

# Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

March 9, 2025

## First Sunday in Lent

Rev. Gail Heidtke

Website: [ChristLutheranVH.org](http://ChristLutheranVH.org)

Twitter: @ChristLuthVH

Facebook: /ChristLutheranVH

Church: 847-367-5787  
[ChristLutheranVH@aol.com](mailto:ChristLutheranVH@aol.com)

Preschool: 847-367-5791  
[CLCPreschool@aol.com](mailto:CLCPreschool@aol.com)

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



---

### 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: I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, #325**

*Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal.*

I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
When my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus, to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

### **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**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the  
promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through  
the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

## **READING – Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

“When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’

“When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

“So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.”

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

## **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 25:1-10**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**O my God, in you I trust;**

Do not let me be put to shame;

**do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

**let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

**teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

**for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,

**for they have been from of old.**

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

Good and upright is the Lord;

**therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

He leads the humble in what is right

**and teaches the humble his way.**

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,

**for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

## **READING – Romans 10:8b-13**

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

– *Please stand as you are able* –

## **LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ELW #616**

**Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.**

**Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.**

## **THE GOSPEL – Luke 4:1-13**

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

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

## **SERMON – Rev. Gail Heidtke**

## **SONG: My Faith Looks Up to Thee, #759**

*Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal*

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!  
How hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away.  
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;  
As thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee  
pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

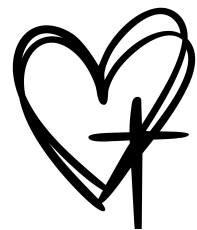
When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll;  
Blest Savior, then in love; fear and distrust remove;  
Oh, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

## **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 receive Communion or you may request a blessing. You are also welcome to remain in your seat to pray. Welcome!

**Today we will offer both single-serving Communion kits as well as a traditional distribution of bread and wine. Please choose as you feel comfortable.**

**Single-serving kits are available in the first tray.** Select a sealed cup and bring it back to your seat to open and partake. Once at your seat, peel back the top layer to find the wafer, and then the bottom seal to drink. An usher will offer a basket to collect the empty container.

**If you would like Traditional Communion,** select an empty cup from the second tray and come forward to the Pastor, who will place a piece of bread into your open hand. The assistant will then pour wine into your cup. Your empty cup may be placed in the trays at each side as you return to your seat. 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: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me, #767**

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;  
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.  
Without your grace and favor I go astray;  
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages I need not fear;  
for you, the Rock of Ages, are always near.  
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
for when your hand is guiding in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,  
I know that you will strengthen my steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!  
So take my hand and lead me unto the end.

## **DISMISSAL**

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thank you for taking part in the Congregation Meeting.** Notes are available on the information table in the Fellowship Hall or on the website ([ChristLutheranVH.org](http://ChristLutheranVH.org)).
- **Thank you, Kathy** – We especially lift up PreSchool Director Kathy Davis, who has announced her upcoming retirement.
- **Giving Statements emailed on January 19** – Reach out to [ChristLutheranVH@aol.com](mailto:ChristLutheranVH@aol.com) if you did not receive or need assistance.
- **Lenten Soup Supper** – Wed, March 26 TBD; See Penni to help ([penry4@gmail.com](mailto:penry4@gmail.com))
- **PreSchool Birthday Bash** – Saturday, April 26; Please start collecting raffle items.
- **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: 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.
- **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!