

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



# As We Gather

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



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



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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

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

# Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

Matthew 28:19b: 18:20

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **G** 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**

- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{P}}$  Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.

LSB 151

## Service of the Word

#### Introit

- **P** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
- **C** for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
- **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.
- And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
- **C** I will sing and make melody to the LORD. 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** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
- **C** for he will pluck my feet out of the net.



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.



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



**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.



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



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



#### **Kyrie**

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "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.



**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.



#### Sit

## **Old Testament Reading**

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 42.

Isaiah 42:14–21

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.
<sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.
<sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do. and I do not forsake them. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

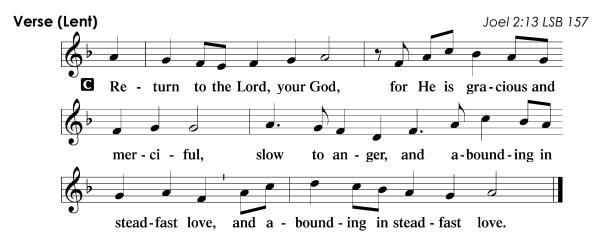
**A** The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 5.

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.



#### **Holy Gospel**

John 9:1-41

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



<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup>Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

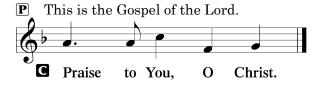
<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said,

"This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. <sup>21</sup>But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup>(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup>He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup>He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" <sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."



#### 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.

<b>C</b> ]	[ be]	lieve	in	one	God,
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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**

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.



5 If you are sick, if death is near,  $\triangle 6$  Glory This truth your troubled heart can cheer: And 2 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; To Yo That is the firmest ground of faith. Be pu

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

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon



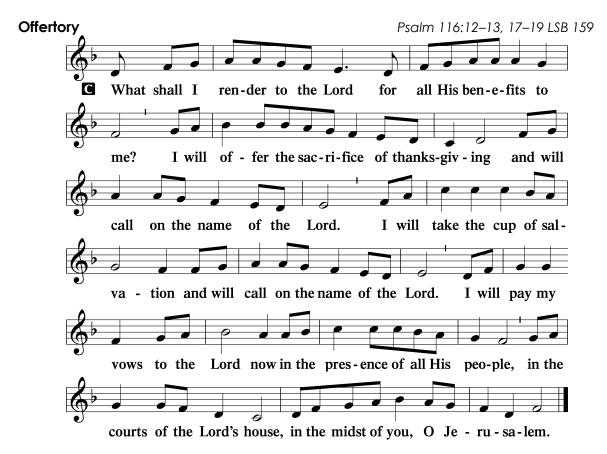
# Offering

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 (christlcms.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 160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

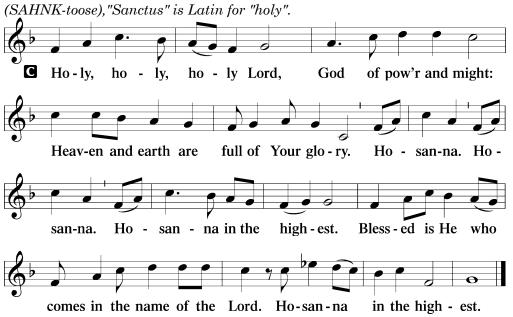


**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



# Proper Preface (Full)

▶ 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:



# 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

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

 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."

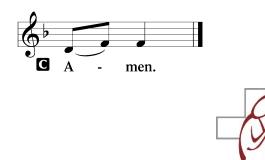
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

John 20:19 163

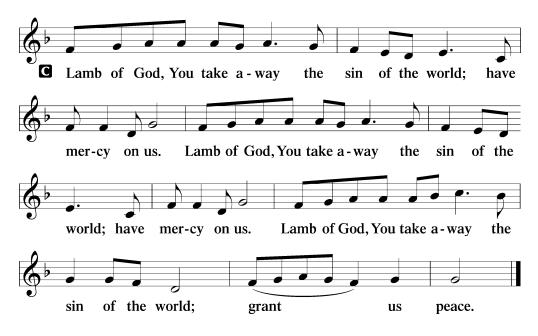
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

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



#### Agnus Dei

(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.

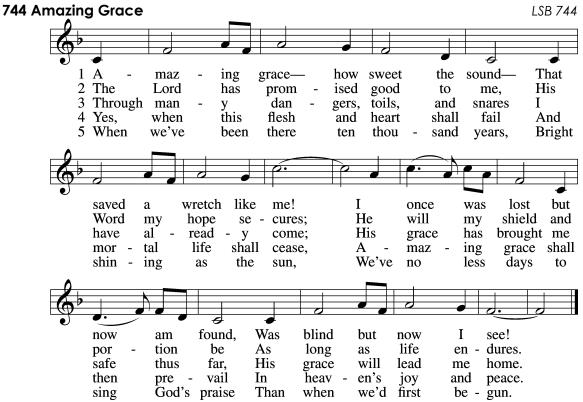


398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LSB 398







Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati Text and tune: Public domain



420 Christ, the Life of All the Living LSB 420 1 Christ, the life of all Christ, the death the liv - ing, of 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast Thee Bonds and stripes, tak - en on а 3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly my wounds might That 4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur-round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with Who, Thy - self death, our foe, for giv - ing me once rod: and scorn were heaped up - on cru - el Pain Thee. be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly, all shame-ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee. Through Thy To the dark - est depths of suf - f'rings, woe: Thou sin - less Son God! Thus didst Thou 0 of my give Rest to my wea - rv soul: Yea. the curse of All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou death, and mer - it Ι life in - her - it. - ter - nal е soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er. en - dur - ing, God Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing. with heav'n - ly might - est own me And glo - ry crown me. Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, un - to Thee. Dear-est Je - sus, Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, Dear-est Je - sus. un - to Thee. Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, Dear-est Je - sus, un - to Thee. Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, un - to Thee. Dear-est Je - sus.

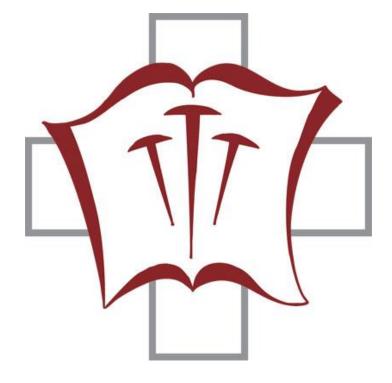
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5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee, That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee: Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish. Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently, Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me; Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented. Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee. 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81: (sts. 1–2, 5, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain





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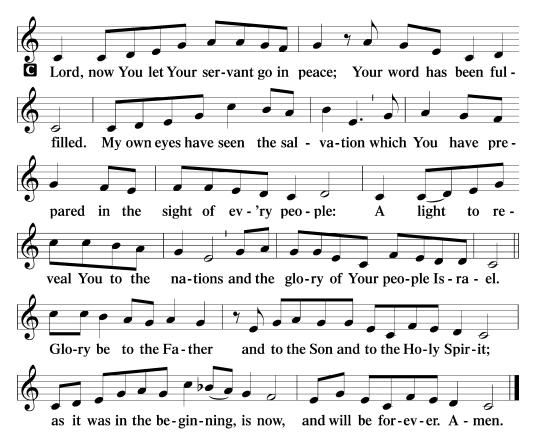


Stand

# **Nunc Dimittis**

Luke 2:29–32 LSB 165

(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.



# 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.

## **Benediction**

Numbers 6:24-26 166

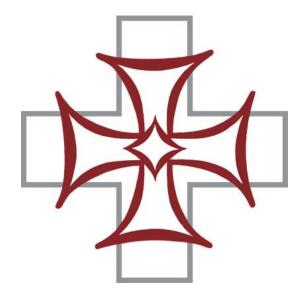
A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

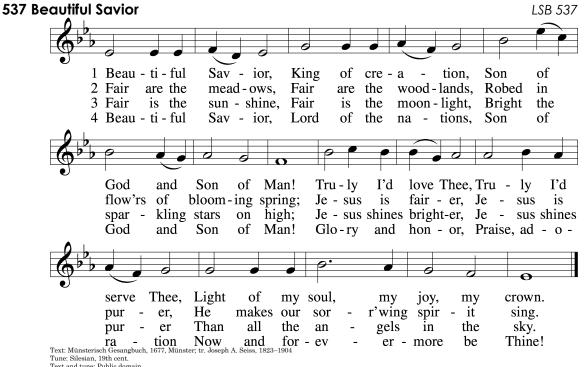
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Sit





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Acknowledgments

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# -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday March 19th		Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Easter Lily Order Deadline
Monday March 20th		
Tuesday March 21st		
Wednesday March 22nd	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Confirmation Communion Class Lent Meal <b>Lent Midweek Worship Service</b> Choir
Thursday March 23rd	•	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Study
Friday March 24th		
Saturday March 25th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
Sunday March 26th	9:00 am 9:15 am 4:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Board of Youth & Ed Meeting Sunday School (children & adults) Jr. Youth (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade) Youth Gorup (7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade) College/Young Adult Group (ages 18-25)

## **Celebrating**

Birthdays: Haley C., Amelia H., Leanna H. (19<sup>th</sup>); Burnell M. (20<sup>th</sup>); Audrey W. (21<sup>st</sup>);
Nick J., Sara P. (23<sup>rd</sup>); Marne C., Madeline J. (25<sup>th</sup>); Terry F., Kora K., Ted M. (26<sup>th</sup>)
Baptism Birthdays: Jonathan D., Darrell P., Bryttney T. (19<sup>th</sup>); Kenneth S. (20<sup>th</sup>); Jessica D., Kellan G., Matt N., Kendall T. (24<sup>th</sup>)
Anniversaries: Coy & Meridith H. (25<sup>th</sup>)

## 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<sup>th</sup> grade) – Upstairs Education Wing Youth (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Basement Youth Room

#### Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

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

#### <u>Lent</u>

Join us on Wednesdays for a Lent Meal at 6 PM and our Lent Midweek Worship service at 7 PM. If you would like to bring dessert for one of our Lent Meals, please sign up in the coffee lobby. Free devotion books are available at the back of the sanctuary, courtesy of Lutheran Hour Ministries.

#### Easter Lilies – ORDER DEADLINE TODAY!

It's time to order your Easter lilies! The lilies are \$10 each. Place the completed purple form in the offering plate with your payment, or return it to the church office. Please note "Altar Guild" on your check or envelope, or for online payment through Vanco select "Altar Guild" from the list of available funds. Order deadline is Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### Easter Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Easter morning for a light breakfast in the Schemm Family Life Center (gym) at 9:15 AM, followed by our Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

If you would like to donate candy (or small non-candy prizes that will fit in plastic eggs), please leave your donations in the box in our coffee lobby. No plastic eggs are needed at this time. Thank you!

#### Can I Get a Ride?

We have a member with mobility issues that would love to have a ride to church once or twice a month. If you would be willing to help out, please contact the church office.

## Thank You

The family of Richard Passow would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, calls, and visits during and after his illness. -- The Passow Family

## **Teacher Appreciation at SENT**

Our Board of Evangelism would like to continue their work with SENT this Spring. The staff and teachers there get very few perks, and struggle to keep their spirits up at times. A couple of the needs expressed by the SENT staff were for furniture (table, chairs, microwave, mini fridge, etc.) to make a teachers' lounge area and small officetype desks with chairs for each of their teachers to have in their classroom. If you have gently used furnishings that you would like to donate, please contact the church office. (Do not bring the items to church at this time.) Our goal is to be able to provide these items by the first week of April, which is Teacher Appreciation Week. Please contact Nancy Crago or the church office with questions.

## Marriage & Family Conference

Trinity Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, MO) will be hosting a conference for the whole family on April 21-22. This year's theme is "Christian Spiritual Life in the Family and Congregation." For more information or to register for this event, please visit www.marriagefamilyconference.org – registration deadline is April 9<sup>th</sup>.



#### **Teacher Wanted**

Topeka Lutheran School has an opening for an Elementary Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Applicants for this position must possess a valid teaching license and be a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in good standing. E-mail Kyle Johnson at johnson@topekalutheran.org for more information about the position or how to apply. Applicants seeking either 3/4 or full time employment will be considered.

#### **TLS Enrollment Signs**

Help us get the word out about Topeka Lutheran School! You may pick up a yard sign (like the ones by our church driveways) in the school office at TLS. Place it in your yard as long as you like, and return it to TLS when you take it down.

#### Photographer Needed

Topeka Lutheran School is looking for a photographer to take professional photos of TLS students and activities to be used for their website, social media, marketing brochures, etc. If photography is your hobby or interest and you have a flexible schedule, please contact Marlene at (785) 357-1468.

## 9th Annual Luke Savage Memorial Golf Tournament

The tournament this year will be held on April 29th, at the Great Life Shawnee Country Club (913 SE 29<sup>th</sup>). Registration will begin at 8AM with a shotgun start to follow (9AM.) The tournament is a 4-person scramble and is almost full at this time.

However, hole sponsorships and silent auction items are gratefully accepted! All proceeds benefit Topeka Lutheran School. For questions or donations, please email dkmsavage@yahoo.com.

## Schaefer Scholarship

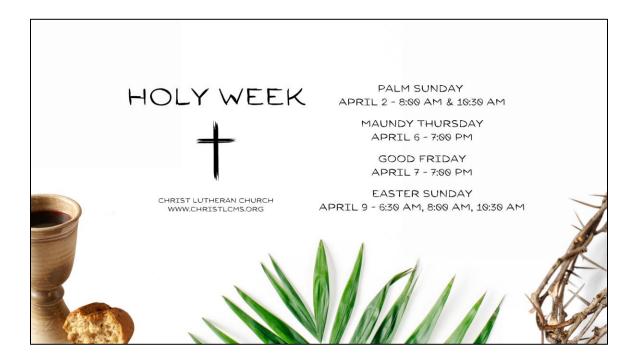
The Margaret Schaefer Scholarship assists Christ member families attending TLS with their tuition costs. Donations are always welcome, but are especially crucial in the spring season as we begin enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year. Please prayerfully consider a one-time or recurring gift to this scholarship fund. Checks/envelopes should be marked "Schaefer Scholarship" and online gifts through Vanco should select "Schaefer Scholarship" from the list of funds. Thank you!

## Crop at Christ

You are invited to a "Crop" (scrapbooking and cardmaking) event here at Christ on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$20, which includes a free Make & Take item. 100% of the fees will benefit the Schaefer Scholarship Fund. Questions, RSVP's, and payment should be directed to Ann-Marie Bevel.

#### 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), 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., Dennis L., Bob H., Larry R., Deanna N., 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 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 LUTHERAN CHURCH WWW.CHRISTLCMS.ORG

# SHADOWS OF THE CROSS

LENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

> FEBRUARY 22 MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

# Join us each Wednesday during Lent for a meal at 6 pm.

Gluten-free options will be available each week. A free will offering will support Christ Youth or LWML.

<u>Feb. 22</u>

**Pulled Pork** 

<u>Mar. 1</u>

**Baked Potatoes** 

<u>Mar. 8</u>

Tacos

<u>Mar. 15</u>

Soup/Sandwiches

<u>Mar. 22</u>

Lasagna

<u>Mar. 29</u> Sloppy Joes

#### By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. "For his righteousness' sake," He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns "the darkness before them into light" (Is. 42:16) because He is "the light of the world" (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh "while it is day," until that night "when no one can work" (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though "at one time you were darkness," now "you are light in the Lord" (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to "awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead" (Eph. 5:14).

<u>Worship Attendance – Sunday, Mar. 12th</u> 8:00 AM --76 10:30 AM -- 57

# **Stewardship Corner**

Budgeted Weekly Needs: Offerings Received – Week of 3/12	\$ \$	8,945 15,427
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Feb 2023)	\$	80,505
Offerings Received (Jan-Feb 2023)	\$	69,830
*****		

**Psalm 142:5** – "I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.