



FIRST
Sunday
IN **LENT**

The graphic features the words 'FIRST', 'Sunday', and 'IN LENT' in a mix of serif and script fonts. 'FIRST' is in a small serif font, 'Sunday' is in a large, elegant script, and 'IN LENT' is in a large, bold, black serif font. The text is set against a background of a crown of thorns, which is rendered in a light gray color and appears to be woven through the letters of 'LENT'.

First Sunday in Lent
February 21st, 2021
8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, & 10:30 AM

*Joining Jesus on His Mission:
“What is the Mission of God?”*



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Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor
Amanda Adams, DCE
Chris Francik, TLS Principal



Welcome and Opening Prayer

547 The Lamb

LSB 547



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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Stand

Divine Service Setting One, page 151

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, “To absolve of sin and wrongdoing,” more specifically, to affirm God’s forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.



Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

- P** When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
C **I will rescue him and honor him.**
P With long life I will satisfy him
C **and show him my salvation.**
P Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
C **the Most High, who is my refuge—**
P no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
C **no plague come near your tent.**
P For he will command his angels concerning you
C **to guard you in all your ways.**
P On their hands they will bear you up,
C **lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
P You will tread on the lion and the adder;
C **the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
C **I will rescue him and honor him.**
P With long life I will satisfy him
C **and show him my salvation.**



Kyrie

Mark 10:47 152

A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



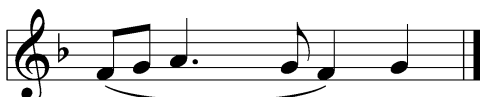
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

“Salutation” is a word from Latin meaning, “to greet.” “Collect” (KAH-lect), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also “collects” the message of the day’s Gospel reading.

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1–18

A The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 22.

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here

am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 1:12–18

A The Epistle is from James, chapter 1.

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

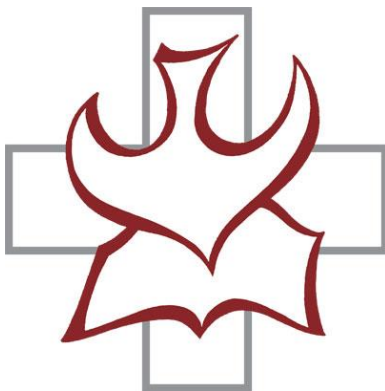
¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.



Nicene Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message (8:00 & 10:30 am only) Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16
*A message especially for children from our Director of Christian Education,
 Amanda Adams.*

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,

dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main eth.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

What is the Mission of God?

Offering

For those gathered with us in-person, an offering plate will be at the back of the room for a contactless drop-off for your gifts, tithes, and offerings as you leave today's service.

For those still joining us remotely, we have multiple options for giving. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the "My Church by PushPay" app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

If you have prayer requests, you may fill out a card from the pew and place it in the offering plate, or contact the church office (office@christlcms.org or 785-266-6263). We will include them in next week's service and share them with our prayer chain if desired.

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19 LSB 159

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

*At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, in Your mercy,"
to which the congregation will respond, "**Hear our prayer.**"*

P ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

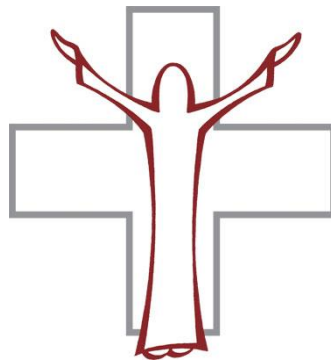
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

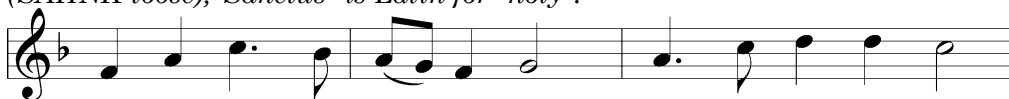
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 161

(SAHNK-toose), "Sanctus" is Latin for "holy".



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19 163

(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 163

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."

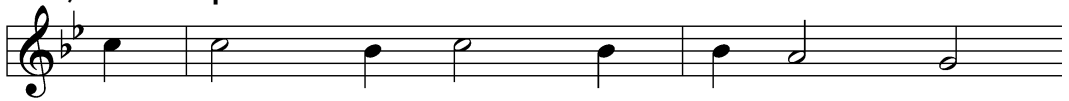
☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Communion is reserved for those who are members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or members of a church body in fellowship with the LCMS unless special arrangements have been made with the pastor. The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the front of the sanctuary due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to proceed to the front. All are invited up to receive a blessing.





1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
 2 He sent no an - gel to our race,
 3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore
 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
 Of high - er or of low - er place,
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;
 For us His dai - ly works He wrought,



That God, the Son of God, should take
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,
 For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
 By words and signs and ac - tions thus



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 And to this world Him - self He came.
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
 For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
 He bore the shameful cross and death;
 For us He gave His dying breath.

6 For us He rose from death again;
 For us He went on high to reign;
 For us He sent His Spirit here
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△ 7 All glory to our Lord and God
 For love so deep, so high, so broad;
 The Trinity whom we adore
 Forever and forevermore.

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418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
 fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.
 skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
 ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

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424 O Christ, You Walked the Road

LSB 424



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
 2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
 3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.
 4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,
 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
 Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
 Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.
 Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.
 Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

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Stand

Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 165

(NUNK dih-MIH-tuss). Latin for "now [let your servant] depart," from the Song of Simeon.



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Luther's Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26 166

A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Acknowledgments

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809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

LSB 809



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Refrain
 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday February 21st	7:45 am 8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Donut Drive-Thru Worship Service w/ Communion Children's & Youth Sunday School Joining Jesus Small Group (Pastor Ben) Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades)
Monday February 22nd		
Tuesday February 23rd	6:00 pm	TLS Enrollment Night (at Christ)
Wednesday February 24th	9:30 am 4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Joining Jesus Small Group (Jason/Amanda) Confirmation Joining Jesus Small Group (Casey/Robyn) Communion Class Lent Midweek Worship Service Joining Jesus Small Group (Pastor Ben)
Thursday February 25th	6:00 pm	Joining Jesus Small Group (John, Eric, Bessie)
Friday February 26th	7:00 pm	TLS Family Reading Night (Virtual)
Saturday February 27th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
Sunday February 28th	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am 11:45 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Children's & Youth Sunday School Joining Jesus Small Group (Pastor Ben)

-- Announcements --

Celebrating

Birthdays: Kaelyn B., Courtney C., Carlie G., Dick H. (22nd); Matt N., Richard P. (23rd); Jonathan D., Kathy L. (24th); Virginia C., Jeannene F., Brandon G., Becky R. (25th); Kendall T. (26th); Jeff E., Taylor H. (28th); Patricia L. (29th)

Baptism Birthdays: Derek C., Logan C. (22nd); Teresa H., Christina W. (24th); Jennifer M. (25th); Brenda Z. (27th); Laurel B. (29th)

Anniversaries: David & Pauline C. (21st); Ron & Nancy G. (24th)

Worship Service Updates

We have three worship service times: Sunday mornings at 8 am, 9:15 am, and 10:30 am. These services are capped at 45 people each to allow for proper distancing. Please continue to sign up through the church website. Thank you for your patience as we navigate this ever-changing situation!

Lent Worship Services

Join us on Wednesdays at 6 PM for our midweek Lent worship services. Please sign up through the church website

Joining Jesus on His Mission – IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

Our next challenge will be to read the book “Joining Jesus on His Mission” as a congregation. Please sign up to join ONE small group to study and discuss this book together. Sign-up sheets are available in the coffee lobby, or you may sign up online. (You do not need to sign up both places.) Once you have signed up for a small group, you may pick up a copy of the book in the coffee lobby. For those not able to join us in-person, at least one of the small groups will be available via Zoom. Small groups will begin meeting the week of February 14th and will continue for 7 weeks through the season of Lent. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Bible Reading Challenge

Did you complete our challenge, reading Acts and Romans in three weeks? If so, bring your reading calendar to the coffee lobby, and pick up a prize! Snag a mug if you didn't get one last time, or pick up something sweet plus a bookmark!

Readers for Worship Services

Would you like to be a reader during our worship services? Sign up on the bulletin board in the coffee lobby! As a reader, you would present the Old Testament and Epistle readings to the congregation during the worship service. Please read through the assigned verses for the day prior to service time, and check with Pastor Ben regarding any pronunciation questions. If you would like to know the verses for your scheduled week(s) in advance, please contact the church office.

-- Announcements --

Donut Drive-Thru: TODAY!

On the south side of the church building, pick up a free donut and drink "to go" as you head home, or enjoy your treats in your vehicle and listen to our worship service on your car radio! (Please do not bring your food or beverage into the church building.) These sweet treats will be free of charge! If you care to make a contribution, there will be a freewill offering -- funds raised will help offset costs of Christ Youth attending the 2022 National LCMS Youth Gathering (which will hopefully be able to happen as scheduled).

Youth

This afternoon (Feb. 21st), Jr. Youth (4th-6th grades) will meet at 3 PM, and Youth Group (7th-12th grades) will meet at 5 PM for fun and fellowship. Wear your mask – we'll have plenty of space to spread out.

Soup-er Bowl

During the month of February, we are collecting soup, crackers, and other non-perishable food items for the Topeka Rescue Mission. You may leave your donations in the coffee library or drop them by the church office throughout the week.

TLS Enrollment Night

Is your child attending Topeka Lutheran School for the 2021-22 academic year? Or would you like more information about TLS? Enrollment Night for Christ families will be held on Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:00 PM, here (at Christ) in the Schemm Family Life Center (gym). Contact the TLS office for more information.

Long-Term Substitutes Needed

From the mid August to mid October, Topeka Lutheran School will need three long term substitute to each work half of a school day. The available positions are Kindergarten through eighth grade physical education, Kindergarten through eighth grade music, and fifth through eighth grade grammar and writing, one math class, study hall, and lunch time monitoring. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Chris Francik at 785-357-0382 or francik@topekalutheran.org.

Potential Infant Center Closure

The Lutheran School Association of Topeka Board of Directors is considering closing the Infant program portion of the Center for Young Children in the summer of 2022. For many years, the Infant program has lost significant amounts of money. All staff currently working in the Infant program would be allowed to retain a job, but these employees would have to move to different positions. All current and waiting list families would be accommodated by the summer of 2022 closing. If you wish to ask any questions or share your concerns, please email the LSAT Board of Directors at schoolboard@topekalutheran.org by Friday, February 26th.

-- Announcements --

Lent Devotions

Pick up a FREE booklet of devotions for the Lenten season, courtesy of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Booklets are available at the back of the sanctuary and in the coffee lobby. Visit our website (christlcms.org) if you would like to download for your e-reader.

Red Cross Blood Drive

We will be holding another Red Cross Blood Drive here at Christ on Thurs., March 4th. To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: TopekaCLC). Bring a photo ID, drink plenty of water and eat prior to your appointment. Save time at your appointment by completing RapidPass - pre-reading and questions - the DAY OF your appointment via the blood donor app or visit www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass.

Kansas District Prayer Campaign

The Kansas District is starting another round of “Together We Pray,” with 50 days of verses and prayers for Lent and Easter. The prayers begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th (in conjunction with the Kansas District Day of Repentance) and run through April 7th. If you’re on Facebook, you can find the prayers on the Kansas District page (@kslcms). You can also find a booklet with all the prayers on the Kansas District website (kslcms.org) or pick up a copy in the coffee lobby here at Christ. Take a minute or two each day to join your fellow Kansans in prayer, with the confidence that He will hear us!

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Betty C., Julie J., Don L., Brittian K. (Sondra K.’s grandson), Lance L., Jerry M., Bob T., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.’s sister), Mert B., Angela (Mary D.’s daughter), Judy (Colleen B.’s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.’s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.’s sister-in-law), Martin E., Shirley (Frank J.’s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.’s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.’s granddaughter), Bob (David B.’s brother), Sherry (Liz J.’s sister-in-law), Carlie G., Doris T., Adelynn M., Rene A. for a speedy adoption process for Barbara, our front line/essential workers, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, the Schumachers and their ministry in Ghana, and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord’s work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of TLS and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.

Christ Jesus Defeats Our Temptation and Saves Us by His Faithfulness

In faith and the fear of God, Abraham prepared to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. At the Word of the Lord, he *“took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son.”* And *“when they came to the place of which God had told him,”* Abraham bound Isaac *“and laid him on the altar”* (Gen. 22:6, 9). Then God stayed Abraham’s hand and provided *“for himself the lamb for a burnt offering”* (Gen. 22:8). That Lamb is God’s own beloved Son, Jesus, in whom *“all the nations of the earth”* are blessed (Gen. 22:18). As the Substitute for all the sons of men, Jesus is driven by the Spirit *“into the wilderness”* to be *“tempted by Satan”* (Mark 1:12–13) in order to endure and defeat all temptation. We are tempted by our own desire, which conceives and *“gives birth to sin”* (James 1:14–15). But this blessed Man, Christ Jesus, remained *“steadfast under trial,”* and He has received *“the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him”* (James 1:12). His faithfulness, His victory and His life are now given to us by His grace in the Gospel.

Offerings

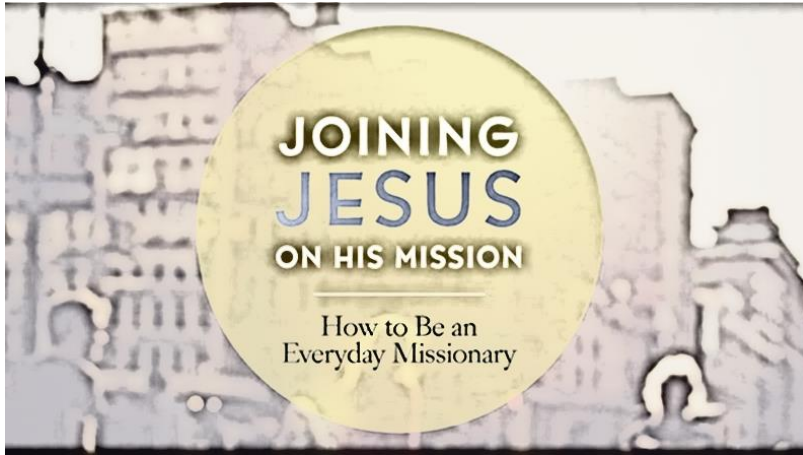
We have multiple options for your gifts, tithes, and offerings. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the “My Church by PushPay” app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611). Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 7,878
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 2/14</i>	\$ 20,062
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan 2021)</i>	\$ 34,142
<i>Offerings Received (Jan 2021)</i>	\$ 26,835

Mark 1:13 – “And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.” God the Father cares for Jesus even in the midst of his temptation in the wilds. God cares for us in every situation as well. Jesus realized this and always acted from the basis of trust in God the Father’s provision. This is likewise the basis for our life lived in Christ: God cares for us, so we need not act out of fear or greed.

It's not too late to join!



Small groups will meet weekly for 7 weeks on the assigned day and time, beginning the week of February. 14th.

Pastor Ben's Sunday group – Sundays at 11:45 AM

Jason & Amanda's group – Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Casey & Robyn's group – Wednesdays at 4:30 PM

Pastor Ben's Wednesday group – Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

John, Eric & Bessie's group – Thursdays at 6:00 PM

Once you have signed up for a small group, you may pick up a copy of the book in the coffee lobby. (For married couples, please take one copy to share.)

The book is free of charge, but you may make a donation to help offset our cost for the books.

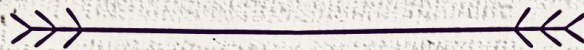
Pastor Ben's two groups (Sundays and Wednesdays) will also be offered via Zoom, in addition to the in-person class. If you wish to attend via Zoom, please use the separate sign-up sheet (that specifies Zoom) or e-mail the church office.



Lent

Join us for
midweek
worship
services on
Wednesdays
at 6 pm.

February 17, February 24,
March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24



Sign up at christlems.org