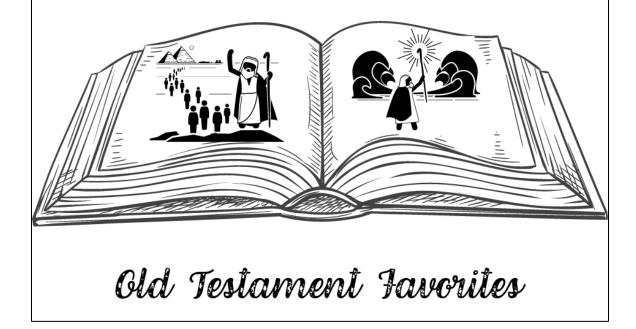
And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today."

-- Exodus 14:13--



Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 28, 2024 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



<u>As We Gather</u>

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

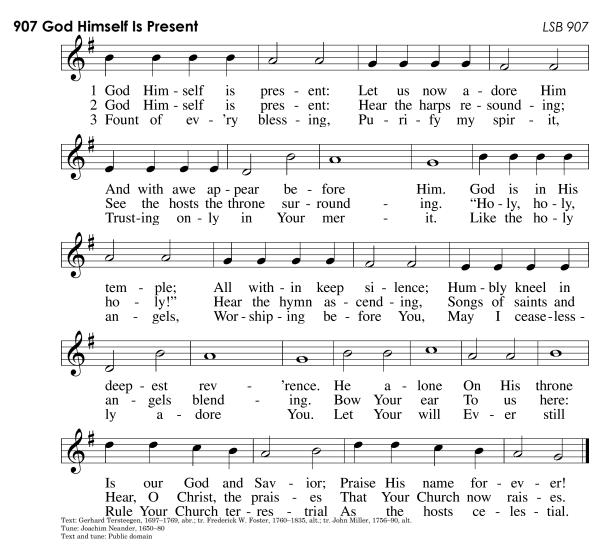
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our 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



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

 \mathbb{P} In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

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

- \mathbf{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.
- ▶ 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

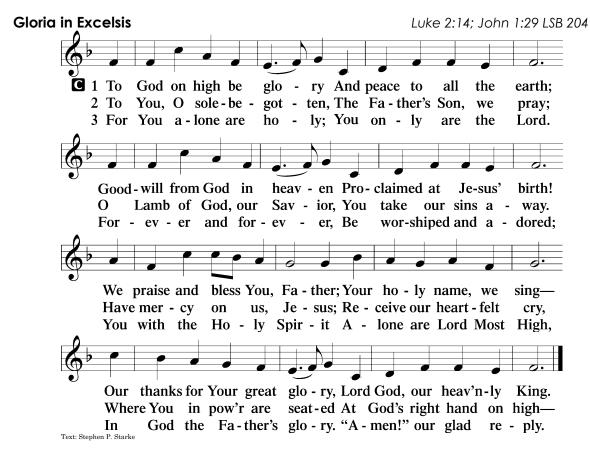
- **G** but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.
- **P** Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
- **C** whose sin is covered.
- P Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
- **C** and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
- **C** I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
- **C** surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.
- P You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
- **C** you surround me with shouts of deliverance. 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** Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
- **G** but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

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.





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.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

A The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, chapter 14.

¹Then the LORD said to Moses, ^{2"}Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baalzephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. ³For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, 'They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.' ⁴And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

⁵When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, "What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" ⁶So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him, ⁷and took six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. ⁸And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. ⁹The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

¹⁰When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

¹⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

¹⁹Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hebrews 11:24-29

A The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 11.

²⁴By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

²⁹By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.

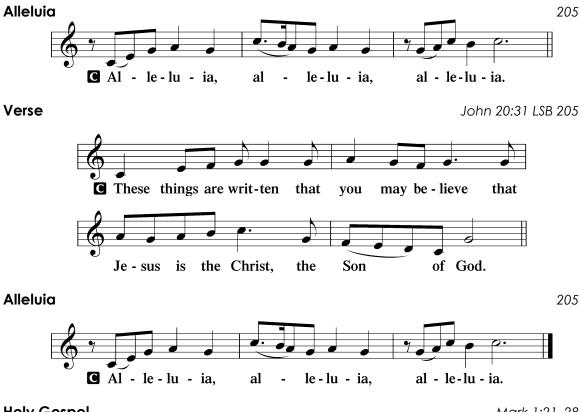
Epistle

This is the Word of the Lord. A

С Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter. $|\mathbf{P}|$

²¹They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him

Glory to You, O Lord. С

and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You. O Christ.

Apostles' 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 God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified. died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. 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.



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 onetime 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

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.
- **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.
- 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:



1 Timothy 2:1-4

(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

 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

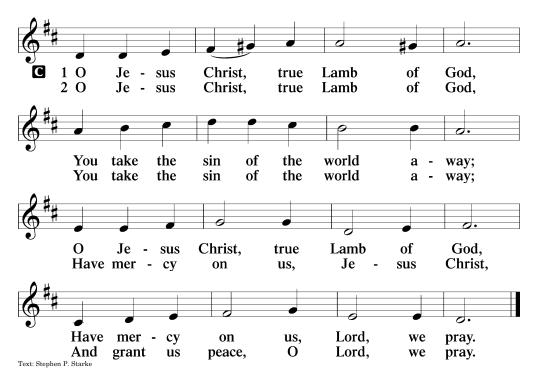
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

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



Agnus Dei

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



Sit

Distribution

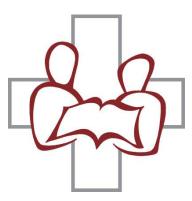
The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered 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.

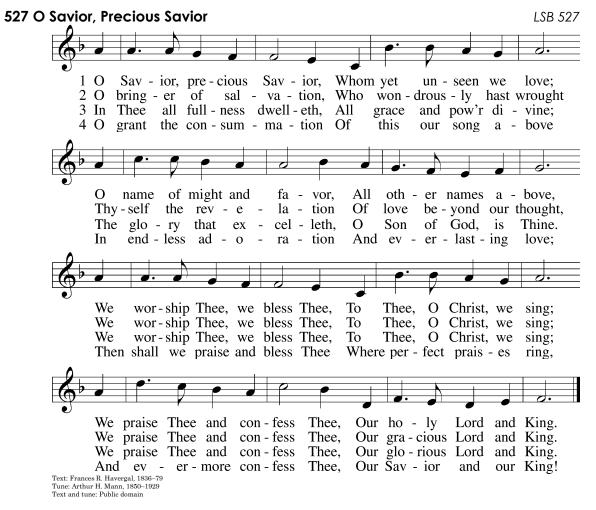


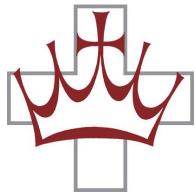
528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing LSB 528 0 1 Oh, for My а thou sand tongues to sing _ 2 Mvcious Mas and God. As gra ter my 3 Je sus! The that charms fears. That name our 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He O 6 The ries Re - deem - er's praise, glo of great my sist pro claim, То spread through all the me to bids our sor - rows cease: 'Tis mu sic in the pris - 'ner sets the free. His blood can make the Θ God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace! The Thy earth a broad. hon ors of name. 'Tis sin ner's ears. life and health and peace. His blood for foul est clean; a - vails me.

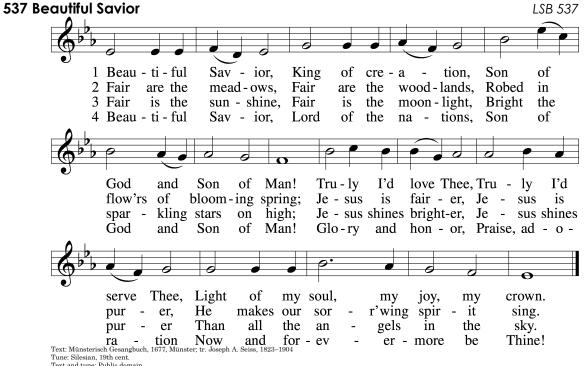
- 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own Your God, ye fallen race.
 Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.
- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.His soul was once an offring made For ev'ry soul of man.
- 7 To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'nBy saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829 Text and tune: Public domain

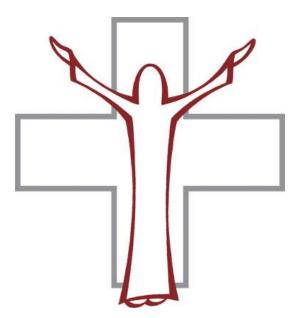








Text and tune: Public domain



543 What Wondrous Love Is This LSB 543 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, 0 my soul! What 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When 3 To God and to the Lamb Ι will sing, I will sing: To when from death I'm free, 4 And I'll sing I'll sing on; And on. is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That won-drous love was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -L I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who God and to the Lamb I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll when from death I'm free, of bliss bear the dread-ful curse caused the Lord То for my neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ a - side His crown laid for my While mil-lions join the theme, Ι will the great Ι AM, is His love And through e - ter - ni - ty sing for me. I'll sing Ο soul. for my soul, То bear the dread-ful curse soul! for my my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul. soul, for will sing, sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing. Ι I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on. on.

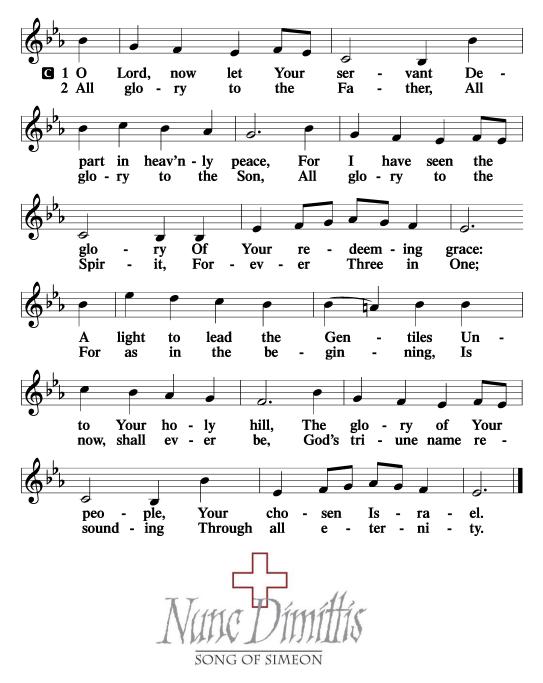
Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



Nunc Dimittis

(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

icamus (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.

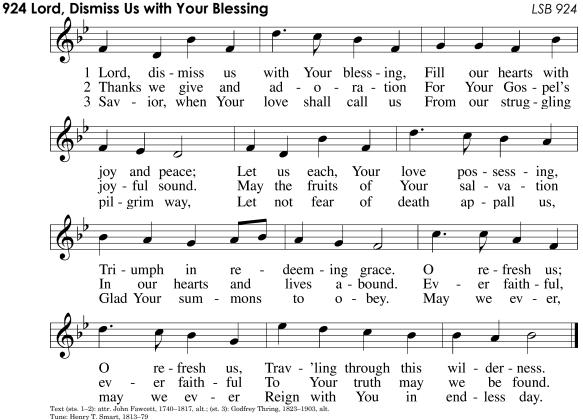
Benediction

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 and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday January 28	9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:15 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades) College/Young Adult Group (ages 18-25) New Testament Bible Reading Challenge Begins
Monday January 29		
Tuesday January 30		
Wednesday January 31	5:15 pm 5:55 pm 6:05 pm	Midweek – Confirmation Midweek – Meal Midweek – Worship Midweek Classes Midweek Choir
Thursday February 1	2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics
Friday February 2		
Saturday February 3	10:00 am	Men's Zoom Bible Study
Sunday February 4		Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults)

Celebrating

Birthdays: Dalton N. (29th); Arlyce A. (30th); Kelcie K. (31st); Gus H., Nathan H. (1st); Merva B., Pauline C. (2nd); Lisa S. (4th)
Baptism Birthdays: John H. (28th); Cindy F. (29th); Mike S. (30th); Arlyce A., Phil H., Kelcie K. (1st); Pauline C., Amy W. (2nd)
Anniversaries: (none this week)

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Mark (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) 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

Midweek at Christ (Wednesday)

4:00 pm – Confirmation 5:15 pm – Meal 5:55 pm – Worship 6:05 pm – Classes 7:00 pm -- Choir

Saturday Bible Studies

9:30 am monthly – Women's Bible Study (contact LaJean Rinker or the church office) 10:00 am weekly – Men's Zoom Bible Study (contact Eric Turner or the church office)



New Testament Bible Reading Challenge - BEGINS TODAY!

Our next Bible Reading Challenge begins on January 28^{th} – we will be reading through the New Testament in a little over 3 months. Pick up a reading calendar in the coffee lobby or download from our website. Those who complete the challenge in May will receive a prize!

Soup-er Bowl Food Drive

Our Board of Evangelism and LWML are teaming up for a food drive! From Sunday, February 4th through Sunday, February 11th, please bring canned soup and other nonperishable food items, and place them in the shopping cart in the coffee lobby. All of the collected food will be donated to Doorstep, as they help our neighbors throughout Topeka.

Christian Skate Night

Sk8away is holding their quarterly Christian Skate Night on Thursday, February 8^{th} at 6 PM. Admission is \$5 and includes skate rental.

Valentines Card-Making Service Project

Join us after church (around 11:45 AM) on Sunday, February 11th. We'll have a light lunch, and then make Valentines for our homebound members as well as residents of local care facilities. All ages and skill-levels welcome! (And we'll be done in plenty of time before kick-off for the big game.)

<u>LWML</u>

After multiple postponements due to weather, LWML will *not* meet for a monthly meeting in January. We will plan on our regular date and time for February.

First Communion Class

Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade who are enrolled in Confirmation class (or are interested in beginning next year) can take our First Communion Class, which will meet on Wednesdays at 6 PM during Lent. Grab a plate from the Lent Meal in the gym, and then report to the basement for class. Please contact Pastor Ben or DCE Amanda for more information. Confirmation students need to complete First Communion Class before they can be confirmed.

Diapers for Lifeline

Thank you to everyone who donated diapers for Lifeline Women's Resource Center in honor of Sanctity of Life Sunday. We were able to deliver over 1200 diapers to Lifeline!

Red Cross Blood Drive

LEAP at the chance to save a life, and donate blood here at Christ on Leap Day (February 29th). To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: TopekaCLC). Bring a photo ID, drink plenty of water and eat prior to your appointment.

Christ Cookbook

Update: We currently have 38 recipes submitted. Our goal is at least 150 – please submit your recipes!

Do you have a favorite recipe (or several favorites) that you would be willing to share? One member family has graciously offered to cover the cost of publishing a cookbook, and Andrea Van Genderen has volunteered her time and talents to coordinate the project for our congregation. The cookbook will be available for a suggested donation of \$5 once it has been completed (hopefully late spring or early summer). All donations will be used for our continued outreach efforts here at Christ.

To submit recipes, please include the following information:

- 1) Your name
- 2) Contact info (in case clarification is needed)
- 3) A few sentences/short paragraph on the origin of this recipe (optional)
- 4) Recipe (with measurements)

All submissions should be given to Andrea Van Genderen – either give a written/printed copy to her in person here at church, leave it in her church mailbox in the coffee lobby, or send her an e-mail (andrealvg06@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your participation – we're excited to see what you all cook up! *Deadline is April 30th*.

Ash Wednesday Offering

The annual Kansas District Ash Wednesday Offering supports scholarships for future church workers and education loan repayment grants for active church workers. Last year, they were able to award over \$82,000 in scholarships and education loan repayment grants. Of that amount, nearly \$23,000 was raised in last year's Ash Wednesday Offering. On behalf of our grateful recipients, THANK YOU!

You can participate in this year's offering by sending a gift directly to the District. You can contribute online at *kslcms.org/donate* or send a check to the LCMS Kansas District (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS, 66604) with the designation, "Ash Wednesday Offering."

Lent Midweek at Christ

We're going to change things up a bit for our Wednesday Midweek schedule during Lent. This will go into effect on Ash Wednesday (February 14th).

- $4:00 \ PM-Confirmation$
- 5:00 PM Classes/Bible Study
- 6:00 PM Lent Meal prepared by Christ Youth or LWML (donations appreciated) – First Communion Class
- 7:00 PM Lent Midweek Worship
- 7:30 PM Choir (will not meet on Ash Wednesday)



Remembered in our Prayers

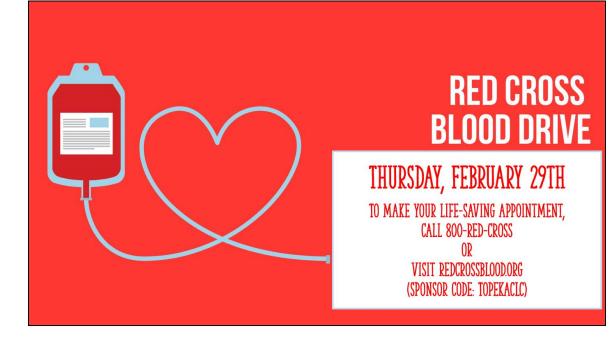
Charlie P., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Ted M., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Dick H., Betty H., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Lila N., Darleen C., Brandon B., Dennis L., Marsha S., James (father-in-law of Norlinda C.), Craig R., Craig R. II, Natalie O., Donna B., Lee M., Julie J., Colleen B., Greg (friend of the Tolberts), Rick (Colleen B.'s son-in-law), Averi (great niece of Heather S.), Galen H., Isaac (Ginger C.'s grandson), Bobby B., Josie H., Emily (great niece of Brenda Z.), Jessica (Jamie H.'s daughter), Sean (Patrick C.'s brother-in-law), Dakota (Patrick C.'s niece's husband). Linda O., Jon J., Harley B., Leola P., and others named in your heart. Pray for 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 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.













Lent Midweek at Christ FEBRUARY 14, 21, 28; MARCH 6, 13, 20

4:00 PM - CONFIRMATION 5:00 PM - CLASSES/BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM - LENT MEAL* *prepared by christ youth or lwml - Donations appreciated 7:00 PM - LENT WORSHIP 7:30 PM - CHOIR

CHOIR WILL NOT MEET ON 2/14 (ASH WEDNESDAY). FIRST COMMUNION CLASS WILL MEET IN THE BASEMENT DURING THE MEAL. CONFIRMATION WILL NOT MEET ON 3/13 (SPRING BREAK).

Our Lord Jesus Christ, True God in the Flesh, Cleanses Our Consciences from Sin

As He promised, the Lord our God has raised up "a prophet" like Moses, namely Jesus, our brother in the flesh. "To him you shall listen," because the Word of the Lord is "in his mouth" (Deut. 18:15–18). Indeed, He is more than a prophet and more than a scribe of the Scriptures; He is the incarnate Word, and He speaks "a new teaching with authority" (Mark 1:22, 27). He enters "the synagogue" of His Church and provides true Sabbath rest, using His authority to silence and cast out "even the unclean spirits" (Mark 1:21–27). By His Word of the cross, He removes the accusations of the Law and of the devil, and He cleanses our consciences before God the Father, "from whom are all things and for whom we exist." Hence, we are now set free from bondage and commended to God by the one Lord, Jesus Christ, "through whom are all things and through whom we exist" (1 Cor. 8:6). Therefore, use your freedom to care for your brothers and sisters, neither causing them to stumble nor wounding their consciences (1 Cor. 8:9–12), but cleansing and strengthening them with the Gospel.

<u>Worship Attendance – Sunday, January 21st</u>
$8:00 \mathrm{AM} - 65$
10:30 AM - 71

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$ 8,269
Offerings Received – Week of 1/21	\$ 8,935
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Dec 2023) Offerings Received (Jan-Dec 2023)	465,140 435,056

Mark 1:22 – "And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes." Authority is a word we are sometimes afraid of and don't like to hear. But that's just our sinful flesh talking. Jesus' authority is something we need. We need Him to show us what to believe and how to live, for Jesus' authority is always connected to his love.