

APRIL 21, 2024 | 10:30AM WORSHIP | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME *Home*



**CHRIST LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
CHRISTLAMESA.ORG

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Thanks for joining us today! Whether you were raised in a home that regularly worshipped, only went to church on Christmas and Easter, or are exploring the Christian faith for the first time – we are glad you are here. If you haven't been to a Lutheran Church before, our worship format might be a unique experience for you. Our service is filled with symbolism and ancient tradition that propels our hearts *upward*. Today, we encourage you to embrace the *extraordinariness* of our *ordinary* worship, where God forgives our sins, the Holy Spirit prepares us for daily life, prayers are lifted, and heaven and earth converge. Sundays may seem ordinary, but they are also filled with extraordinary moments that we should not miss. If you have any questions, our staff, volunteers, and your fellow worshippers are here to answer any questions and help in any way they can.

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## THE SEASON OF EASTER

Easter, the pinnacle of the Christian liturgical calendar, follows the reflective season of Lent and culminates in the joyous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The liturgical color for Easter is typically white or gold, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and the victory of life over death. As we enter into the Easter season, we are called to contemplate the significance of Christ's resurrection, and what it means to live as "Easter people."

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## CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

If you brought little ones with you today – we are overjoyed to have them here. While your worship might feel more like a wrestling match, a battle of wills, or a circus... your time, efforts, and distracted worship are worth it. Even the messiest and most frustrating days are not wasted. If your little one just needs a place to stretch their legs for a second, we have a staffed **Kid Care** for 0-2-year-olds on the second floor of the courtyard and a **Family Room** in the back of the sanctuary.

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## WHAT'S A "LUTHERAN"?

Simply put, Lutherans are *Christians*. We are catholic, but not Roman; orthodox, but not Eastern; evangelical, but not Baptist; reformed, but not Presbyterian. We hold to the *apostolic faith* (the faith of Jesus' apostles) and adhere to the principles of the Reformation, emphasizing Christ alone as the way to eternal life. We hold that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and has no error and that through God's Word and Sacraments (Holy Baptism, the Eucharist, and Absolution), we are forgiven, strengthened, and equipped to live as disciples. All of our worship and praise is centered around the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus Christ. To learn more, visit [christlamesa.org/about](http://christlamesa.org/about) or [lcms.org/about/beliefs](http://lcms.org/about/beliefs).

## CONNECTION CARD

Please let us know you're worshipping with us today. You can give us as little, or as much, info as you'd like. There is also a place on the connection card to submit a prayer request, make a comment, ask a question, or express interest in next steps. If you'd like to give an offering, you can do that, too! Scan the QR code or visit [christlamesa.org/hello](http://christlamesa.org/hello).



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## SUNDAY SCHOOL + YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School is encouraged for those 3 years old to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Check-in begins at 9:00 am at the back entrance of Christ Lutheran School (near the preschool building). Sunday School starts at 9:15 am and parents pick up at 10:15 am. New students and friends are welcome anytime! Questions? Visit [christlamesa.org/learn](http://christlamesa.org/learn).

**7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders** meet for Confirmation in Room 202 (second floor of the courtyard) from 9:15-10:15 am. **9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders** meet for Senior High Sunday Morning in Youth Center Room 3 from 9:15-10:15 am.

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## ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies play a vital role in deepening one's understanding of Scripture and fostering spiritual growth. Please consider attending a study this morning.

- **The Village Bible Study** explores, from a biblical viewpoint, issues that impact our families. It meets in Lucas Hall (Preschool Building) from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Berean Bible Study** engages in an in-depth study of God's Word, verse by verse. It meets in Room 203 from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Focus Bible Study** is a place for seasoned adults to gather around fellowship and God's Word. It meets in Room 101 from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.
- **The Grace Bible Study** is for 20-30 year-olds to study God's Word and its relevance to everyday life. It meets in the Teacher's Lounge from 9:15-10:15 am on Sunday.

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## LOOKING TO SERVE?

Looking to *dive deeper* in your faith journey, using your gifts for God's glory and the world's good? Consider serving on Sunday morning. Wondering how you can serve? Consider taking the spiritual gifts inventory located at [christlamesa.org/resources](http://christlamesa.org/resources). More information can be found at [christlamesa.org/serve](http://christlamesa.org/serve).

# **+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +**

*In the "Opening Rite" we prepare our hearts to worship God, first by invoking his name, singing praises to Him, confessing our sins, and receiving forgiveness. Please stand, as you are able, for the invocation and opening song.*

## **WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

## **OPENING SONG | RAISE A HALLELUJAH**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

## **SONG OF RESPONSE | WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME**

*We now enter the "Liturgy of the Word." Since the early days of the church, portions of the Bible have been read during worship so that all may be formed by the Word of God.*

## **FIRST READING | PSALM 23 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 787**

## **SECOND READING | 1 JOHN 3:16-24 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1740**

## **GOSPEL READING | JOHN 10:11-18 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1528**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*The Apostles' Creed serves as a timeless and foundational expression of the Christian faith, offering a sense of shared identity as we confess our belief regarding the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **HOMILY | LIVING AS SIBLINGS**

## **OFFERING | CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/GIVE**

*Giving an offering is an active participation in the redemptive work of Jesus in this world and an act of worship. Members of Christ Lutheran support the mission through their giving of time, talents, and treasures. If you are a guest joining us, please know there is no expectation for you to contribute. Your presence is what matters to us.*

## **OFFERING SONG | LESS LIKE ME**

## **PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING SONG | YOUR LOVE NEVER FAILS**

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*Hymns and songs are used by permission: LSB Hymn license no. 110000410; CCLI license no. 254628.  
To watch this service again, or share it with a friend, visit [christlamesa.org/worship](http://christlamesa.org/worship).*

# LIFE GROUP GUIDE | NEW LIFE TO THE WORLD | WEEK 3

- When was a time that someone showed “sacrificial love” to you? How did that make you feel? What was your response?
- Read 1 John 3:16-24.
- How does John describe the nature of love in this passage? Take some time to meditate on verse 16. Why is it important to remember Jesus as we strive to love others?
- Where do you see love at work in your family, your workplace, your church, and in your wider community? What would you say are the “marks” of love?
- What is the relationship between love and obedience to God’s commands in this passage?
- How does our love for God manifest in our obedience to Him?
- When have you struggled to love others? What was the greatest struggle?
- End your time by sharing prayer requests.

# THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**Preacher:** Pastor Travis Ferguson; **Liturgist:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children's Message:** Tenley Sitze; **Acolyte:** Jonathan Clark; **Reader:** Bill Roan; **Music Leader:** CLC Youth Band; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Kiah Stroud, Craig Barkett, and Zachary Brenner; **Welcome Team:** Rick Fiege, Tim Ripke, and Sandy Zeilinger

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

**Celebrating a birthday this week:** Ron Recksiedler, LeRoy Loney, Heidi Powers, Barb Sharif, Georg Winkler, Elisabeth Heath, Avery Strong, Diane Svensson, Don Mathiowetz, Hong Nguyen, Lauren Rabasco, and Cooper Welgan, and Jerry Hansen; **Healing:** Dan Fischer, Katha Kuspa, Don Mathiowetz, Bill McNally, and Lucy Price.

**Others:** We pray for the church. Lead us faithfully in the way of the cross. Unite us as one body in Christ. Empower us with courage to speak out against injustice and greed, demonstrating with our words and actions the love of Jesus.

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## OUR STAFF



**Travis Ferguson**  
*Pastor*



**Jacob Sitze**  
*Deacon*



**Patti Maass**  
*Director of Operations*



**Cheri Selander**  
*Director of Youth Ministries*



**Brandon Heath**  
*Minister to Youth*



**Kathy Barkett**  
*Director of Worship and Music*



**Sarah Kusel**  
*Assistant Director of Music and Worship*



**Xavria Schwarz**  
*Principal*



**Melissa Payne**  
*Preschool Director*



**Stuart Gardner**  
*Director of Community and Communications*



**Craig Barkett**  
*Director of Facilities*



**Kathy Garces**  
*Administrative Accountant*



**Emily Lieber**  
*Human Resources Specialist*



**Kathy Johnson**  
*Worship and Music Assistant*



**Kim Voss**  
*Administrative Assistant*

To contact a staff member, please visit [christlamesa.org/about](http://christlamesa.org/about)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**MEAL PACKING EVENT | MAY 5 AT 11:30 AM** – Our Easter Offering raised over \$42,000! That is well over our \$32,000 goal – praise the Lord! Please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 am as we pack over 100,000 meals for children in Peru. You can sign up to help at [christlamesa.org/mealpacking](http://christlamesa.org/mealpacking). This is a great event to invite friends to. Thank you for being committed to making such a difference!



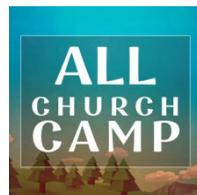
**THE 2024 MEXICO HOUSEBUILD | SATURDAYS IN APRIL AND MAY** – As a church, we partner with AMOR Ministries to build a home for one family in Mexico. Join us on April 27, May 11, and 18 as we help our neighbors to the South! Anyone over 8 years old with a valid passport may come to serve on a build Saturday. Friends and family are welcome to join. Scan the QR code to sign-up.



**GRADUATION MILESTONE | SUNDAY MAY 19** - We are looking for all our **Senior High and College Graduates** who are *CLS Alumni and/or have been confirmed here at CLC*. We would like to celebrate the Milestone of your Graduation on Sunday, May 19. Scan the QR code to fill out the online form and upload a photo. **The submission deadline is May 5.**



**DINNER FOR 6, 7, OR 8** - Social evenings of fun and fellowship for families, singles, and couples of all ages, will begin in May. Sign up today or next Sunday in the courtyard. Groups meet once a month in each member's home in May, June, July, and August. Group members take turns hosting and providing the main course, bread, and the beverage. Other members will bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert. Contact Chuck or Joanene Falk 619-454-0852.



**ALL CHURCH CAMP | MAY 24 – 27** – Take in Memorial Day Weekend with fellowship at fun at the all-church camp out! Talk to anyone who has gone before, they've loved it! Whether you're married or single, have kids or not, you're invited to come. Reserve your spot at [christlamesa.org/camp](http://christlamesa.org/camp).

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To see more upcoming events, visit [christlamesa.org/calendar](http://christlamesa.org/calendar).