



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

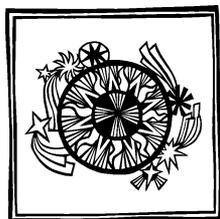
WHITE OAK,
PENNSYLVANIA

1656 Lincoln Way, McKeesport, PA 15131 + (412) 673-2296 + faithwhiteoak.com

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026

A Glimpse of God-Made-Flesh



This gospel text is wordy to the point of feeling almost otherworldly. There's no real story here; there's no narrative to follow. To illustrate this text for children, for example, seems nearly impossible.

“The Word became flesh and lived among us” (John 1:14). How is this gospel text—this gospel truth—made manifest, here and now? Where do you see God, in the flesh, walking the earth? How do you experience God-made-flesh speaking to you, caring for you, guiding you?

Surely God is present, in the flesh, even in the unlikelyst of places—as unlikely as a baby lying in a manger. Surely God is still here today in some form or fashion. The Word is no longer flesh and living among us, at least not in the same way as when Jesus himself was walking the earth.

But *we* are flesh, and *we* are here. Surely *you* are God made manifest for someone; surely *your* presence here on earth is a glorious display of the presence of God for a neighbor or friend or colleague or family member—maybe even for someone you'd never expect to name you in this way.

In baptism, God commissions us to “proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace” (*ELW*, p. 228). This is the work of the Word made flesh; this is the work of providing a glimpse of God to a world in need of grace, hope, and new life.

How blessed we are to live in the promise of God-made-flesh. How blessed we are to live in response to that promise!

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Wendy S. Farone

Assisting Minister: Loran Bohman

Lector: Denise Price

Organist: Drew Pogyor

Altar Care: Loran Bohman

Altar Flowers: are given to the glory of God.

The Sanctuary Light: is given to the glory of God.

The Columbarium Light: is given to the glory of God.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance Hymn **ELW 861 When Long Before Time**

Hymn of the day **ELW 295 Of the Father's Love Begotten**

Communion Hymns **ELW 285 Peace Came to Earth**
ELW 737 He Comes to Us as One Unknown
638 Holy Child within the Manger (next page)

Sending Hymn **ELW 253 He Came Down**

Communion- If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, stay in your pew, and the Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is a complete and valid reception.

Membership- There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any congregation activities, and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your membership request.

December 28, 2025 Attendance: 27

Offerings:

Weekly Need: \$3,300.00

December 24, 2025: \$1,373.00

December 28, 2025: \$1,152.00

Holy Child within the Manger

Carol at the Manger



1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -
2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your
3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us



go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry
love for us was shown, when the im - age of your
ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry



stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.
glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.
stran - ger how you come to us to - day.



As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the
Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and
In our lives and in our liv - ing give us



out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -
fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -
strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -



spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.
pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.
giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Faith Announcements:

Beginning this month, on the first Sunday of each month, the "Brief Order of Healing" will be offered. Those who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may receive the gifts of prayer accompanied by anointing with oil. These signs, first given in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world.

Pastor Wendy's Installation will take place today at 3 pm! Please bring your leftover Christmas cookies! There is also a covered dish sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Dear Friends of Faith:

Many thanks for all the gifts, cards, and kindness shown to me over this Christmas holiday. I am so very grateful for all the ways you bless me, your community, and others in need. I look forward to witnessing the gospel with you in the coming year.

Peace be with you all,
Pastor Wendy

We are grateful to Rich Willard for his donation of a projector for our use!

We are looking for a used, wooden dining room table with several chairs, in good condition, to create an extra meeting space within the lounge area. Please contact the office or Pastor Wendy if you have one.

Nominating Committee for New Council Members

The following Nominating Committee, chosen at last year's Annual Meeting, will present names for new council members: **Kristen Byzek, Margie Miller, Kristi Howard, and Joyce Thomas.** If you are interested in serving on council, please contact Pastor Wendy or the Nominating Committee.

Annual Meeting Date: March 1, 2026, after worship.

Pastor's Podcast- New episode!

Understanding Church: Chatting with Bishop Melissa Stoller

<https://www.belc.org/podcast/> or wherever you listen to podcasts.

Welcome, Visitors and Guests,

We are glad you are here! We welcome you to participate fully in worship and to engage in all church activities. If you are considering joining as a member or have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Wendy Farone at (412) 443-9122 (c), the Church Office at (412) 673-2296, or email flcpastorwendy@gmail.com. We look forward to speaking with you soon.

Everyone needs a church home and family. We hope to be yours!
Pastor Wendy

Council Meeting: January 15, 2026, at 12:30 pm

Bible Storytelling Updates!

On January 6th at 10:30 am, we will continue our study of Hebrews Chapter 9.

Prayer List October - December 2025

<u>Nikki</u> Amhurst	<u>Teresa</u> M
<u>Katie</u> Bachinger	<u>Berty</u> McMillen
<u>Becky</u> Ball	<u>Georgina</u> McMarlin
<u>Jean</u> Bickerstaff	<u>Marlene</u> Newman
<u>Jean</u> Bodenlos	<u>Helen</u> Pula
<u>Barry</u> D	<u>Corey</u> Rhodes
<u>Kara</u> Eaton	<u>Tracy</u> Scott
<u>Rose</u> Gombas	<u>Sandy</u> Seitz
<u>Heather</u> Grantz	<u>Maxine</u> Smith
<u>Bill</u> Grimm	<u>Steven</u> T
<u>Jerry</u> Groves	<u>Theresa</u> Zell
<u>Eric</u> Harshman	<u>Nick</u>
<u>Renee</u> K	<u>Dominick Family</u>
<u>Ken</u> K	<u>Filapose Family</u>
<u>Ellio</u> Keiser	<u>Mundy Family</u>
<u>Nancy</u> Kimling	
<u>Bill</u> Kimling	

*Please email flewhiteoak@gmail.com for any additions or removals from this list.

Synod Weekly Announcements: Further Info at swpasynod.org

Installation of Pastor Terri Luper Church

Sunday, January 11: 3PM

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

3104 West Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 1521

Your prayers and presence are requested as Pastor Terri Luper Church is installed as pastor of Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries. Ministers are invited to vest and process; the color of the day is white. Refreshments to follow, RSVP to bethany-dormont@verizon.net.

Community Announcements

White Oak Senior Activities

Yoga Class-Mondays and Wednesdays-11 am to 12 pm

Gentle Exercise-Tuesdays 1/15, 1/20 & 1/27- 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Coffee Hour-Thursdays 1/15 & 1/29- 9:30 am to 11 am

Cardio Drumming- Tuesdays 1/20 & 1/27- 1 pm to 2 pm (**No Walk-ins**)

Monthly Meeting- Dr. Max Kisan- Wellness for Seniors-Wednesday 1/14- 1 pm to 3 pm

Upcoming Commemorations

Adrian of Canterbury, teacher, died around 710 (TFF)

Friday, January 9, 2026

African by birth, Adrian (or Hadrian) worked with Theodore, archbishop of Canterbury, in developing the church in England. He was director of a school at which church leaders were trained.