



C H R I S T
L U T H E R A N
C H U R C H

Gathering in Worship, Growing in
God's Word, Serving in Jesus' name

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First Sunday of Advent
Service of the Word
November 26, 2023

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We are glad that you are here to worship with us today! Please sign the pew booklets in the pews. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself and sign our guest book in the narthex along with the pew booklet.

Service of the Word begins on page 210 in the red hymnal.

*** *Please stand as you are able.***

† *Please be seated.*

Prelude: Jeff Iverson

GATHERING

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

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Kohout Family

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

*** *Gathering Song***

“Fling Wide the Door”

ELW # 259

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God, **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation’s bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God’s covenant is eternal, and God’s blessing rests upon us all. **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.**

Kyrie

ELW pg. 213

Canticle of Praise

ELW pg. 213

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** Let us pray:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. **By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

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

✠First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7,17-19

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

²before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

³Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁴O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

¹⁷**But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

¹⁸Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here ends the readings. Thanks be to God.

* **Gospel Acclamation** “Alleluia, Lord to Whom...” **ELW pg. 216**

Hear now the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark – this is the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

✳️ **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

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

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

✳️ **Offering Hymn** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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

* Blessing

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

“The King Shall Come”

ELW # 260

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Organist Name



A special thank you to all who assisted with our worship service today:

Organist: Vicky Harris

Head Usher: Connie Duenow

Cantor: Katherine Grant

Ushers: Bob Tibbits, Steve Olmstead

Lector: Carla Kuehn

Audio/Visual: Mckenzie Ebert

Acolyte: Emma Kohout

Greeters: Louise Carlson

Kitchen Guild: Joanne Chrast

Refreshments: Shaun & Tiffany Simonson

Altar Guild: Kayla Muenchow, Rachel Strobel

Need to contact a staff member? Find their information below:

Pastor	Rev. Erik Karlson	pastor@christluth.com	(507)766-5870
Administrative Assistant	Megan Hoffman	office@christluth.com	(320)864-4549
Information and Media Technology Coordinator	Mckenzie Ebert	it@christluth.com	(320)864-3099

Please lift these people up in prayers this week: Loren Mueller, Dennis Hendrickson (father of Connie Duenow), Bob Iverson, Jeanne Klitzke (grand-mother of Jesse Hardel and mother of Donna Hardel), Lisa Busche (daughter of Mike and Jann Savre), Joy Macheel (daughter of Jon and Jodi Braband), Lloyd Duenow (father of Brad Duenow), Bill Heuer, Marilyn Ueland, Richard Dolezal, Lois Tritz, Brent Lindemann (stepfather of Audrey Howell), LaDonna Oberlin, Mary Entinger, Brian Mikolichek, Carol Carver, Pamela Perrin (sister of Nancy Mellesmoen), Wayne and Carolyn Hegna (brother of Kathy Marsh), Dianne VonBerge, Gloria Gustafson, LuAnn Harms, Ray Hoernemann (Brother of LuAnn Harms), Bruce Miller, Laura Mackenthun (Daughter of Dennis and Linda Roisum).

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Sunday, November 26, First Sunday of Advent Worship Service @ 9 AM in the Sanctuary; Adult Education Forum @ 10:30 AM in the Conference Room.

Monday, November 27, Televised Worship Service @ 3 PM on Channel 10.

Tuesday, November 28, Women’s Bible Study @ 10 AM in the Conference Room;
NA Women’s Group @ 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, November 29, Pastoral Text Study @ 1 PM in the Fireside Room; Televised Worship Service @ 2 PM on Channel 10; Bell Choir @ 5:15 PM in the Sanctuary; Confirmation @ 5:50 PM in the Fellowship Hall; ROCK Wednesday @ 5:50 PM in the Fellowship Hall; Choir @ 6 PM in the Chapel; Wednesday Advent Worship @ 7 PM in the Sanctuary.

Thursday, November 30, Men's Bible Study @ 9 AM in the Conference Room; WELCA Leadership Meeting @ 9 AM in the Narthex; Women's Coffee @ 10 AM in the Narthex.

Friday, December 1, Office Closed

Saturday, December 2, Narcotics Anonymous @ 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, December 3, Advent Worship Service with Holy Communion @ 9 AM in the Sanctuary; Adult Education Forum @ 10:30 AM in the Conference Room; Healing Connections @ 6:30 PM in the Narthex.

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Find out what's going on at Christ Lutheran

Thank You from the Missions Team

Thank you to everyone who donated cereal and pasta for the October wheelbarrow drive. We collected 38 boxes of cereal and 44 packages of pasta for a total of 85 pounds. This was an awesome response, and we are so thankful for your generosity.

- The Mission Team

Holiday Healing Connection

A gathering for those who have experienced loss. A time to come together to share stories of grief and loss as well as joyful memories and hope. All are welcome to join us in the narthex for fellowship and refreshments on Sunday evening, December 3, from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Sponsored by the Fellowship Team. Contact the church office if you have questions.

Crow River Singers

Crow River Singers present 'Love's Pure Light'. Join us for our performances on December 1st at New Journey UCC at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday December 3rd at Peace Lutheran Church at 2:00 p.m. More information on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Bulletin, Newsletter, and Worship Service Deadlines

In an effort to ensure that worship services plans can be finalized, and that the bulletins and newsletters can be edited and reviewed, in a timely manner, we are posting official deadlines for submission. We thank everyone for helping us make these productions as wonderful as we can!

Newsletter Deadline: Tuesdays @ 10 AM

Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Wednesdays @ 12 PM

Worship Service Additions or Alterations: 7 days prior to the affected service

Monthly Giving Report

It has been decided to include a brief report on where CLC stands with its budgeted giving amounts vs the actual giving amounts for the year. We hope this information is helpful, feel free to provide us with feedback!

<i>Actual Offering (Through October 31, 2023)</i>	<i>\$309,417.39</i>
<i>Budgeted Giving (Through October 31, 2023)</i>	<i>\$327,416.66</i>
<i>Giving Behind Budget</i>	<i>-\$17,999.27</i>

MINISTRIES

Ministries are how we make a change and interact with the community. Here you will find updates, announcements, and highlights from CLC run or supported ministries

Vryheid Mission Update

The Missions team wishes to thank everyone who donated so generously to our Vryheid partners in South Africa. Thanks to you we collected a total of \$11,534.10. This will be so helpful to them in their ongoing missions. As always, we are amazed at the generosity of our congregation. Thank you.

November Mission Emphasis

The mission emphasis for November is the McLeod County Emergency Food Shelf. We will have an ingathering of non-perishable food or money donations Wednesday, November 22nd at the Thanksgiving Eve worship service. Bring your non-perishable food items to this service. If you cannot make it to this service, we will be collecting food the whole month of November and you can bring it to the church and leave it in the grocery cart in the Entryway.

Suggested items wanted at the food shelf are hot cereals, powdered milk, crackers, canned meat, mac & cheese, canned vegetables, tomato products, personal care items, tuna, soups, pasta, pork & beans, peanut butter, canned stews, etc. Cash donations are needed to buy hamburger, cheese, eggs, and other necessary food items that are not donated. This helps fill the gaps for a balanced meal. Cash donations can be put in the mission envelope and made out to Christ Lutheran Church. Write on the memo line that it is for the food shelf.

We will also be continuing to collect for the Lutheran World Relief World Hunger mission. Your donations are greatly needed. Thank you for your help.

- Mission & Social Concerns Committee

Laundry Love October Update

Laundry Love Glencoe on October 17th provided assistance to 40 families/individuals in doing their laundry. \$760 was this month's cost.

This outreach is only possible because of the generosity of Christ Lutheran Church and its members. The appreciative words we hear from those people we provide for warms our hearts. The friendship and fellowship we provide truly makes a difference. If you would like to help with Laundry Love on the third Tuesdays of each month let us know.

Your help is always appreciated. October's volunteers were Jane Larter, Gloria Lovett, Linda Simonson, Kathy Olson, and Cheryl McDougall.

Diapers Collection Drive for Common Cup Ministries

We are now collecting donations for our Diaper Distribution Program. We are accepting diapers in September and October. All sizes and brands are accepted. Sizes that are most in need are 5s, 6s, and 7s. Our diaper program provides free diapers to families in need. Diapers are given out on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 4pm-6pm at our Hutchinson Location. On the 3rd Tuesday of the month diapers are given out at the Glencoe City Center from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Diapers will be given out at both locations on the last Tuesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more info call 320-587-2213 or visit www.commoncup.com.

Common Cup Warm Coat Distribution Update

Common Cup Ministry Warm Coat Distribution in October was a success. Nearly 400 coats, over 130 snow pants and 115 boots were given out. Loads of quality donations as well as monetary donations, a grant from GSL Schools, and numerous other organizations made this possible. Christ Lutheran Church members once again showed their love for others by participating in a big way. The continued support and generosity of our church, and its members, makes a significant difference in the lives of others. Common Cup Ministries thank you.