

L: Friends, believe the good news:  
P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\*Gloria Patri  
Passing of the Peace "Good Morning!"  
Anthem *Waiting* Chancel Choir  
Time With The Children followed by Sunday School until 11:30  
Morning Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and Prayer Response  
***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 sins, as we forgive those who sin  
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. Amen.***  
Prayer of Illumination  
Scripture Readings: *Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)*  
Song of Praise #156 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*  
Sermon "Clearing the Path" Jakob Harmon  
\*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed  
Invitation to the Offering  
Offertory  
\*Doxology #34 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*  
\*Prayer of Dedication  
(*"Welcome to Linway"* Cards will be collected by Deacons.)  
\*Closing Hymn #191 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*  
\*Charge and Benediction  
\*Congregational Response *God Be With You*  
\*Postlude

\*Indicates those who are able to please stand



**Today's Chancel Flowers** are given to the glory of  
our Lord by the Keller Family in loving memory of  
Kevin Keller.

**Video Recording:** Portions of today's 10:30 service will be  
recorded & posted to the Linway Facebook Page and  
website Monday evening at [www.LinwayChurch.org](http://www.LinwayChurch.org)

**MA's Pantry Giving Tree: Last day is next Sun, Dec. 14**

Provide help for a family this Christmas thru MA's:

1. Take a paper ornament from our tree at the church entrance.
2. Purchase a \$25 Giant Eagle Gift Card.
3. Place gift card inside the envelope attached to ornament.
4. Place the envelope & ornament in our offering **by Dec. 14**.

Gift cards will then be taken to MA's for distribution.

Also, monetary donations marked "MA's Pantry" that are  
placed in the Offering or mailed to the church by Dec. 14 will  
be combined to purchase gift cards for MA's recipients.

### Contemporary Worship Service

9:15 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

\*Praise Hymn: #152 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

\*Passing Of The Peace

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Praise Song: *Waymaker* by Leeland

Played by Jakob Harmon

Scripture Readings: *Isaiah 11:1-10 (ESV)*

*Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)*

Message: Jakob Harmon

**"Clearing the Path"**

\*Praise Song: *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*  
by Casting Crowns

Final Challenge and Depart to Serve

#### When attending the 9:15 worship service, please:

- complete a "Welcome to Linway" Card and place it in the basket when exiting the Sanctuary.
- place any offering in the box when exiting the Sanctuary.
- use the restroom located out the front left Sanctuary door and then down the hallway.

#### The Church Staff

Student Pastor.....Jakob Harmon  
Financial Secretary ..... Christine Stewart  
Office Manager..... Leanne Cornell  
Organist & Choir Director ..... George Hawkins

#### Linway Church

**600 Lincoln Highway, North Versailles, PA 15137**

Church Office: 412-824-3555 [contact@linwaychurch.org](mailto:contact@linwaychurch.org)  
J. Harmon: 412-824-3555 [Pastor.Harmon@Linwaychurch.org](mailto:Pastor.Harmon@Linwaychurch.org)

Church Website: [www.LinwayChurch.org](http://www.LinwayChurch.org)

Facebook: Linway Church

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00-3:00; Fri 9:00-noon

Please use our East Entrance to visit during the week.

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***Celebrating 128 Years***  
***June 1, 1897—June 1, 2025***

"Come, grow your faith in Jesus Christ with us."



The purpose of Linway United Presbyterian Church  
is to joyfully worship and serve the mission  
and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Sun., December 7, 2025**

***The Second Sunday of Advent***

*"In those days John the Baptist came preaching  
in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

*For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet  
Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying  
in the wilderness:*

*'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths  
straight.'"* ~Matthew 3: 1-3 (ESV)





**Traditional Worship Service**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**\*Indicates those who are able to please stand**

Prelude George Hawkins  
Welcome and Announcements Arlene Szmuc, Liturgist

Gathering Prayer (in unison): **God of promise and preparation, in this Advent season You call us into the wilderness, not to lose our way but to find it again in You. Clear from our hearts the clutter that keeps us from hearing Your voice. Make straight the paths we walk, that we may welcome Your coming with faith, with lives tuned to Your mercy, and with hope renewed by Your Spirit. Come and meet us here, for we gather in the name of the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Deanna Buchman, Ariana Trout,  
and Camden Trout

Advent Candle Prayer (in unison): **Gracious God, give us the discernment of eyes, ears, heart, and mind to discover the Wonderful Counselor in the Babe of Bethlehem. Give us confidence that we may approach him with all of our concerns and celebrations. He was given in love for the reconciliation of the world that there might truly be peace on earth and good will for all people. Help us to open our lives and prepare room for the Prince of Peace not only in this season, but forever more. Amen.**

\*Hymn # 152 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession (in unison): **Holy God, You call us to prepare the way, yet we confess that our lives are tangled with worry, distraction, and fear. We cling to what cannot save. We resist Your call to change direction. Forgive us. Level the pride that rises like mountains within us, lift the despair that sinks like valleys beneath us, and make a straight path in our hearts for the coming of Christ our King. Amen.**

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

L: Hear the good news: The One who comes is full of grace and truth.

P: **In Jesus Christ, every crooked place is made straight, and every rough place made smooth.**

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
His love endures forever.” - Psalm 118: 1*



**In Our Prayers:** Helen Alexander, David A, Erin A, Annie, Kathy B, Patty B, Jordan & Chelsea B, Don & Donnie Baker, Chris, Jeannette Briggs, Dave Brown, Connie, Jim C, Cheryl D, Nathan E, Frank Fawcett, Betty Frommell, Michelle F, Bev & Barry Harcum, Clare & Sandy Hillgartner, Frank Kordalski Sr, Bill Knight, Amanda L, Harold L, Cindie M, Rick Morgan, Cindy & Ken McCall, Peg M., Linda & Richard N., Pascarella Family, Matt R, Renee R, Susan S, Shawn, Laura Shawley, Bill Szmuc, Amanda T, Jen T, Pat V, Kevin W, Scott W, Wanda, Linda Wetzler

**Welcome Children!**

**Sunday School:** for age 5 thru 5th grade. Held every Sun during the service after Time With Children. Finishes at 11:30.

**Coloring/Activity Sheets:** are available at the Sanctuary entrance for children. Please help yourself or ask a Deacon.

**The Nursery:** is open for parents/guardians should you need to step out a moment with a little one. It is located out the front left doors & down the hall. Speakers allow you to hear the service.

**Kid's Club:** Will next get together Wed Dec 10th 6:00-7:00 p.m. For kids age 5 thru 6th grade. Bible lesson, craft, snack, games, & music. Any child is welcome! Call the office for more info.

**Missions:** Help our local + international mission projects by placing a donation in a pew envelope & mark it “Mission Fund”. Loose change left in the pew is also given to Missions. Thank you for assisting these worthy programs.

**Coffee Conn:** Today: Barb      Snack: Barb  
12/14/25:                              Snack:

**Deacon Duty:** Today: Pam, Scott, Judy, Adler  
12/14/25: Stephanie, Leslie, Barb, Ahren

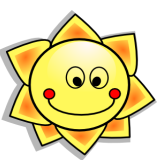
**Sunday School:** Today: Kim B.  
12/14/25: Leanne C.

**Technology:** Today: Don (9:15)      Trent/Rich (10:30)  
12/14/25: Don (9:15)      Trent/Rich (10:30)

**Security:** This Week: Zach H.      12/15/25: Brian B.

**Church Fundraisers**

Available after the service or contact the church office.  
**Giant Eagle Gift Cards** - In \$25, \$50, or \$100 amounts.  
-The church receives 5% of the value of the card.  
**Eat'n Park, Dunkin' Donuts, or Denny's Gift Cards,**  
-The church receives a percentage for each card.  
**Sarris Candy-** \$2 Bars: Chocolate, Crisped Rice, Almond, or P.Butter or \$3 for a pack of Choco-covered Pretzel Rods.



**Good Morning and Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today!** We hope you will find the service meaningful and that you can come back and join us again. Please enjoy a refreshment inside the church entrance. We ask everyone to please complete a “Welcome to Linway” Card found in the pews. Restrooms and the Nursery are located out the front left Sanctuary doors, and then down the hallway.

**LINWAY HAPPENINGS**

<b><u>Today 12/7</u></b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> <b>9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service</b> <b>10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service</b> <b>11:45 a.m. Deacon Meeting—Tentative</b>
<b><u>Wed 12/10</u></b>	<b>Kid's Club 6:00-7:00 p.m.</b>
<b><u>Th 12/11</u></b>	<b>Pepperoni Roll Pick-up</b> in kitchen 4:30-7:00 <b>Bell Choir Practice</b> at 6:00 p.m. All welcome to ring! <b>Choir Practice</b> at 7:00 p.m. All welcome to sing!
<b><u>Next Sun 12/14</u></b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> <b>9:15 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Services</b> <b>Noon Covered Dish Lunch +Christmas Program</b>

**Save the Date:** Congregational Meeting Dec. 21 at 11:30.

**COVERED DISH CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON! Next Sunday, Dec. 14 at Noon:** Everyone is invited to bring a favorite covered-dish to share for a time of holiday fun and fellowship! After lunch, the kids will share their Christmas Program, and we'll sing some Christmas carols. Hope you can come for this special time with your church family!

**ALL Linway Youth & Kids!** The Kids' Christmas Program next Sunday will have both reading & non-reading parts for all ages. If your child would like to participate, please be sure he/she attends practice during the 10:30 Service on Dec. 14. Contact Jaime Ruffing at 412-302-6241 with questions.

**Chancel Floor Beautification:** The Property Committee is pleased to share that the carpeting on the Chancel floor and steps was removed. The hardwood floor that was underneath has been refinished, resulting in a beautiful new look for the Chancel. Railings will soon be installed on the Chancel steps. Thank you to those who helped with this project.

**Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth!**  
**Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Service**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**One Sunday Morning Worship Service**  
**Sunday, Dec. 28 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday, Jan. 4 at 10:00 a.m.**

