



The Christ Candle December 2025



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

~ An E.L.C.A. Congregation ~

**7051 Indianapolis Blvd,
Hammond, IN 46324**

The Reverend Dale M. Zylstra

**The Reverend James T. Swanson,
Pastor Emeritus**

Phone: (219) 844-6122

Website: clchammond.com

Office Email: office.clch@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: pastor.clch@gmail.com

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CLC Staff

The Reverend Dale M. Zylstra

Kelly Seitzinger - Secretary

Abigayle Kubiak - Organist

Congregation Council Officers

Dave Holeman - President

Don Winston - Vice-President

Jan Kopischke - Secretary

Kelly Seitzinger - Treasurer

Dara Kubiak - Financial Secretary

Council Members

Mike Vidimos

Bob Talley

Kathy Lord

Sylvia Ellman

Elden LaHayne

Robin Bellamy

Art Cimnovski

Sara Whitelaw

Ministry Team Leaders

Worship & Music Director—

Jan Kopischke

Choir Director—Lori Zylstra

JuBellation Director—Judy Rodgers

Genesis Bells Director—

Jan Kopischke

Fellowship - Esther Fuehrer

Finance/Stewardship -

Social Outreach- Julie Vidimos

Property - Don Winston

Christian Ed - Robin Bellamy

SCS Superintendent - Kelly Seitzinger

Visitation - Rosemary Wignall

Worship & Music - Jan Kopischke

Youth Ministry - Robin Bellamy

****All meetings are open to members
of the congregation.**

**Scheduled meetings are sometimes
adjusted based upon the ministry
team members schedules.**



Mark Your Calendar Dates to Remember!



- Nov 30 - Advent Begins
- Dec 06 - Hammond Christmas Parade
- Dec 14 - SCS Christmas Program
Cookie Bake Off
- Dec 21 - CLC Christmas Concert
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Worship
- Dec 25 - Christmas Day Worship
- Dec 28 - Lessons & Carols



SCS Christmas Program

**“Just Another
Christmas Program”**

Don't Miss It!!!!

**Sunday, December 14th
During worship.**



Cookie Bake Off

Dec 14th. Please bring cookies for Fellowship after service. A prize will be awarded for the cookies getting the most votes.

Estuary Group - Dec 3rd

Estuary Group with Pastor Dale meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7pm in Byquist Hall.



Men's Group

Men's Group with Dave Roman meets on Dec 17th at 7pm in Byquist.

Check out our website.

**Visit us at:
clchammond.com**



Go to YouTube.com and Search:

**Christ Lutheran
Hammond IN**



Find me on

facebook

If we haven't found you yet...check us out on Facebook!!!

Search: Christ Lutheran Church Hammond

Christ Lutheran Christmas Concert

Join us on Dec 21st at 1pm for a Christmas Concert featuring our adult choir, JuBellation and Genesis Chimes.



Giving Thanks Dinner

Sunday, November 16th



To Our Christ Lutheran Family

We all enjoy Fellowship after Worship Services, but we could use a few items to help the Fellowship budget. When out shopping, if you would like to help, we could use the following items:

- 12oz Plastic White Cups
- Napkins
- 8.5" Paper Plates
- Cans of Coffee (Regular & Decaf)
- Hawaiian Punch
- Tea Bags (Regular & Decaf)
- Disposable Bowls
- Monetary Gifts for Fellowship

Thank you so much in advance!



ARCHIVE PICTURES

We are looking for any and all pics from the church's history for our 75th Anniversary! If you have any that you would be willing to share, please see Kelly Seitzinger. All pictures will be returned to owner.

Thanks in advance!!



Sunday, December 21st at 4pm
Bethel Lutheran Church
411 Montgomery St. Gary, IN

Blue
Christmas
SERVICE



Trivia Night: Holiday Edition

Can you sleigh the competition?

Join us for a fun-filled night of festive Christmas trivia and holiday cheer!
It's free to play, and you can compete solo or in a team of up to six people.
We will have door prizes and light refreshments for participants.
Winners take home a \$10-\$15 gift card!



7:00 PM
Wednesday,
December 3, 2025



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
3711 Ridge Rd.
Highland, IN 46322

Optional

Christmas

Cookie Exchange



Those wishing to participate in the Christmas Cookie Exchange should bring 2 dozen of their favorite Christmas cookies or treats. We'll set up a treat buffet in the kitchen for participants to walk through and select their goodies. Cost to participate in the Cookie Exchange: Cookies!

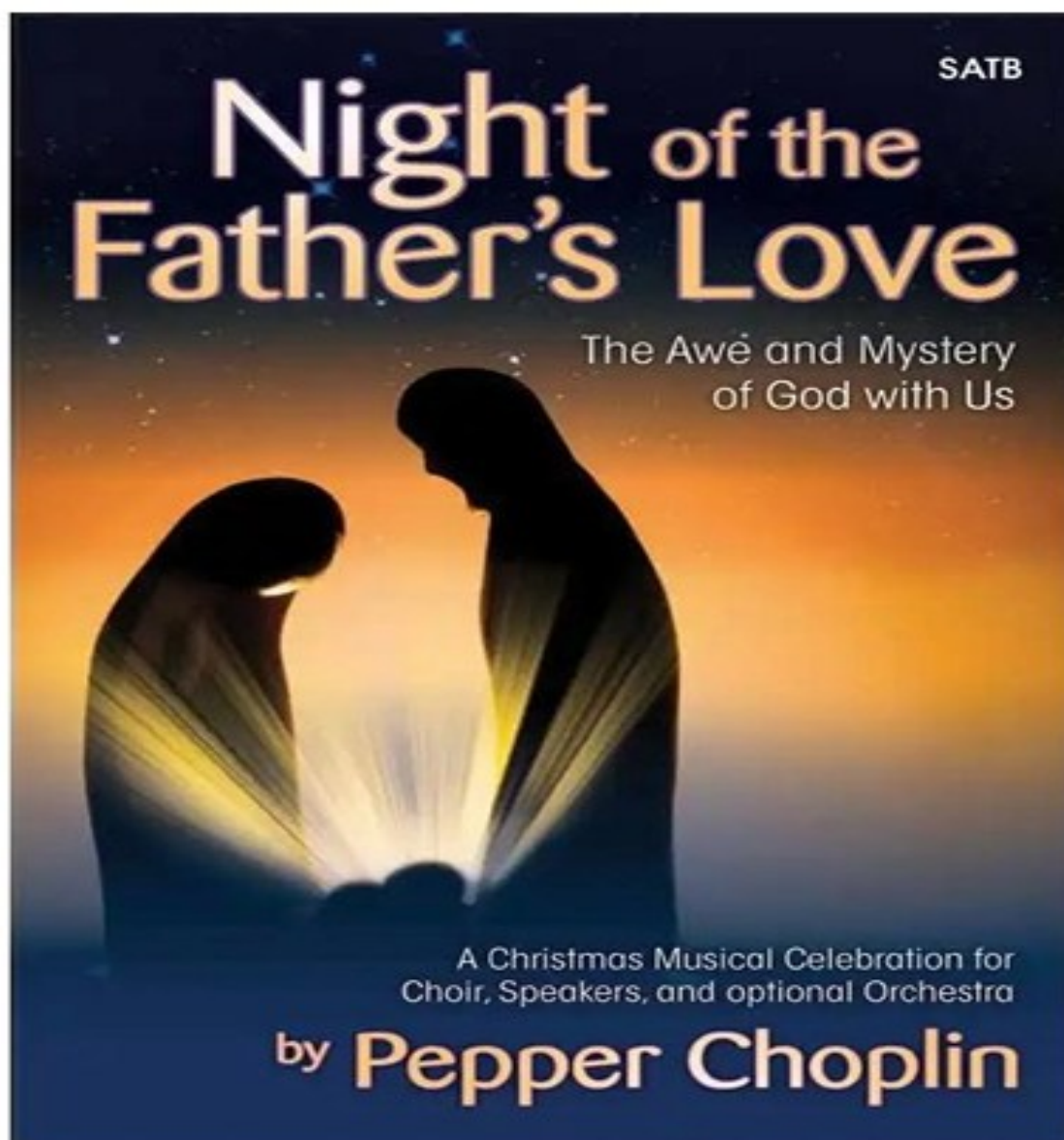
Take-home trays will be provided.



Do the treats have to be homemade? No, Store-bought cookies are great too!
What if I want to contribute but don't want to take home any cookies?
Totally fine, we will not force you to take any delicious cookies home.

For more information contact the church office at
219-838-5313 or email: gdlc.office2021@gmail.com





Join us Sunday, December 7th at 3 p.m. for an inspiring Cantata performed by our Ridge Chancel Choir along with other area church choir members. We invite you to stay after the concert for cookies and conversation in our Fellowship Hall.



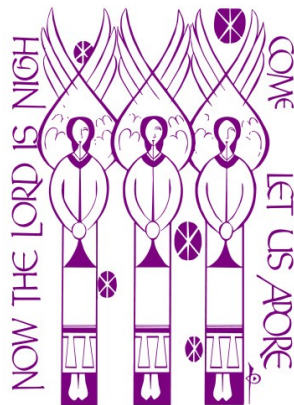
**8607 Columbia Avenue
Munster IN 46321
219-838-4770
www.ridgeumc.org**

2025 Committee Reports & 2026 Budgets

It's time to start working on your 2025 Committee Reports & turn in your 2026 Budgets. Please include current expenses as well as "hopeful" expenses (expenses are not guaranteed to make in in the budget).

Please have them to the office ASAP!

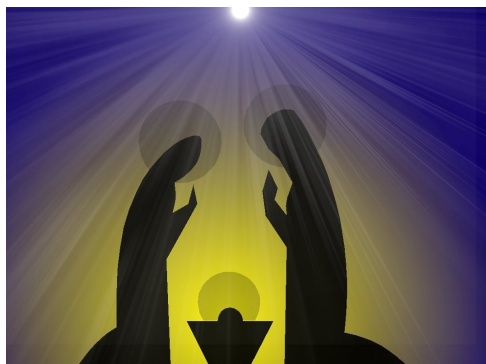
ADVENT



THE SEASON OF ADVENT, which is the beginning of the church year, is a time of waiting, a time of preparation, hope and joyful anticipation for the celebration of Christ's coming as God among us, for Christ's coming to us in Word and Sacrament now, and for Christ's coming at the end of the age. The word ADVENT is from the Latin phrase *adventus Domini*, meaning the coming of the Lord. The color of Advent is a shade of blue that reminds us of the color of the night sky just

before sunrise, a sky, which symbolically in the season, holds the promise of the Light, which is to come.

CHRISTMAS EVE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



The Christmas season celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the incarnation of God. It lasts for 12 days, December 24 through January 5, the eve of the Epiphany of our Lord. White, a color associated with the festivals of Christ and suggesting gladness, joy and light. It's principle themes are: God's presence in human life; God's love for all of creation; and the Paschal mystery of Chris's passion, death, and resurrection.

The word *Christmas* originated as a compound meaning "Christ's Mass". It is derived from the Middle English *Christemasse* and Old English *Cristes mæsse*, a phrase first recorded in 1038. "Cristes" is from Greek *Christos* and "mæsse" is from Latin *missa*. In early Greek versions of the New Testament, the letter *X* (chi), is the first letter of Christ. Since the mid-16th century *X*, or the similar Roman letter *X*, has been used as an abbreviation for Christ. Hence, Xmas is often used as an abbreviation for Christmas.

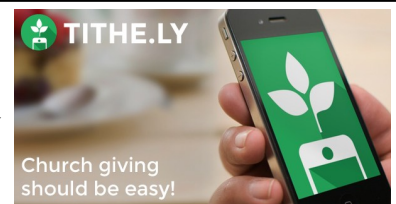
We believe Jesus Christ, born humbly in a manger this night, is the Son of God. He is the light in the darkness — sent from God to save us from our sins. We believe we are called and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to share the good news of his birth, life, ministry and resurrection. On this night, as we celebrate Christ's birth, we affirm the mystery of our faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Highland Community Band Christmas Concert Thursday December 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Come join us for a free performance by the Highland Community Band! Performance will be held at the Highland High School auditorium. Come out and support our members in the band...it's always an amazing concert!



2025 Tax Deductible Contributions Please note that any contributions to the church need to be received by the church by December 31, 2025 in order to be tax deductible for 2025.

Christ Lutheran is signed up for online giving. You can still give your offering in the plate at church or by mail, this is just another way to give. Simply go to [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) website or download the app and set up an account. It walks you through a few simple steps and your ready to go!



CLC MISSION STATEMENT

SHARING God's love by
LIVING our faith and
SERVING the world.



Glory to God in the highest heaven - Luke 2:14

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Advent 1 9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Anniv. Committee Mtg.	1	2	3 7:00pm Estuary Group	4 6:15pm Genesis 7:00pm JuBellation 8:00pm Adult Choir	5	6 Hall Rental
7 Advent 2 9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Worship & Music Mtg.	8	9	10 7:00pm Council	11 6:15pm Genesis 7:00pm JuBellation 8:00pm Adult Choir	12	13 Hall Rental
14 Advent 3 Christmas Program 9am SCS, Confirmation & Adult Ed 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Cookie Bake Off	15	16	17 7:00pm Men's Group 7:00pm Adult Choir	18 7:00pm Highland Community Band Christmas Concert	19	20 Hall Rental
21 Advent 4 9am Adult Ed 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Christian Ed Mtg. 1:00pm Christmas Concert	22	23	24 Hall Rental 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	25 10:30am Christmas Day Worship Hall Rental	26	27
28 Lessons & Carols 9am Adult Ed 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Anniv. Committee Mtg.	29 Hall Rental	30	31	1 Happy New Year! 	2	3

Christmas Flower Garden 2025

Orders for Poinsettias for use at the altar at Christmas are now being taken.

Don't hesitate! Order yours now!

Cost: \$10.00 per plant

Order Due by: December 14th

Please Print

Your Name: _____

Envelope Number (If you have one): _____ Phone: _____

Given in Memory of: _____

Given in Honor of: _____

Total poinsettias ordered: _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____ Amt. Due

Sunday Dec. 14th

Donation towards Christmas decorating fund \$ _____

Please Indicate:

_____ I will take home my plants after LATE service (Christmas Eve)

_____ I will leave plants for decorations for Christmas season

