

MARCH 24, 2024 | 10:30AM WORSHIP | PALM SUNDAY



**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, heaven and earth converge, and the profound mystery of the Eucharist takes place. 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.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is a solemn season that spans 40 days (not including Sundays), mirroring the biblical 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. Commencing on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Easter Sunday, Lent serves as a period of reflection, repentance, and spiritual preparation. The liturgical color for Lent is purple, signifying penance, humility, and the royalty of Jesus. The season is marked with practices such as fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION + WHAT WE BELIEVE

Communion is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and confidence that our Lord gives us 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 the baptized who trust in the words “my body... my blood... for you”, repent of all sin, and seek to live by the Lord's ways. If this is not your belief, are a child who has not taken the First Communion Class or are unfamiliar with the belief of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we invite you to come forward with your arms crossed so that we can give you a blessing by making the sign of the cross over you. We also encourage you to talk to one of our pastors after the service if you have questions.

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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL + YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School is encouraged for those 3 years old to 6th 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.

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

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.

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. More information can be found at 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 | ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOR

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE | GOODNESS OF GOD

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 | EXODUS 34:1-8 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 126

SECOND READING | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-6:2 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1648

GOSPEL READING | MATTHEW 21:1-11 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1405

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 | A NEW BEGINNING

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 | I WILL WAIT FOR YOU (PSALM 130)

PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

As we enter the "Liturgy of the Eucharist", our hearts are elevated to heaven as we prepare to celebrate the ultimate mystery of faith, where the bread and wine become, for us, the Body and Blood of Jesus. A more detailed statement on our belief can be found at the bottom of page 2.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG | IT IS WELL

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG | I THANK GOD

*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.*

NOTES (OR DOODLE PAGE FOR KIDDOS)

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant and Preacher: Pastor Travis Ferguson; **Liturgist:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children’s Message:** Cheri Selander; **Acolyte:** Elise Ramos; **Reader:** Jeff Miller; **Music Leader:** Kathy Barkett; **Worship Partner:** Dennis Wetjen; **Communion Assistants:** Mike Buskirk, Andy Floros, Bill Roan, and Steve Rochester; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Joseph Arzillo, Craig Barkett, and Logan Johnson; **Welcome Team:** LeRoy Loney, Mark Gould, Angelika Winkler, and Zissi Winkler.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Celebrating a birthday this week: Joseph Arzillo, Alex Miller, Kathy Smith, Wolfgang Ott **Healing:** Katha Kuspa, Sylvia Press, Lucy Price, Nancy Sierra; **Others:** comfort and peace for all who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

OUR STAFF

 <p>Travis Ferguson <i>Pastor</i></p>	 <p>Jacob Sitze <i>Deacon</i></p>	 <p>Patti Maass <i>Director of Operations</i></p>	 <p>Cheri Selander <i>Director of Youth Ministries</i></p>	 <p>Brandon Heath <i>Minister to Youth</i></p>
 <p>Kathy Barkett <i>Director of Worship and Music</i></p>	 <p>Sarah Kusel <i>Assistant Director of Music and Worship</i></p>	 <p>Xavria Schwarz <i>Principal</i></p>	 <p>Melissa Payne <i>Preschool Director</i></p>	 <p>Stuart Gardner <i>Director of Community and Communications</i></p>
 <p>Craig Barkett <i>Director of Facilities</i></p>	 <p>Kathy Garces <i>Administrative Accountant</i></p>	 <p>Emily Lieber <i>Human Resources Specialist</i></p>	 <p>Kathy Johnson <i>Worship and Music Assistant</i></p>	 <p>Kim Voss <i>Administrative Assistant</i></p>

To contact a staff member, please visit christlamesa.org/about

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP – Mark your calendars for our Holy Week and Easter Worship. March 28th: Maundy Thursday with First Communion at 7pm; March 29th: Good Friday Stations of the Cross Liturgy at 7pm; March 30th: Easter Saturday with Communion at 5 pm (same sermon and readings as Sunday); March 31st: Easter Sunday at 8 (Communion) & 10:30 am



SOSL | MARCH 25 | 6:30-9:00 PM | ROOM 1 – SOSL is a grief support group for survivors of suicide loss. The group meets each month on the fourth Monday in Room 1 of the Youth Center. For more information, contact Debi Ridulfo at 619.415.5330.



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 or call **(619) 462-5211, ext. 3**, and schedule a tour today!

To see more upcoming events, visit christlamesa.org/calendar.