



***Our Mission:** Light of Christ Ecumenical Catholic Community is a vibrant, inclusive and welcoming community for all who, following the teachings and example of Jesus Christ, seek compassion, justice and peace in the world. We seek to live our faith through liturgy and prayer, community building and collaboration, study and service.*

All Are Welcome!

*3rd week in Advent
December 16th, 2023*



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<https://lightofchristecc.org/>

Office hours

Tues. - Thurs. 9am-3 pm

Pastor: Father Teri Harroun, M. Div.

pastor@lightofchristecc.org

Pastoral Care Assistant: Tim Shead

locchurchoffice@gmail.com

Prayer Companions:

prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org

Parish Council Members:

Ann Hess, Chuck Howard, Rose Marie
Perez-Foster, Sheila Winters, Irene Yap

parishcouncil@lightofchristecc.org

Stephen Ministry:

stephenministry@lightofchristecc.org

Happenings and announcements

- **Blue Christmas:** For those who have experienced loss, the joy of the holiday season can often feel elusive and out of reach. As a result, churches around the world have adopted the practice of having a “Blue Christmas” or a “Longest Night” service during the Advent season. These services are designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the twinkle lights and holiday hustle and bustle. This service will be held on **December 21st at 7pm** and will be in-person only.
- **Scrapbooker wanted:** Fr. Teri is looking for a scrapbooker to help her with a project. It is something that could be done at home, at your convenience. Most supplies are being provided. If you are the kind of person who crafts so hard you sweat glitter, this might be the opportunity for you. Please contact Fr. Teri for details.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Come and knit or crochet with us. The LOC Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on **Tuesday, November 21** from **10-11:30 am** in the Fireside Room. Patterns for shawls, scarves and hats will be available or you can work on your own projects. Contact the Church Office for more information or to learn how you can be part of this ministry even if you can not attend our meetings. All are welcome!
- **End of Year Giving:** As we approach the end of the year, please be reminded that for any giving to be considered for 2023, it must be received by the church office by **January 2, 2024**.

Weekly Events

Saturday (Dec 16)

- 4:50 pm - Children's Talk
- 5 pm - Mass (Hybrid/Facebook Live)

Sunday (Dec 17)

- 5 pm - Living Nativity

Tuesday (Dec 19)

- 10 am - Scripture reading (Facebook Live)
- 10 am - Prayer Shawl ministry
- 5 pm - Stephen Ministry

Wednesday (Dec 20)

- 9 am - Mass (Hybrid/Zoom)
- 6 pm - Advent Caroling

Thursday (Dec 21)

- 5 pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal
- 7 pm - Blue Christmas service
- 7 pm - Men's Group (Hybrid/Zoom)

Saturday (Dec 23)

- 4:50 pm - Children's Talk
- 5 pm - Mass (Hybrid/Facebook Live)

Advent Announcements

- **Photo wall update:** Earlier this year, Bethlehem Lutheran updated their membership photo wall to include Light of Christ members. They are updating the wall again. If you would like to be added, please email your favorite individual or family photo to the Church Office and include family members names as you would like them to appear under the photo on the wall!



- **Rosaries:** A short reminder to bring your rosary to Mass throughout Advent as we will be using rosaries during the psalm. We will also be providing rosaries each week of Advent in the narthex for those who need them.
- **Advent Caroling:** This **Wednesday, December 20**, there will be a caroling opportunity. Meet at the church for hot cocoa and candy canes at **5:30 pm (bring your own dinner)**. At 6pm, we'll take the bus and other vehicles if needed to sing around town! We won't be having dinner or prayer. Bring your singing voice!
- **Living Nativity:** Living Nativity will be **December 17 from 5 - 8 pm**. Sign up to volunteer for the 2023 Living Nativity in the Narthex.
- **Poinsettias:** This **Sunday, December 17th**, will be the last opportunity to sign up for poinsettias. They are available for \$15 each. Please sign up in the Narthex.
- **Christmas Eve choir:** We are welcoming singers and musicians who would like to bring their gifts for Christmas Eve Mass. There will be one separate rehearsal, on **Thursday, Dec. 21, 5 - 6:30 pm**, in the choir room. **On Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**, we'll meet at **7 pm** in the sanctuary to warm up and practice before carols begin at 8:00 pm, followed by Mass at 8:30 pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office.

Advent Event Calendar



**Sunday,
Dec. 17**

5 - 8 pm - Living Nativity

**Wednesday,
Dec. 20**

5.30 - 7 pm - Caroling (bring your own dinner)

Thursday, Dec. 21

7 pm - Blue Christmas service (in-person)

Saturday, Dec. 23

5 pm - Mass (hybrid/FB live)

**Christmas Eve
Sunday, Dec. 24**

4 pm - Family Service (hybrid/Youtube)
8 pm - Carols (hybrid/FB live)
8:30 pm - Mass (hybrid/FB live)

Blessed are those who hunger for justice. . .

Sister Dorothy Stang (1931 - 2005) was an American nun born in Dayton Ohio and a member of the Sisters of Norte Dame de Namur. After teaching in Chicago and Phoenix she and four other nuns were sent to Brazil in 1966 where they served as teachers and community workers, helping poor farmers build independent futures for their families.

Over the years, the work became progressively more dangerous for the Sisters in Brazil and for the local farmers. As the world discovered the vast possibilities offered by the rich natural resources of the Amazon rainforest, people with more limited and self-centered goals began to plan ways to capitalize upon them. Gradually, loggers, ranchers, land speculators, and agribusiness became the dominant forces in the region, victimizing the poorer farmers and destroying the rainforest.

The Amazon rainforest is one of the largest remaining virgin forests on earth. Its original trees and vegetation comprise 40% of all the tropical rainforests in the world. The forest hosts 50% of the world's plant species and is home to 20 million people. In addition, 20% of the earth's fresh water reserve runs through the Amazon River basin.

Sister Dorothy understood that the rain forest, also called the earth's lungs, plays a critical role in the exchange of gasses between the biosphere and the atmosphere. Her frustration grew as she witnessed the destruction of this natural resource so vital to her people and the planet's future. She saw the forest and the people plundered for financial gain by illegal logging operations, land speculators, and cattle ranchers. She witnessed political leaders allowing the destruction to continue.

Hired killings of human rights advocates, environmentalists, and farmers account for one-third of the deaths in the region each year. The goal of these calculated murders is to eliminate opposition to the clear-cutting and burning of the forest so that fields of soybeans can be planted, trees can be logged, and cattle can graze. Another goal of the killings is to eliminate those who empower and educate the peasants; and finally the killings are meant to intimidate the farmers and keep them ensnared in an endless cycle of debt, akin to slavery. Sister Dorothy became a prime target. She was killed by a paid gunman while fighting for land rights for poor settlers in the Amazon. She died on February 2, 2005.

What can ordinary people do about climate change?

- Take some quiet time to prepare for the birth of Jesus.
- Visit a neighbor who might not receive family /friends this holiday.
- Contribute to a community fundraising effort.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Beulah McMaster; Carol Fischer;
 Dave Barnwell; Gina; Janell Flaig;
 Kris Jenkins; Linda Moses; Liz
 Johnson; Marty Campbell;
 Michael Degnan; Paula Degnan; Pete Conti;
 Sharon Cramer; Sharon Farnsworth; Viv
 Thompson; Wes Evans.



We update our prayer corner monthly. If you or your loved one would like to be included on the corner, please contact the office and we'd be happy to add you.

DAILY READINGS

This year our online Scripture reading will be on Tuesdays. Fr. Teri will lead us more in depth through stories in our Scripture. Join us Tuesdays at 10am on Facebook.

Light of Christ is using the Women's Ordination Conference Lectionary for 2023. Please contact the Church Office for a link and information.

STEWARDSHIP

	October	November	Year To Date
Donations	\$13,149.56	\$8,996.56	\$133,137.16
Grocery Cards	\$265.35	\$0.00	\$1,054.70
Advertising Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest	\$1,41.54	\$8.68	\$2,609.65
Misc. Income (Includes designated)	\$1,000.00	\$400.00	\$6,988.02
Total Income	\$15,883.45	\$9,405.24	\$143,789.53
Expenses	\$12,295.43	\$16,469.79	\$146,602.90
Balance	\$3,538.02	\$(7,064.55)	\$(2,813.37)

A printed copy of the Light of Christ Bylaws, policies and procedures is available in the Church Office for members to review.

Members of Light of Christ or their family members are invited to **purchase ad space here** on the weekly bulletins! Not only does it help out these businesses, but it also helps LOC by bringing in additional funds. For more information, please call the Church Office.

Jack P. Wolfe
 Attorney at Law
 Wills & Probate
 Real Estate
 Small Business
 303-776-0880

ASSISTANCE

Prayer Partners: These prayer ministries welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth, or even to pray for you when you can't find the words. You can email our Prayer Companion Team at prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org and someone will reach out to you.

Home Eucharist Team: If you need Eucharist brought to your home, for any reason, please contact Father Teri and she will coordinate one of our Home Eucharistic Ministers to visit you and bring you Communion.

Rite of Reconciliation: The Rite of Reconciliation is available after Mass or by Appointment. Please contact Father Teri or the Church office for more information.

If you need assistance during this time, there are several resources available in Longmont:

HOPE Longmont, located at:

804 Lincoln St.
 Longmont, CO 80501

THE OUR CENTER, located at:

220 Collyer St.
 Longmont, CO 80501

THE ROUND PANTRY, located at:

Westview Presbyterian Church
 1500 Hover St.
 Longmont, CO 80501