



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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**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Setting Three with Holy Communion**  
March 10, 2024

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.

Setting Three begins on page 138 in the red hymnal.

\* *Please stand as you are able.*

† *Please be seated.*

Prelude: Vicky Harris

**GATHERING**

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

**Welcome**

\* **Gathering Song**      “Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

**ELW # 592**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God, **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ. **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. 138**

**Glory to God**

**ELW pg. 139**

**Prayer of the Day**

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

O God, rich in mercy, **by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect 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.**

## **WORD**

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

### **✠First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

### **Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**                      “Return to the Lord”                      **ELW pg. 142**  
Hear now the Holy Gospel according to St. John – this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.  
***Glory to you, O Lord.***

### **Gospel: John 3:14-21**

<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the

Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

*The Gospel of our Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

✠ **Sermon**

*Rev. Erik Karlson*

**Hymn of the Day**

“Lift High the Cross”

**ELW # 660**

✳ **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.**

**Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **STEWARDED 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".]*

**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**

**Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### The Great Thanksgiving

ELW pg. 144

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### *PROPER PREFACE*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### Words of Institution

#### 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.**

#### ✠ Distribution of Communion "Lamb Of God"

ELW # 146

*[As we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, all who believe they receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the form of bread and wine, forgiveness of sin and renewal therein are welcome at this table. It is the meal of all the Baptized. Please follow the direction of the Ushers.]*

### Communion Hymns

ELW # 779, 334, 599

#### \* Prayer after Communion

**Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

## SENDING

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

#### ❖ Temple Talk – Missions Team

Dawn Peterson

### Announcements

#### \* Benediction

**Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace. Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Walk with Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: Vicky Harris****A special thank you to all who assisted with our worship service today:****Organist:** Vicky Harris**Head Usher:** Becky Peterson**Cantor:** Katherine Grant**Ushers:** Dennis Wendlandt, Scott Kuehn**Lector:** Lucia Beste Zehnder**Audio/Visual:** Mckenzie Ebert**Kitchen Guild:** Connie Duenow**Greeters:** Chad & Erin Sauter**Altar Guild:** Kathy Remus, Diane Adrian **Refreshments:****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), Joy Macheel (daughter of Jon and Jodi Braband), Lloyd Duenow (father of Brad Duenow), Bill Heuer, Marilyn Ueland, Richard Dolezal, Brent Lindemann (stepfather of Audrey Howell), Mary Entinger, Carol Carver, Wayne and Carolyn Hegna (brother of Kathy Marsh), Gloria Gustafson, LuAnn Harms, Bruce Miller, Laura Mackenthun (Daughter of Dennis and Linda Roisum), Karen Wendlandt, Bev Phifer, Karen Sylwester, Jay Braband (Brother of Jon Braband), Bonnie Hahn, Mark Becker (Brother of Jonathan Becker), Cathy Haaskenson, Shawn Davis (Son of Dennis and Chris).

**THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN****Sunday, March 10,** Worship Service with Communion @ 9 AM in the Sanctuary.**Monday, March 11,** Christ Lutheran Quilters @ 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall;

Televised Worship Service @ 3 PM on Channel 10.

**Tuesday, March 12,** Women's Bible Study @ 10 AM in the Conference Room; NA Women's Group @ 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.**Wednesday, March 13,** Pastoral Text Study @ 11 AM in the Fireside Room; Praise Band Practice @ 4 PM in the Chapel; Bell Choir @ 5:15 PM in the Sanctuary; Lenten Soup Supper @ 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall; Choir @ 6 PM in the Sanctuary; Lenten Wednesday Night Worship Service @ 7 PM in the Sanctuary.**Thursday, March 14,** Men's Bible Study @ 9 AM in the Conference Room; Rachel Circle @ 9 AM at Grand Meadows.**Friday, March 15, Office Closed**

**Saturday, March 16**, Narcotics Anonymous @ 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, March 17**, Service of the Word @ 9 AM in the Sanctuary.

## **CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES**

*Find out what's going on at Christ Lutheran*

### **First Holy Communion Starts Today!**

Christ Lutheran Church will be celebrating the First Holy Communion for 4th graders and up who have not had the instruction on Sunday, April 21, 2024, during the regular worship service. Instruction for those who wish to participate will be held on Sundays March 10th and March 17th after worship. Parents and guardians of the invited youth are highly encouraged to attend learning about the Sacrament of the Altar and the Lutheran understanding of how we are invested in it. We will later on meet as a group on Saturday, April 20th in the morning to bake our own individual unleavened bread with the help of Mary Metag. For more information, or to sign up, please contact Pr. Erik or Megan Hoffman in our church office.

### **2024 Wednesday Night Lenten Soup Suppers**



The Lenten Soup Suppers for 2024 will be:

**March 13th, and March 20th**

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.**

Each week the Confirmation students, families, and ministry teams will be serving a variety of soups, sandwiches, homemade buns, and desserts. Please plan to join us for a warm delicious meal and enjoy some fellowship before the Wednesday Evening Lenten Service @ 7:00 pm. There will be a free will offering basket during the meal.

***All proceeds from the Lenten Soup Suppers help support Christian Education & Youth activities.***

### **Easter Day Preparations Have Begun!**

Preparations for Easter Day have begun! On Sunday, March 31st, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will be holding two worship services that day – a Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM and the normal Easter Day Service at 9 AM. In between these two services we will be holding a breakfast meal in the Fellowship hall.

A Worship Assistant sign-up sheet for these two services is on the table outside of the Sanctuary. This Sunday we will also be putting out the food donation board for the Easter breakfast. Pairs of slips with various food items are attached to the board. If you are able to donate the item listed on a slip, take the top slip for yourself as a reminder. Sign the bottom slip and leave it in the basket next to the board so we can know who is bringing each item. Thank you for all your help in this!

## **NOTICE FOR FUNERAL VOLUNTEERS: Update Your Contact Information**

If you have signed up to help with funerals or wish to in the future, please check with Fran Huwe or Linda Simonson to ensure that we have the correct information to reach you and the preferred method of contact. Thank you!

### **Praise Band Practice**

The Praise Band will be practicing this Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 4 PM in the Chapel.

### **Christian Education Coordinator Position Open!**

We are seeking an energetic and motivated individual to join our team at Christ Lutheran Church! The CE Coordinator is a 25 hour/week position. Our Christian Education Coordinator will collaborate with the Pastor and Christian Education Team, creating, planning, and implementing education programs for all groups at Christ Lutheran Church to strengthen their relationship with God, peers, family, and the church. If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact the church office at 320-864-4549 or email: [office@christluth.com](mailto:office@christluth.com). Please feel free to spread the word or refer a friend!



### **March Mission Focus: McLeod Emergency Food Shelf, Cooking and Baking Items**

Each March, the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf (MEFS) participates in the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign. Every dollar and pound collected gets multiplied by the Food Fund. The MEFS saw a nearly 20%

increase in 2023 over the previous year, a record high in its 40-year history. 714,907 pounds of food were distributed to 5,791 individuals and 2,152 households across the county.

The majority of the financial support for MEFS is received directly from the generous individuals, businesses, organizations, churches (including Christ Lutheran) and schools in and around McLeod County.

This month, we will also focus on cooking and baking items such as flour, sugar, oils, spices, cream soups, etc. These items often don't fit into the food shelf's budget.

We collected donated 105 pounds of pancake mix, syrup and other items in February. Thank you, Christ Lutheran, for your continued generosity!!!

### **We Need Your Help to Make Personal Care Kits**

Christ Lutheran Women are collecting items to make Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. The kits will be delivered to Lutheran World Relief and then delivered to people in need around the world and the U.S. Collecting will begin on Feb. 25th continuing throughout March.

*Please consider donating the items below, or a cash donation for the purchase of these items.*



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

**INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT**



ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended.

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping.

ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*

ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging.

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging.

\*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope, no plastic bags or wrap

When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting supplies and the chance for our neighbors in need to regain dignity amidst fear and uncertainty.

### **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 February 29, 2024)</i>	<i>\$77,549.68</i>
<i>Budgeted Giving (Through February 29, 2024)</i>	<i>\$67,378.20</i>
<i>Giving Ahead of Budget</i>	<i>\$10,171.48</i>

### **Sunday Acolytes**

Students don't forget to keep signing up for Sunday Acolyte slots! Our Acolytes are a crucial part of our worship services and help keep everything flowing smoothly. Find the signup form on our Worship Assistants webpage ([christluth.com/worship/worship-assistants](http://christluth.com/worship/worship-assistants)) or our Confirmation webpage ([christluth.com/confirmation](http://christluth.com/confirmation)).



### **February Laundry Love Update**

Laundry Love for the month of February served 17 individuals/families. A total of \$360 dollars was used for this month's mission. Volunteers were Barb Jenneke, Cheryl McDougall, Connie Heitz, Jane Larter, and Karin Ramige. We want to thank the food shelf for sharing a large amount of bakery goods to be shared with those attending. As always there were many smiles, thank yous, and kind words shared with us from those whom we were serving. Laundry Love is a feel good event! Have you considered volunteering, or writing a Thrivent Grant for funds? Let the church office know and they will share your name with us.

### **Worship Assistant Schedule**

Looking for the worship assistant schedule? There are a number of different places to find it! Each month we post the upcoming schedule on the Informational Hub bulletin

board (to the left of the Sanctuary doors) and online at [christluth.com/worship/worship-assistants](http://christluth.com/worship/worship-assistants). If you subscribe to our weekly newsletter, we also include a few weeks of the worship assistant schedule there. Contact Megan our Administrative Assistant or Mckenzie our IT Coordinator if you have any questions!

### **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.*