

**APRIL 7, 2024 | 10:30AM WORSHIP | SECOND 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 | JESUS**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

## **SONG OF RESPONSE | GOD OF WONDERS**

*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 148 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 901**

## **SECOND READING | 1 JOHN 1:1-2:2 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1737**

## **GOSPEL READING | JOHN 20:19-31 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1546**

## **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 IN THE LIGHT**

## **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 | AT THE CROSS**

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

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING SONG | WE PRAISE YOU**

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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\*\*](https://christlamesa.org/worship).*

# LIFE GROUP GUIDE | NEW LIFE TO THE WORLD | WEEK 1

- Share a moment from your life when you felt the presence of God's "light" or experienced His grace in a powerful way.
- Read 1 John 1:1—2:2.
- John says "if we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth" (v. 6). How do we walk in darkness?
- Where do you see darkness in our world today? What does it look like, as a Christian, to walk in the light in a world full of darkness?
- John says "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." This is an exhortation to confession. Martin Luther, in his 1529 writing A Brief Admonition to Confession, says "When I urge you to go to Confession, I am doing nothing else than urging you to be a Christian." What prevents you from confessing or admitting fault (to others, to your pastor, etc.)?
- When someone confesses/admits fault to you, is it easy for you to pronounce forgiveness?
- Where do you need the Holy Spirit's help to "walk in the light" right now in your daily life?
- End your time by sharing prayer requests.

# THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**Liturgist and Preacher:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children’s Message:** Cheri Selander; **Acolyte:** Morgan Giles; **Reader:** Don Mathiowetz; **Music Leader:** CLC Praise Band; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Micah Valadez, Craig Barkett, and Dennis Johnson; **Welcome Team:** Jill Kusel, Mark Kusel, Bill McNally, and Jan McNally

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# IN OUR PRAYERS

**Celebrating a birthday this week:** Wayne Sieckman, Zachary Brenner, Niles Sharif, Levi Ferguson, Kathi Miller, Steve Smith, Jeff Vincelett, Frieda Busch, Jessica Hope, Kathy Munnik, Cheri Selander, Carol Tobin, Dennis Johnson, and Evarist Niyibigira. **Healing:** Charlie Wells, and Lucy Price. **Others:** Pat Howes and family at the loss of her husband, Roger.

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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!



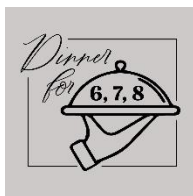
**THE 2024 MEXICO HOUSEBUILD | SATURDAYS IN APRIL AND MAY** – As a church, we partner with AMOR Ministries to build a home for one family in Mexico. Join us on April 13, 27, May 11, and 18 as we help our neighbors to the South! Anyone over 8 years old with a valid passport may come to serve on a build Saturday. Friends and family are welcome to join. Scan the QR code to sign-up.



**CELEBRATION OF SAN DIEGO MINISTRIES | APRIL 14 | 12:00 PM** – Join the Sunshine Zone of the Southern California Lutheran Laymen's League at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (1376 Felspar St, San Diego, 92109) as they host 5 presenters, including our very own Dennis Wetjen, who will speak to current Lutheran Ministries in San Diego. Lunch will be provided. This is a great opportunity to hear about how God is at work throughout San Diego!



**CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL** - Named Premier Parent Choice Award Winner for 2022-2023, our Christ-centered and accredited School and Preschool have been committed to academic excellence since 1958. You get tradition and legacy with a bright and exciting future with Christ Lutheran. If you are interested in enrollment, visit [lutheranschool.org](http://lutheranschool.org) or call **(619) 462-5211, ext. 3**, and schedule a tour today!



**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 on April 14 and 21 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.

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