

# Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

January 19, 2025

## Second Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. Joleen Gleasman

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Member of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
(ELCA – [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org))



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### All Are Welcome – All the Time!

You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to participate in any part of worship.

If you wish to take communion, we ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus.

His body and blood were given and shed for you.



Christ Lutheran Church & PreSchool is a community committed to the work of equity and inclusion, bringing justice and support for all of God's beloveds. We welcome those who are seeking God's love and grace for the first time or as a life-long believer. We welcome because Jesus shows us how to welcome, regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, economic resources, relationship status, health challenges or anything else that too often divides us. It is in our welcome which we commit ourselves to being an anti-racist space, a space where we seek daily to deepen our work of inclusion in the life of our church. Our unity is in Christ. All are welcome here.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS**

*By Kathy Davis, who will provide updated Prayers of Intercession*

## **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.**

*Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

*– Silence for reflection –*

*Most merciful God,*

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,  
by what we have done and what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may  
delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in our hearts. **Amen.**

## **SONG: He Comes to Us As One Unknown, ELW #737**

*Verses 1, 4 & 5; Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal.*

He comes to us as one unknown, a breath unseen, unheard:  
As though within a heart of stone, or shriveled seed in darkness sown,  
a pulse of being stirred, a pulse of being stirred.

He comes in love as once he came, by flesh and blood and birth;  
To bear within our mortal frame a life, a death, a saving name,  
for every child of earth, for every child of earth.

He comes in truth when faith is grown; believed, obeyed, adored;  
The Christ in all the scriptures shown, as yet unseen, but not unknown,  
Our Savior and our Lord, Our Savior and our Lord.

### **GREETING**

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

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith  
by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people.  
Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **READING – Isaiah 62:1-5**

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her  
vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations  
shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new  
name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand  
of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be  
termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her and your land Married, for  
the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as  
the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

## **RESPONSIVE READING – 36:5-10**

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
**your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;  
**your judgments are like the great deep;**

You save humans and animals alike, O Lord.  
**How precious is your steadfast love, O God!**

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
**They feast on the abundance of your house,**

and you give them drink from the river of your delights.  
**For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.**

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you  
**and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

## **READING – 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

– Please stand as you are able –

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG) – ELW 172**

Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Halle, halle, halle – lujah.  
Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah!

## **THE GOSPEL – John 2:1-11**

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.”

So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

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

## **SERMON – Rev. Joleen Gleasman**

## **SONG: I Know that My Redeemer Lives, ELW #619**

*Verses 1, 4, 5 & 6; Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal*

I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head!

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives to bless me with his love; He lives to please for me above;  
He lives my hungry should to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend; He lives and loves me to the end:  
He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; He lives, my prophet, priest and king!

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

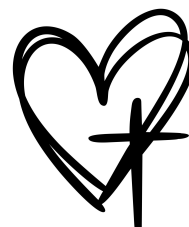
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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** *(on separate sheet)*

*God of grace... Receive our prayer.*



## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

*– Please share a greeting or sign of peace –*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks & praise.**



## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION** *(not printed/Presider's book on altar)*

### **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 AT THE FRONT**

**All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion.** You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ. Those who are interested will be invited by an usher to come up the center aisle to the front to select a single-serving Communion kit from the tray, or to receive a blessing. Then return to your seat via the side aisle to open the kit and partake in Communion. An usher will offer a basket to collect the container. *For those worshipping at home, please consider joining in Holy Communion by taking a bit of bread or cracker and a sip of wine or juice.* **All are welcome.**

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

#### **BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **SONG: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise, ELW #310**

*Verses 1 & 4; Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal*

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
Manifested by the star, to the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem, in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Grant us peace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;  
Grace to imitate thee now, and be pure, as pure art thou;  
That we might become like thee, at thy great epiphany,  
and may praise thee, ever blest. God in flesh made manifest.

## **DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Congregation Meeting** – Likely February 2 after Sunday worship. Materials will be provided prior. Thank you for making plans to participate – it will only take about 30 minutes or so and you can enjoy cake and coffee as we talk.
- **Thank You for the Gift Bags** – Holly and Theresa worked with the PreSchool and our congregation to create gift bags for approximately 60 children (and one puppy) served by Sue's Pantry here in Vernon Hills. Thank you for your generosity.
- **Supporting the Homeless** – Thank you to all who sent items for the camp near Pastor Padraig's home in Chicago. There was so much we must send a second load. Thank you!
- **Caring Hands** – 9a to Noon on the following Saturdays: February 15, March 15, April 12, May 17, June 21, September 20, October 18, November 15. Making prayer shawls, comfort blankets, hats/mittens. ([CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com](mailto:CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com))
- **Donating to Wildfire Victims** – ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the oldest, most effective and most respected organizations for getting money where it can be put to good use. Donate at [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org). There is also a link on our website under "WORK."
- **Scouting!** – Boys and girls ages Kindergarten through high school have an opportunity to build skills and have fun through Scouting. Thanks for supporting our Pack/Troop 273!
- **PreSchool Prayers** – Keep the children, families and staff of our PreSchool in prayer.
- **Support for Anelly** – Our ministry partner Anelly, a young mother of two who has supported refugees in Chicago, has a recurrence of cancer and other challenges. Please lift her in prayer and consider supporting the Meal Train ([HollySJ@earthlink.net](mailto:HollySJ@earthlink.net)).
- **Sue's Pantry** – Call for toilet paper! And anything needed to keep a home and family clean – dish soap, laundry detergent, body wash, shampoo.
- **Love INC** – Housewares, nonperishables and volunteers. Want to learn more? Have a family in need of a bundle of clothes or housewares? Give the details to Natalie she will get us covered! (Thanks, Natalie.) (<https://loveinclakecounty.org/>)
- **COOL Ministries** – We support the COOL pantry in Waukegan with non-perishables. Collection bins in hallway or give online. ([CoolMinistries.org](http://CoolMinistries.org))
- **Prayer concerns?** Consider reaching out so that our network of Prayer Warriors can pray. You may remain anonymous. Email [ChristLutheranVH@aol.com](mailto:ChristLutheranVH@aol.com) with your request. Would you join with us in prayer? Send an email to be included on the prayer mailing list. The task is simple-but-powerful – when time permits, open the email and read/pray with us.
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** Your presence in worship is very important. Thank you for being part of this community of faith. If you would like to support our service, we welcome donations, which can be provided by credit card or Paypal through the link at the bottom of our webpage, [ChristLutheranVH.org](http://ChristLutheranVH.org). Thank you!