



**Christ Lutheran Church  
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website: [www.christluth.com](http://www.christluth.com)  
February 28, 2021**

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
*Christ Lutheran Mission Statement*  
*As members of Christ Lutheran we - Gather in Worship,*  
*Grow in God's Word, Serve in Jesus' name.*  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Prelude: Chris Starr**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Gathering Song**

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

**ELW # 857 (x 2)**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Special Music**

"If Thou Be Near"

*Dennis Davis, Baritone*  
*Accompanied by Vicky Harris*

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

<sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

<sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

## **Psalm 22:23-31**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>**For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

<sup>30</sup>**Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,**

<sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

## **Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,

<sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

<sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

*Here ends the readings. Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

**Gospel: Mark 8:31-38**

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

*The Gospel of the Lord, we say: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

**Sermon**

*Pastor Katherine*

**Hymn of the Day**

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

**ELW # 808**

**Apostles Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession:** Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**  
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**STEWARDING GOD'S GIFTS**

*We offer to God what is God's own*

**Offering**

*[Please remember to send your much appreciated and needed weekly tithes and offerings.]*

**Offering Prayer:** Faithful God, **you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you † that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

#### **Sending Song**

“Shout to the Lord”

**ELW # 821**

**Dismissal:** Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: Chris Starr**



**A special thank you to all who helped assist with our worship service today:**

**Organist:** Chris Starr

**Lector:** Charlotte Dittmer

**Cantor:** Vicky Harris

**Audio/Video Tech:** Scott Kuehn

**Head Usher:** Brad Hahn

**Ushers:** Jim Carlson and Eli Kuehn

**Special Music:** Dennis Davis with Vicky Harris

**Please lift these people up in prayers this week:** Tim Jenkins, Charlotte Dittmer, Linda Mullenbach, Mary Lou Platt, Stanley Butcher (brother of Deb Heuer), Mary Entinger, Steve Schmidt, Jaxson Hoffman, Bev Phifer, Mike Miller (nephew and Godson of Bev Phifer), Brad Duenow, Gloriann Wacker, LuAnn Harms, Dennis Dittmer, Marlys Rehmann, Sandra Brenhaug, Dori Swedberg (mother of Katherine Grant), Lisa Style, Brian Mikolichek, Hazel Gruenwaldt, Erik Murray (nephew and Godchild of Gloria Gustafson), Carol Carver, Brayden Gildea (a GSL 9<sup>th</sup> grader, son of Jim and Kari Gildea, and nephew of Shaun and Charity Gildea), Tom Rozeske (father of Tami Alsleben), Beau Brelje (GSL 4<sup>th</sup> grader), Marie Kliche (mother of Nancy Kliche, Gary Brown (friend of Joanne Chrast), and Eydie Knoll (sister of Millie Dreier).

**Please pray for our deployed military people:** Ryan Schrempp.

## THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

**Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>**, In-person Worship Service @ 9:00 a.m.; listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7; Sunday School for PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade @ 10:10 a.m.; Adult Education in person and via Zoom @ 10:15 a.m.

**Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**, Quilting @ 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. (two groups meeting for one hour each); televised worship @ 3:00 p.m. on channel 10; Adult Cub Scout Leaders @ 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**,

**Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**, “Anticipating Sunday” Bible Study via Zoom @ 8:00 a.m.; Women’s Bible Study in the Great Room at Grand Meadows @ 9:30 a.m.; Lenten Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary – sign up online with SignUp Genius or call the office; televised Worship Service @ 2:00 p.m. on Channel 10; Bell Choir @ 5:30 p.m.; Lenten Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary – sign up online with SignUp Genius or call the office.

**Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**, Worship with Holy Communion @ 10:30 am @ Grand Meadows.

**Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**, Women’s Bible Study via Zoom @ 10:00 a.m.

**Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**,

**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**, In-person Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9:00 a.m.; listen to service in the parking lot @ FM 97.7; Sunday School for PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade @ 10:10 a.m.; Adult Education in person and via Zoom @ 10:15 a.m.; Minnesota Valley Conference Assembly @ 2:00 p.m. online and @ Sibley East Elementary School, Gaylord – only our Conference representatives are able to vote, but the Assembly is open for anyone to attend – our Conference voting reps are Eldean & Nita Enderson, Jon & Jodi Braband, Daris & Kathy Remus, and Alex Menning, youth representative; First Communion Class, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall.



### Congratulations on the New Arrival!

Congratulations to Nathan and Kaitlyn Woytcke on the birth of their baby boy, Wesley August. He was born on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Wesley weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz., measured 22 inches tall, and joins big sister, Elaina.

### Adult Education Series

Dr. John Bergseng is leading an Adult Education series entitled, “Becoming a Reconciler,” and classes are at 10:15 a.m. in person in the sanctuary and via Zoom. Linda Simonson is the onsite leader, and Dennis Davis is the AV Technician. Masks are required as well as social distancing. Copies of the workbook are in the entryway of the church near the mailbox.



### Wednesday Morning Bible Studies



**“Anticipating Sundays” Bible Study is at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesdays via Zoom. Women’s Bible Study meets on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.** Contact Pastor Katherine for more information about these groups. The lessons for this week will be Exodus 20:1-7; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; and John 2:13-22.





## Early Bird Discount Ends March 1<sup>st</sup>!

Register for summer camp before March 1<sup>st</sup> to get the Early Bird Discount – \$40 off each registration! This summer’s theme is “Guided by The Light.” Learn about GLLM’s plans for a safe and fun summer on their website at <https://www.gllm.org/summer-camp.html>.

## Last Day for Noisy Pail Offering for KIDZ!

Missions and Social Concerns held a **Noisy Pail Offering for KIDZ (formerly Kids Against Hunger)** on Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. If you missed it, there is a pail located at the back of the sanctuary for donations this morning. As always, thank you for your support of our ministries.



Mission Team: *Karin Ramige, Cheryl McDougall, Nancy Dolezal, Dianne VonBerge, Becky Olmstead, and Daris Remus*

## Lenten Services on Wednesdays at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Premeditated *Mercy*  
The Way of *Transformation*  
A Lenten Journey of Deepening Love



**Week 2: A Journey of Courage & Trust**

**Week 3: The Times of Trial**

**Week 4: Invitation to the Garden**

**Week 5: True Riches**

**Maundy Thursday: Rhythms of Life**

**Good Friday: Other Gardens**

**Easter Sunday: Transformation**

This year we will be providing an afternoon Worship at 1:30 p.m. for all of our Lenten Services in addition to the 7:00 p.m. Worship. All Lenten Services will be held in the Sanctuary. A SignUp Genius is available online for both services at [www.christluth.com](http://www.christluth.com) or call the office at 320-864-4549.

## Quilting on Mondays

**The Quilters meet on Mondays in two, one-hour shifts.** The first group meets at 12:30, and the second group meets at 2:30. This allows time for clean-up and sanitizing in between groups.

Please call Erena Scharpe at 320-864-3341 to schedule your shift and to let her know what you would like to do. If there is no answer, please leave a message. Please follow church guidelines by wearing masks, socially distancing, and bringing your own beverages.





## Worship Assistants Needed!

Are you able to serve as a Worship Assistant? We are looking for ushers, cantors, lectors, and cantor/lectors during March for Sundays and Wednesdays. A sign-up sheet is located on the coffee bar in the narthex or you may sign up online using SignUp Genius.

If you have questions about what the various responsibilities are, please call Vicky Harris at 320-327-2728. Thank you!

## Stewardship at Christ Lutheran

During this challenging time, Christ Lutheran members have generously contributed to the work and ministry of our community. Thank you for your faithful stewardship. You may also use the Online Giving button at [www.christluth.com](http://www.christluth.com) and choose the way you would like to donate.

This is an ideal time to sign up for SimplyGiving. For instructions, go to our website, [www.christluth.com](http://www.christluth.com). You can also mail your offering or drop it off in the locked Christ Lutheran mailbox. Thank you for your support!



## March Mission Emphasis is the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf



*Watch the next issue of "Light & Life" for more information about the Mission and Social Concern Committee's March emphasis at Christ Lutheran.*

The Food Shelf's distribution hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. But there are other options for people. A pre-order can be called in, and curbside pickup is available.

Most needed items requested by the Food Shelf are:

- **Whole grains** – Cereal, grains, crackers, pasta, and rice
- **Fruits and vegetables** – Canned and dry (low sodium, no added sugar), garden fresh
- **Proteins** – Nuts and nut butters, canned meats, and canned and dry beans
- **Cooking and baking items** – Condiments and assorted flours
- **Meals and sides**
- **Personal care and household items**

Financial support may be mailed or dropped off at MEFS, 808 12<sup>th</sup> St E, Glencoe, MN 55336 or processed electronically at [www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org/donate](http://www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org/donate) (via PayPal). Cash donations are needed to buy hamburger, cheese, eggs, and other necessary food items for a balanced diet. Cash donations can be put in a mission envelope. Checks can be made out to Christ Lutheran and write on memo line "for the food shelf."