



Josefa de Ayala (Portuguese, ca. 1630-1684) (Artist)  
ca. 1670-1684  
oil on canvas

He was destined before the foundation  
of the world but was made manifest  
at the end of the times for your sake.

1 Peter 1:20

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOURTH WEEK IN LENT**

*Lamb of God*

March 22, 2023

7:00 p.m.

*\*Please stand as you are able*  
***The Service begins in silence.***

Chime with one minute of silence.

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

“You Are Holy”

**ELW #525**

**\*INVOCATION**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble**

<sup>3</sup>and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction;**

<sup>18</sup>they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

<sup>19</sup>**Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;**

<sup>20</sup>he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.**

<sup>22</sup>And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

**\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

While we still were sinners, Christ died for us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God promises to heal us and forgive us. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*[Silence for reflection and self-examination.]*

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.  
For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **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**

God of Compassion,  
**you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. John 8:12-20**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'  
<sup>13</sup>Then the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.'  
<sup>14</sup>Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going.'  
<sup>15</sup>You judge by human standards; I judge no one.  
<sup>16</sup>Yet even if I do judge, my judgement is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father\* who sent me.  
<sup>17</sup>In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid.  
<sup>18</sup>I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.'  
<sup>19</sup>Then they said to him, 'Where is your Father?'  
Jesus answered, 'You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.'  
<sup>20</sup>He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

This is the Word of the Lord, we say: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Pastor Elizabeth*

**\*HYMN**

"Lamb of God"

**ELW # 336**

**\*THE FUNERAL ACCLAMATION**

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**\*THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you** (Sharing of the Peace).

## OFFERING

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

*[Offering plates will be passed to church members in each pew.]*

*[Children are invited to come forward to place their offering in "Christ's Well".]*

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God,

**You walk beside us in desert places. Accompany us on our Lenten journey, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### \*OUR 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.**

### \*BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✚ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

### \*SENDING HYMN

"O Light Whose Splendor Thrills"

**ELW # 563**

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Thank you to the Confirmation students who assisted with our Worship Service today.***

**Please lift these people up in prayers this week. Is God moving your heart to send a card to a loved one in your own family?** Charlotte Dittmer, Dennis Hendrickson (father of Connie Duenow), Nancy Mellesmoen, Bob Iverson, David Reiners (brother of Joanne Chrast), Jeanne Klitzke (great grandmother of Jesse Hardel and mother of Donna Hardel), Janice Engel, Sandra Brenhaug, Lisa Busche (daughter of Mike and Jann Savre), Allen Nelson (brother of Charlotte Dittmer), Kelly Higgins, Joy Macheel (daughter of Jon and Jodi Braband), Lloyd Duenow (father of Brad Duenow), Bill Heuer, Marilyn Ueland, Kristen Heldt,

Richard Dolezal, Lois Tritz, Brent Lindemann (stepfather of Audrey Howell), LaDonna Oberlin, Stanley Butcher (brother of Deb Heuer), Mary Entinger, LuAnn Harms, Dori Swedberg (mother of Katherine Grant), Lisa Style, Brian Mikolichek, Carol Carver, and Gary Brown (friend of Joanne Chrast).

### **Announcements for this week:**

**Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, Men's Bible Study @ 9:00 a.m. in the Narthex.

**Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**, Church Office closed.

**Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**, Narcotics Anonymous in the Fellowship Hall @ 6:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**, Worship Service @ 9:00 a.m.; refreshments after the Worship Service served by the Fellowship Team in honor of Church Secretary Dawn Peterson's retirement; Youth/Family Movie Event @ 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**, Televised Worship Service @ 12:00 p.m.; Quilters @ 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**, Women's Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room; Staff Meeting @ 11:30 a.m.; NA Women's Group @ 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**, Pastor's Text Study @ 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room; televised Worship Service @ 1:00 p.m. on Channel 10 @ 2:00 p.m.; final Lenten Soup Supper from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Bell Choir @ 5:30 p.m.; no Confirmation during Lent – attend the Worship Service; Choir rehearsal @ 6:10 p.m.; final Lenten Worship Service @ 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**, Men's Bible Study @ 9:00 a.m. in the Narthex; WELCA Leadership Team @ 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room; Women's Coffee @ 10:00 a.m. in the Narthex.

### **Special Meeting of the Congregation**



After receiving the recommendation of the Call Committee, the Church Council of Christ Lutheran Church is calling a Special Meeting of the Congregation for **Sunday, April 2, 2023, at 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary of Christ Lutheran Church.** The purpose of the meeting is to hear the recommendation of the Call Committee and Church Council, and to vote by written ballot to extend a Pastoral Letter of Call.

A full biography of the recommended pastor will be presented at the meeting. A two-thirds majority vote of eligible voting members of the congregation, present and voting, is needed to extend a Letter of Call.

### **Easter Devotionals are Here!**

There are Easter Devotionals available on the table in the hallway off of the Narthex with the other devotionals. You are invited to help yourself to a copy.

## Bible Study Lessons

**Women's Bible Study** meets Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. **Men's Bible Study** meets Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Narthex. All men and women from Christ Lutheran are invited to attend. Scripture lessons from the upcoming Sunday Worship Service are the subject of the Bible Study. **Lessons for this week will be** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; and John 11:1-45.



**Join us NEXT WEEK – Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>!**



Our Confirmation Students and Families will be serving us a warm, delicious meal for our **LAST Lenten Soup Supper** before Worship. Serving 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Menu:

**Cheddar Potato Soup**  
**"Darn Good" Chili**  
**Homemade Dinner Rolls**  
**Ham/Turkey & Cheese Sandwiches**  
**Desserts**  
**Coffee/Milk**

**Cost:** \$5/adults, \$3/students, cap of \$20/family. **All proceeds from the Lenten Soup Suppers help support Christian Education & Youth activities.**

**Lenten Worship Services at 7:00 p.m.**

Lenten Worship Services will be at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>**. Worship Assistants will be Confirmation students. Confirmation students are required to attend the Lenten Worship Services.



**Church Secretary, Dawn Peterson, is Retiring!**



Join us as we celebrate with Dawn and thank her for her dedicated service to Christ Lutheran! **The Fellowship Team will be serving refreshments in Dawn's honor after worship on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**Youth/Family Movie Get-together**

Grab your pillows and blankets and join us **Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be watching "The Star" movie. We will have popcorn, candy, water, and lemonade available. Bring your own snacks/drinks/etc. if you'd like.





## Worship Assistants for Holy Week

Are you available to serve as a worship assistant during Holy Week? YOU ARE NEEDED to serve as a Worship Assistant! Sign-up sheets are located on the long table near the elevator in the Narthex.

### Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School Students (Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) will walk into Worship with Palms. There is no Sunday School on Palm Sunday.



### Easter Morning Breakfast Donations



If you are willing to donate supplies for the 2023 Easter Breakfast, PLEASE check out the chalkboard in the Narthex. **Remember** to take the *TOP* reminder tag and sign your name to tag on the *BOTTOM* so that we know who has taken a donation slip. *Thank you for your generosity and support!* Donations should be returned to CLC by: **Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.**

### Easter Breakfast Set-up/Sunrise Worship Rehearsal

Confirmation students are asked to help set up for Easter Breakfast at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>**. After breakfast set-up, we will have Sunrise Worship Service rehearsal.



### Easter Worship Services on April 9<sup>th</sup>



There will be two Worship Services on Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – both with Holy Communion.

#### Easter Sunrise Worship Service at 6:30 a.m.:

Confirmation students will sign up to help with Worship. Fourth-grade First Communion students will help bring items to the Altar during Worship.

Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.: Confirmation students will sign up for shifts to help with the Easter Breakfast. Watch for a sign-up for families/congregation to donate food items.



Easter Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.: The second Easter Worship Service begins at 9:00 a.m.

### Part-time Positions at Christ Lutheran

Christ Lutheran is looking to fill these part-time positions:



- Adult Choir Director
- Bell Choir Director

For more information and an application contact Pastor Elizabeth at [pastorelizabeth@christluth.com](mailto:pastorelizabeth@christluth.com).