meals on Wheels is available as well.

**GROCERY STORE CARDS** are available in the church office during business hours. We have Groff's Meat Market, Weis, and Giant cards. When you use the card at the store, a percentage of your purchase comes back to Christ Church.

**THE MISSION TEAM IS PLANNING ANOTHER AUCTION PRODUCTION!** There are two sign up sheets in the hallway of our Church. The Auction will take place in the Social Room. Arrival at about 5 PM, followed by dinner 5:30 to 6:30, and the Auction to begin shortly after 6:30! We are also putting together a fun game "Minute to Win it" for the youth. This event is wonderful to invite your friends and other family members. The Auction is very unique and exciting. If anyone wishes to assist or if you have questions, please ask Ariana Wheeler, Grace Wells, Calli Heslop, or Steve Stouffer. This may be our last big event before the renovation begins! More details in the NET!

**"GAL-ENTINE'S" PARTY** for Ladies of All Ages Sunday, February 15, 4:30 pm. LIFT invites all ladies to a "Gal-entine's" DESSERT POTLUCK party on Sunday, February 15 at 4:30. Wear pink or red and expect games, prizes and other surprises! The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway, and we ask you to let us know how many ladies are in your party and what you will be bringing for our dessert feast. If you can't sign up in person, please call the office to give Diane your sign-up information. Deadline for signing up is Wednesday, February 11.

## **MEMBERS REQUESTING PRAYERS:**

- ✝ **Joan Adair**, Penny's mom, is on Hospice care at the family's home
- ✝ **Amy Addams** is recovering from foot surgery
- ✝ **Courtney Drew** faces numerous medical issues at home
- ✝ **Charlie Wells** on Hospice care at home
- ✝ **All our Members at Home** value our prayers as they are unable to attend worship
- ✝ **Some members** are in the hospital and value our prayers
- ✝ **There are others** in our faith community dealing with serious mental illness issues

**A LOOK AHEAD...** For next Sunday, February 1st, the main Bible passage is 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 which describes the power of paradox as part of the foundation of our faith. Pastor Galen's working sermon title is "A Topsy-Turvy Faith."

**IF WE HAVE INCLEMENT WEATHER...** If the weather impacts our Sunday morning activities, our Executive Committee and the leader of Property Committee consult to decide what modifications are needed to Sunday's schedule. Then we strive to share those changes with the rest of our faith community in timely ways using multiple communication methods. If inclement weather impacts our activities during days of the week, our general policy is to follow what the Elizabethtown School District is doing. Our Church Office may be closed or delay opening, depending. For evening weekday activities, in general, the leaders of those groups can decide to cancel or modify their events and communicate to members of the group. Our office is closed on Fridays.

**GIVEN THIS WEEKEND'S SNOWSTORM,** we anticipate our Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 26th.

### **SUNDAY 1/25**

No in person Worship-Online Only 10:00 AM

### **MONDAY 1/26 (OFFICE CLOSED DUE TO SNOW)**

Boy Scouts 7:00 PM

Green Team (Zoom) 7:00 PM

### **TUESDAY 1/27**

Carillon Choir 7:00 PM

Contemp. Christian Conversation (Zoom) 8:00 PM

### **WEDNESDAY 1/28**

Children's Choir 5:30 PM

Chancel Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM

### **THURSDAY DAY 1/29**

Ministry Committee 7:00 PM

### **SUNDAY 2/1**

Faith Formation 9:00 AM

Carillon rehearsal 9:45 AM

Cookie Time 10:00 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Search Committee 11:45 AM

Worship Commission 11:45 AM

## APPRECIATIONS FOR JANUARY 24TH ONE WORSHIP SERVICE 2:00 PM

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Lay Leader:       | Jim Keesey   |
| Acolyte:          | Noelle Ortiz   |
| Ushers*:          | Dave Heisey, Steve Stouffer, Kim Wolgemuth, Ed Spayd                                     |
| Nursery:          | Lucy Downing and Poppy (Terry Black)   |
| Sound/Video Tech: | Sound Media Team: Tom Downing, Chris Eurich, Dale Mease,<br>Wes Runnels, Garrett Runnels |
| Musicians:        | Ray Edmison, musician  |
| Cover Art:        | Used with permission: fingers_20420c   |

## APPRECIATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 1ST

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Lay Leaders:          | 9:00 TBD 10:30 Ginny Bishop  |
| Acolyte:              | 9:00 Maddie Spayd 10:30 Lucy Downing                                       |
| Ushers*:              | 9:00 Ryan Best, Sue Eurich<br>10:30 Kendra Snyder, Ken Smeltz, Mary Smeltz |
| Nursery:              | Maria Mason, Abby Hellwig  |
| January Cookie Time:  | Sponsored by Social Justice, Marketing and Evangelism Team                 |
| February Cookie Time: | Contemporary Christian Conversation  |
|                       | *Updated Ushers list is hanging in hallway.                                |

**MINISTERS: ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION**

## Our Church Staff

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Lead Pastor</b>   | Rev. Dr. Galen E. Russell, III   |
| <b>Associate Pastor</b>  |  |
| <b>Director of Music</b>   | Conner Ulrich  |
| <b>Organist</b>  | Justin McLaughlin  |
| <b>Director of Carillon Choir</b>                                      | Ruthann Ressler  |
| <b>Director of Youth Choirs</b>  | Ali Spayd  |
| <b>Director of <i>CollectiveSpirit</i></b>                             | Jan Stouffer   |
| <b>Office/Business Administrator</b>                                   | Diane Walmer   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>   | Cris Dinsmore  |
| <b>Facility Manager</b>  |  |
| <b>Church Phone: 717-367-1208</b>                                      | <b>Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. (9 AM - noon &amp; 1-5 PM)</b>                          |
| <b>Website: <a href="http://www.etownucc.org">www.etownucc.org</a></b> | <b>Email: <a href="mailto:christchurch@etownucc.org">christchurch@etownucc.org</a></b> |