

What no eye has seen,
nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared
for those who love him

-- these things God has revealed to us through the spirit. For the spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 5, 2023 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



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



#### As We Gather

Please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

#### **Holy Communion**

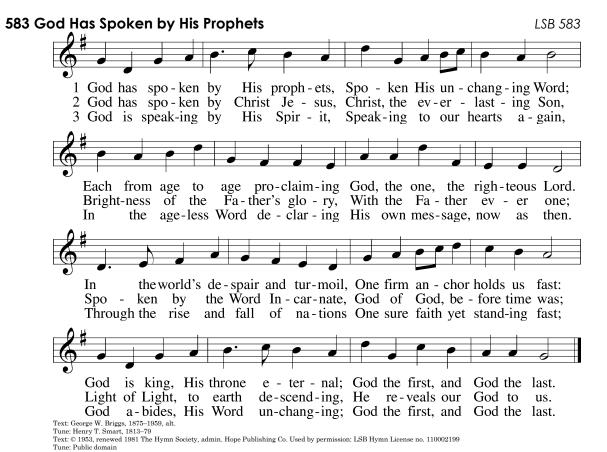
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.



## **Welcome and Opening Prayer**



# Holy Baptism of Elowyn Cathey (10:30 only)

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 (8:00 only)

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

## Exhortation (8:00 only)

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?
- **©** 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 (8:00 only)

LSB 203

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

# Absolution (8:00 only)

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

- 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 119:9-16; antiphon: v. 12

- P Blessèd are you, O LORD;
- c teach me your statutes!
- P How can a young man keep his way pure?
- **G** By guarding it according to your word.
- P With my whole heart I seek you;
- let me not wander from your commandments!
- **P** I have stored up your word in my heart,
- c that I might not sin against you.
- P Blessèd are you, O LORD;
- c teach me your statutes!
- P With my lips I declare
- all the just decrees of your mouth.
- **P** In the way of your testimonies I delight
- as much as in all riches.
- P I will meditate on your precepts
- and fix my eyes on your ways.
- P I will delight in your statutes;
- I will not forget your word. 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 Blessèd are you, O LORD;
- C teach me your statutes!

# **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.



### Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204





Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to salute" or "to greet." "Collect" (KAH-lekt), 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.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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**

Isaiah 58:3-9a

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 58.

3"Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?' Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup>Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed. and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? 6"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness. to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every voke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

8Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

9Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Epistle** 1 Corinthians 2:1–16

**A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 2.

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be

judged by no one. <sup>16</sup> For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

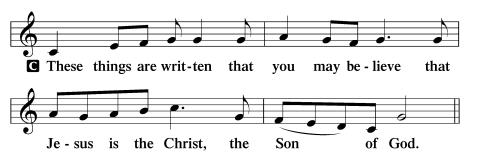
- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

# Alleluia and Verse



**Verse** John 20:31 LSB 205



Alleluia 205





Holy Gospel Matthew 5:13–20

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>[Jesus said:] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

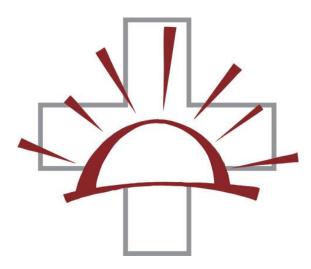
<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

# Nicene Creed (8:00 only)

(printed on next page)

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.



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.

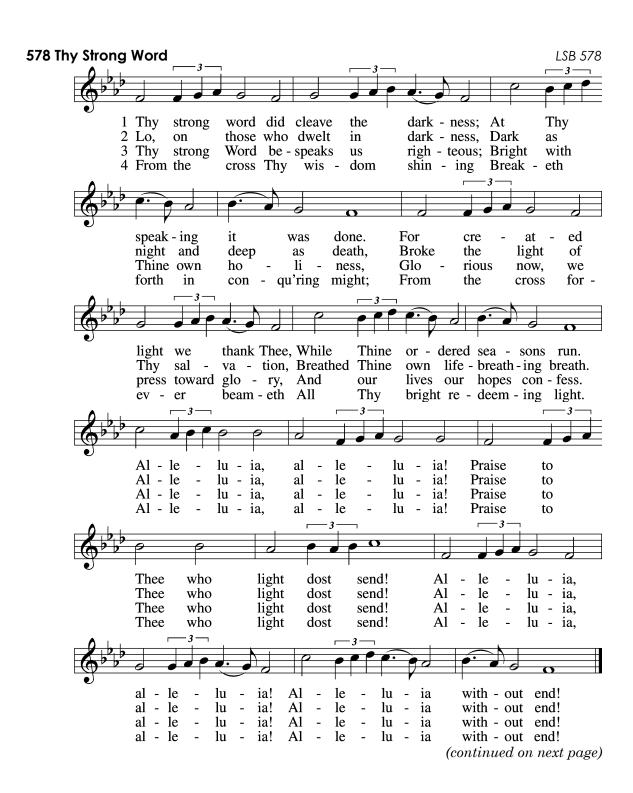
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

# Children's Message

Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education, at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.



Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,

Alleluias without end!

△6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76
Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
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#### Sermon

# Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving through Vanco at bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS for a one-time or recurring gift. You may also download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS. Direct links and additional information are available on the church website (christlems.org/giving).



For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

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."

- ...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.
- 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".



## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

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

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."

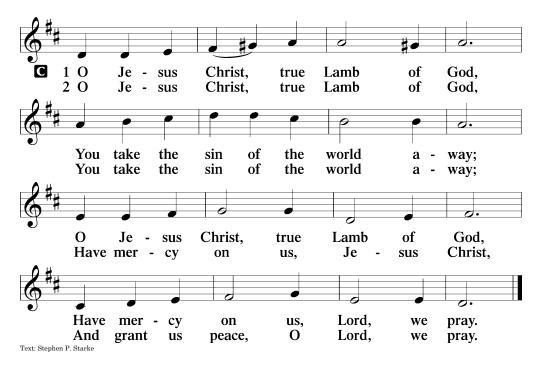
#### **Pax Domini**

(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."



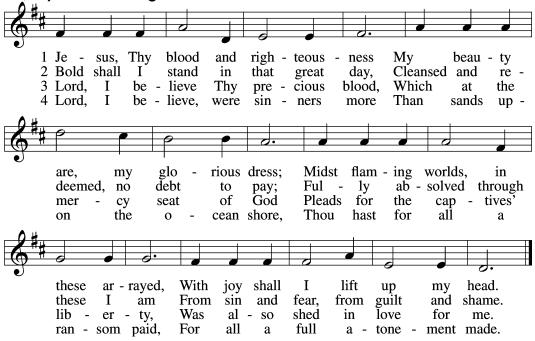
Sit

#### Distribution

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 altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.







5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies, This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me. 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me, For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

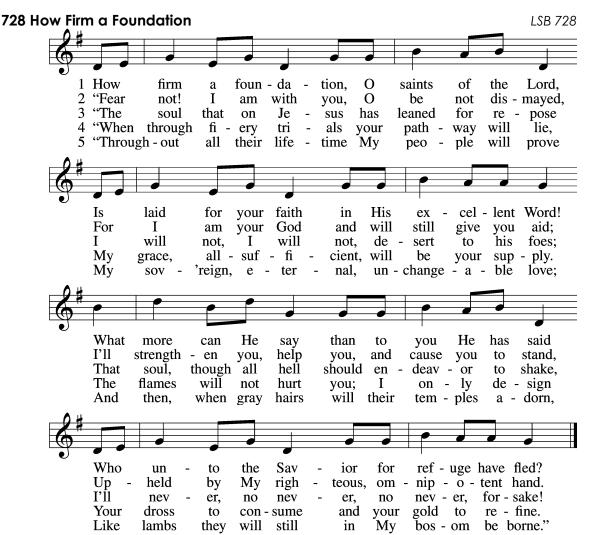
Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain





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Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt. Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester

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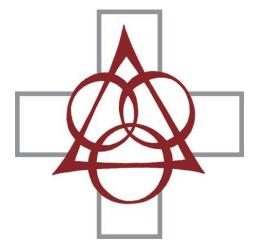


- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
  Or we must die despairing,
  Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
  Our human nature sharing.
  He has for us the Law obeyed
  And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
  Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made
  And brought to us salvation,
  Each Christian therefore may be glad
  And build on this foundation.
  Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
  Your death is now my life indeed,
  For You have paid my ransom.
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see Your Word cannot be broken; Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!" No falsehood have You spoken. Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame, And I shall never perish.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
  And makes us conscience-stricken;
  But then the Gospel enters in
  The sinful soul to quicken.
  Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
  The Law no peace can ever give,
  No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
  And rests in Him unceasing;
  And by its fruits true faith is known,
  With love and hope increasing.
  For faith alone can justify;
  Works serve our neighbor and supply
  The proof that faith is living.
- △10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
  To Father, Son, and Spirit,
  The God who saved us by His grace;
  All glory to His merit.
  O triune God in heav'n above,
  You have revealed Your saving love;
  Your blessèd name we hallow.

#### Stand



Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32 LSB 211

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





#### **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

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.

- 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





Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt.

Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradanseu, c. 1710, Amsterdam

Text and tune: Public domain

# -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday February 5th		Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults)
Monday February 6th	11:00 am	TLS Fundraiser at Panda Express
Tuesday February 7th		
Wednesday February 8th	5:30 pm	Board of Youth/Ed Meeting
Thursday February 9th	•	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Study
Friday February 10th		
Saturday February 11th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
Sunday February 12th	9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Valentine's Day Card Service Project

# **Celebrating**

**Birthdays:** Blakely B. (6<sup>th</sup>); Hailey P., Becky R., Patrick V. (7<sup>th</sup>); Arloa T., Andrea V. (8<sup>th</sup>); Maliyah M. (9<sup>th</sup>); David C., Braylee F. (10<sup>th</sup>); Cassidy K. (11<sup>th</sup>); Sharon H. (12<sup>th</sup>) **Baptism Birthdays:** Sarah M. (5<sup>th</sup>); John M. (6<sup>th</sup>); Hannah A. (7<sup>th</sup>); Abi B., Willa H. (8<sup>th</sup>); Audrey H., Maverick O. (9<sup>th</sup>); Mary D. (10<sup>th</sup>); Heather B., Phoebe R. (11<sup>th</sup>); Shawn H. (12<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries:** (none this week)

# -- Announcements --

### Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Romans (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: 1, 2, & 3 John (Small Group) – Basement Meeting Room A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

### Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through  $6^{th}$  grade) — Upstairs Education Wing Youth ( $7^{th}$ - $12^{th}$  grades) — Basement Youth Room

#### Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Book of Daniel – Thursdays at 7 PM – Basement (This class does NOT meet on the first Thursday of each month.)

#### Holy Baptism

Today during our 10:30 service, we celebrate the Holy Baptism of Elowyn Cathey. Elowyn is the daughter of Josh & Erin Cathey (whose home congregation is Trinity Lutheran Church in Broken Arrow, OK). Elowyn's sponsors are Sam & Megan Russell and Pastor Ben & Rachel Micheel.

## **Assistive Listening Devices**

If you use one of our devices for Assistive Listening (available in the coffee lobby), please remember to return it to the basket after the service has concluded. We've had a couple of them wander off – if you accidentally brought one home, please bring it back with you next Sunday. Thank you!

# Valentine's Day Card Service Project

Join us in the gym after worship services on Sunday, Feb.  $12^{\rm th}$  – we will be making Valentines for both our homebound/shut-in members as well as residents of local care facilities. Lunch and craft supplies will be provided. All ages & skill-levels are welcome!

# **Muffins for Missions Bake Sale**

Mark your calendar – our Muffins for Missions bake sale will be the morning of Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Our goal this year is to raise \$1000 for Lifeline Pregnancy Center here in Topeka. (At last year's bake sale, we raised nearly \$700 – so this isn't an impossible number!) If we meet that goal, we will also receive \$1000 in matching funds from the Kansas District LCMS Office, and then we can apply to match that \$2000 through the Synod's Life Grant – making a potential grand total of \$4000 for Lifeline! Sign up to bring baked goods on the bulletin board in the coffee lobby.

# -- Announcements --

#### Lost & Found – LAST CHANCE!

Missing something? We have a few coats, jackets, and a box of other odds and ends that have been hanging out in our Lost & Found (near the coffee lobby doors by the coat rack) for quite some time. Please take a look and see if we found something of yours!

Any items that are not claimed TODAY will be packed up and donated.

#### <u>TLS Fundraiser at Panda Express – TOMORROW!</u>

Tomorrow (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>) – enjoy lunch or dinner from Panda Express (on Wanamaker) and support the TLS 8<sup>th</sup> grade class as they raise funds for their class trip. Be sure to mention Topeka Lutheran School when you order (or enter 341933 in the fundraiser code box if you order online) – our students will receive 20% of each sale!

### TLS Kindergarten Step-Up Day

If you have child entering kindergarten in Fall 2023, join us for Step-Up Day at Topeka Lutheran School on Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact the TLS office to sign up. A generous donor has waived enrollment fees for those who commit before Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>!

### **Thank You**

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who assisted with the TLS Chili Supper! Your donations (whether it was food, raffle items, financial gifts, or volunteering your time) all contributed to the success of this annual event. We appreciate your continued prayers and support for Topeka Lutheran School!

# Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Kim (friend of the Micheels), Dick H., Penny (Marty K.'s coworker's wife), Betty H., Burnell M., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Chris G., Sharon H., Lila N., Mike (Shawn H.'s friend), Darleen C., Kendra M., Brandon B., and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin 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 Topeka Lutheran School and the Jr. Wildcats. 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.

### The Righteousness of Christ

Jesus warns that "unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" (Matt. 5:13, 14). That's because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, "but to fulfill them" (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God's commandments, He is "called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His "demonstration of the Spirit and of power" in "Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2–4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His "secret and hidden wisdom" (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is "to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free" (Is. 58:6) and "to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house" (Is. 58:7).

## Worship Attendance - Sunday, Jan. 29th

8:00 AM -- 78 10:30 AM -- 63

# **Stewardship Corner**

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$ 8,945
Offerings Received – Week of 1/29	\$ 3,579
Budgeted Needs (January 2023)	\$ 44,725
Offerings Received (January 2023)	\$ 32,168

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Matthew 5:17 – "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.