



FOURTH  
Sunday  
IN LENT

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, & 10:30 AM

*Joining Jesus on His Mission:  
"Joining Jesus on His Mission"*



Christ Lutheran Church  
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.  
Topeka, KS 66611  
785-266-6263  
www.christlcms.org  
Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor  
Amanda Adams, DCE  
Chris Francik, TLS Principal



## Welcome and Opening Prayer

### 566 By Grace I'm Saved

LSB 566



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and  
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct  
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to  
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?  
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,  
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it  
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must  
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our  
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and  
What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.  
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.  
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.  
God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.

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*Stand*

## Divine Service Setting Four, page 203

### ✠ 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

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13 203*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.



## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

- 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 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1

- P** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
**C** The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
**P** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
**C** though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.  
**P** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:  
**C** that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.  
**P** For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
**C** he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. 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** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
**C** The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

### Kyrie

Mark 10:47 204

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



- C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

*“Salutation” is a word from Latin meaning, “to salute” or “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 also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Numbers 21:4–9*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Numbers, chapter 21.

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And 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 loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

Ephesians 2:1–10

**A** The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 2.

<sup>1</sup>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup>among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in 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 coming ages 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 a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

John 3:14–21

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

**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.*

**571 God Loved the World So That He Gave**

LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

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**Sermon**

*Joining Jesus on His Mission  
Mark 1:14-18*





## 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](https://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](https://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](mailto: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*

## 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 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also 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.



**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 21:9 208

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



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

- 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

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

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

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



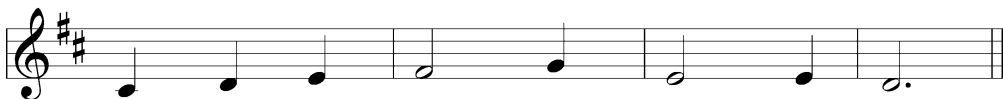
**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*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.*

542 When I Behold Jesus Christ

LSB 542



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,  
 2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-fered pain;  
 3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;  
 4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



I won - der much at His love As He hung on the tree.  
 I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.  
 On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.  
 My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll

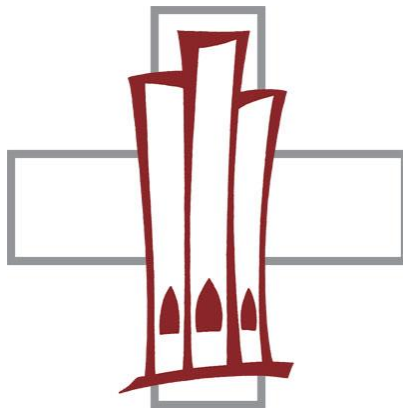


caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my  
 neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
 is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

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## 337 The Night Will Soon Be Ending

LSB 337



1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can -  
 2 The One whom an - gels tend - ed Comes near, a  
 3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring  
 4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our  
 5 God dwells with us in dark - ness And makes the



not be far. Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now  
 child, to serve; Thus God, the judge of - fend - ed, Bears  
 morn - ing bright, So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows  
 hearts of peace, And sin in all its mad - ness A -  
 night as day; Yet we re - sist the bright - ness And



greet the Morn - ing Star! All you whom dark - ness  
 all our sins de - serve. The guilt - y need not  
 in a sta - ble's light. As old as sin's per -  
 round us may in - crease. But now one Star is  
 turn from God a - way. But grace does not for -



fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain, God's ra - diant  
 cow - er, For God has rec - on - ciled Through His re -  
 ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign: God brings a  
 beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night: God comes for  
 sake us, How - ev - er far we run. God claims us



Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.  
 demp - tive pow - er All those who trust this child.  
 new cre - a - tion—This child its seal and sign.  
 our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.  
 still as chil - dren Through Mar - y's in - fant Son.

Stand

Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 211

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



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



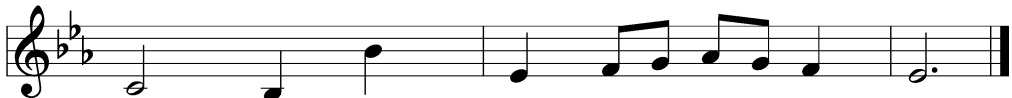
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.



## 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** Amen.

## 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.

## Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

*(beh-neh-dih-KAH-moose), Latin for "bless we [the Lord]." We give thanks to God for everything He has done for us in Jesus Christ.*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.*

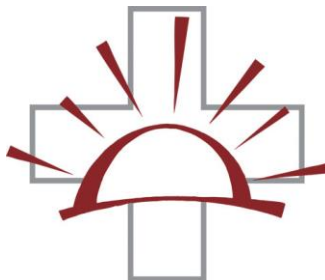
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

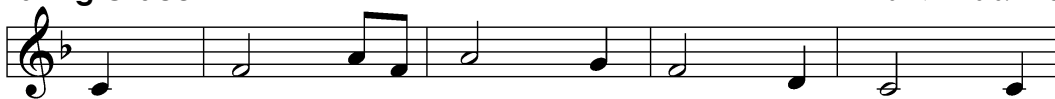
**C** Amen.

*Sit*

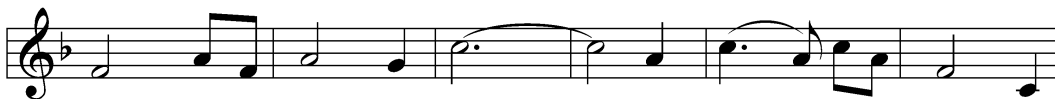


# 744 Amazing Grace

LSB 744 sts. 1-5



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

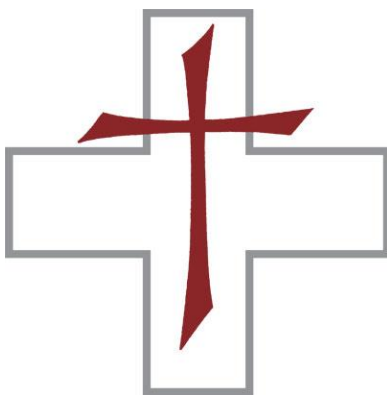


saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

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## Acknowledgments

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## -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday March 14th	<b>8:00, 9:15, &amp; 10:30 am</b> 9:15 am 12:00 pm	<b>Worship Service w/ Communion</b> Children's & Youth Sunday School Youth Bowling (RSVP to Amanda)
Monday March 15th		
Tuesday March 16th		
Wednesday March 17th	9:30 am 3:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm <b>6:00 pm</b> 7:00 pm	Joining Jesus Small Group (Jason/Amanda) Drive-Up Communion Confirmation Joining Jesus Small Group (Casey/Robyn) Communion Class <b>Lent Midweek Worship Service</b> Joining Jesus Small Group (Pastor Ben)
Thursday March 18th		
Friday March 19th		
Saturday March 20th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
Sunday March 21st	<b>8:00, 9:15, &amp; 10:30 am</b> 9:15 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	<b>Worship Service w/ Communion</b> Children's & Youth Sunday School Jr. Youth (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades) Youth Group (7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grades)

# -- Announcements --

## Celebrating

**Birthdays:** Amelia B., Hanna R. (14<sup>th</sup>); Ron G., Richard H., Dennis L. (15<sup>th</sup>); Derek A., Marjory H. (17<sup>th</sup>); Brooklynn F., Kelsey H., Ashley K. (18<sup>th</sup>); Haley C., Amelia H., Leanna H. (19<sup>th</sup>); Abigail B., Audrey W. (21<sup>st</sup>)

**Baptism Birthdays:** Camden C., Evelyn G. (14<sup>th</sup>); Braylee F. (15<sup>th</sup>); Adelynn T. (16<sup>th</sup>); Josie H. (18<sup>th</sup>); Emma C., Jonathan D., Bryttney T. (19<sup>th</sup>); Kenneth S. (20<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries:** Aaron & Tara K. (14<sup>th</sup>); John & Daria H. (18<sup>th</sup>)

## Worship Services – Update Regarding New County Guidelines

Pastor Ben and our Elders met to discuss the relaxed guidelines for mass gatherings that Shawnee County announced on March 5<sup>th</sup>. They determined that we can safely increase the occupancy of the sanctuary to 70 attendees per worship service. We will continue to have three worship service times: Sunday mornings at 8 am, 9:15 am, and 10:30 am. Please continue to sign up through the church website. We look forward to being able to see more of you in person each week as we gather for worship!

## Lent Worship Services

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

## Holy Week Worship Services

Join us for worship! Please sign up through our website to attend in person.

***Palm Sunday:*** 8:00 am, 9:15 am, 10:30 am (Confirmation at 10:30 am)

***Maundy Thursday:*** 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm

***Good Friday:*** 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm

## Easter Sunday Worship Services

Join us to worship our risen Savior at **6:30 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, or 11:00 am.**

Note that the worship times are different than our typical Sunday schedule. Please sign up through the church website to attend in person.

## Drive-Up Communion

If you have been watching our services online or receiving a church bulletin in the mail during the pandemic but have not been able to attend in person, we invite you to join us for a brief Holy Communion service on Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Sign up online or call the church office for a private 10 minute time slot between 3 pm and 4 pm. ***This service is intended to reach out to those who have been unable to attend our weekly worship services in person. If you have been attending on Sunday mornings, we encourage you to continue receiving communion at that time.***

# -- Announcements --

## A Message from the Stewardship Committee

In March 2020, our church set up an Emergency Assistance Fund for families under financial stress due to the pandemic -- and many were able to give all or a portion of their government relief payments to help this effort. By the grace of God, we were able to meet all of the requests.

A new door has opened with another round of relief payments. After studying scripture, the Stewardship Committee and Church Council concluded it would a tremendous blessing to reduce our building debt of approximately \$218,000. If you/your family are not in need, we ask you to consider using a portion or all of your upcoming stimulus payment to help reduce the debt.

Prayerfully consider what you can donate by cash, check, or PushPay (select the "DEBT RETIREMENT" fund), or text CHRISTLCMS to 77977.

*"Let no **debt** remain outstanding except the continuing **debt** to love one another."*  
(Romans 13:8)

## Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter Lily to adorn our sanctuary, please use the purple form in the bulletin, label your check or envelope "Easter Lily," and place both in the offering plate. If you use PushPay, please be sure to still fill out the purple sheet, or send your information to the office. The last day for lily orders will be Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Easter Candy

If you would like to donate Easter candy or other small treats for our Children's Easter Egg Hunt, please leave your donations in the box in the coffee lobby. Thank you!

## 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.

## Youth Bowling

Youth in 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited for an afternoon of bowling at Westridge Lanes on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 12 PM to 2 PM. We have two lanes reserved for two hours. You are responsible for shoe rental and any snacks you may want. You **MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE** with Amanda to ensure we have room for everyone.

# -- Announcements --

## **Luke Savage Golf Tournament – Save the Date!**

Mark your calendar for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Luke Savage Memorial Golf Tournament! It will be held at Shawnee Country Club on Saturday, July 10th. The tournament will continue as a 4-person scramble. More information and registration will follow soon so stay tuned!

## **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](mailto:francik@topekalutheran.org).

## **Read Across America (and TLS!)**

In celebration of “Read Across America Month,” our Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a book drive for the teachers at Topeka Lutheran School! If you would like to make a monetary donation, please label your check or envelope as “TLS Books” and place it in the offering plate. To give via PushPay, select “Other” under the options for Funds, and type “TLS Books” in the notes section. If you would prefer to pick out a book for the teachers, they have an online wish list through Paper June bookstore in NOTO (<https://paper-june-book-fair.myshopify.com/apps/giftregistry/registry/126591>).

## **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), Doris T., Denise (Linda O.’s friend), 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.

## ***Jesus Is Lifted Up on the Cross so that We May Look to Him and Live***

The people sinned by speaking “*against God and against Moses,*” and the Lord called them to repentance by sending fiery serpents, which “*bit the people, so that many people of Israel died*” (Num. 21:4–6). When the people confessed their sin, the Lord provided a means of rescue from death. He instructed Moses to “*make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole,*” so that “*if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live*” (Num. 21:8–9). Thus, God sent His Son into the world, in the likeness of our sin and death, and lifted Him up on the pole of the cross, that whoever looks to Him in faith “*may have eternal life*” (John 3:14–16). By His cross, “*the light has come into the world,*” not for condemnation, but “*that the world might be saved through him*” (John 3:17–19). While we “*were dead in the trespasses and sins*” in which we once lived (Eph. 2:1), God loved us, calling us to repentance and raising us up with Christ to live “*with him in the heavenly places*” (Eph. 2:4–6).

### **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](http://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](http://christlcms.org/giving)).

## **Stewardship Corner**

<b><i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i></b>	<b>\$ 7,878</b>
<b><i>Offerings Received – Week of 3/7</i></b>	<b>\$ 13,294</b>
<b><i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Feb 2021)</i></b>	<b>\$ 68,284</b>
<b><i>Offerings Received (Jan-Feb 2021)</i></b>	<b>\$ 72,971</b>

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**Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”** Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn’t doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord’s free salvation given to us to the good works He’s prepared for us to walk in, it is all a gift of God’s grace.

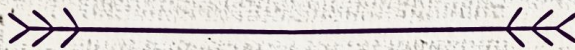




Lent

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](http://christlems.org)