

JANUARY 21, 2024 | 10:30AM WORSHIP | THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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.

THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Epiphany follows the celebration of Christmas and lasts until the beginning of Lent. The liturgical color for Epiphany is white, symbolizing purity and the divine light that Christ brings to the world. As we celebrate Epiphany, we are reminded of the journey of the Magi and the recognition of Jesus as the Son of God by the Gentiles. May this season inspire us to share the light of Christ with others and recognize His presence in our lives.

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.

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 or 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.



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 if you are able.

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

OPENING SONG | THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE | FIRM FOUNDATION (HE WON'T)

Please be seated as we 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 | JONAH 3:1-5 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1324

SECOND READING | 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1629

GOSPEL READING | MARK 1:14-20 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1424

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM | PHILIP JAMES DUGGIE

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 | CASTING GOSPEL NETS

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 today is what matters to us.

OFFERING SONG | RED LETTERS

PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG | BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE

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).*

THE CALL OF GOD LIFE GROUP GUIDE | WEEK 3

- Share a brief moment of your life when you felt a clear calling or direction from God. How did you respond?
- Read Mark 1:14-20. What is the nature of the call that Jesus extends to Simon, Andrew, James, and John?
- How do the fishermen respond to Jesus' call, and what can we learn from their immediate obedience?
- Read Jonah 3:1-5. How does Jonah's response differ from the fishermen in Mark 1, and what are the implications of obedience or reluctance in answering God's call? Do you feel like you are more prone to be like the fishermen in Mark 1, or Jonah?
- What lessons can we draw from Jonah's experience about God's call (for all people) and the potential for transformation through repentance?
- In what ways can we “cast gospel nets” in our daily lives, following the example of Jesus and the early disciples?
- Share personal experiences of evangelism or moments when you felt prompted to share the good news of believing in Jesus.
- Discuss potential challenges in sharing the gospel with others. What prevents you from speaking openly about Jesus, or spurring someone on to explore Christianity?
- End your time by sharing prayer requests.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: Pastor Travis Ferguson; **Liturgist:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children’s Message:** Jacob Sitze; **Acolyte:** Jonathan Clark; **Reader:** Bill Roan; **Music Leader:** Kathy Barkett; **Media:** Joseph Arzillo, Mark Arzillo and Zachary Brenner; **Welcome Team:** Rick Fiege, Tim Ripke, and Sandy Zeilinger

IN OUR PRAYERS

Celebrating a birthday this week: Pam Cook, Titus Palmer, Larry Waterman, Brian Arita, Nat Lucas, Diane Howard, Ryan Reuther, and Claire Krueger. **Sick/Recovering/Surgery:** Nancy Sierra, Terry Gland, and Wendy Roan. **Others:** Joseph, our President; Gavin, our Governor; Administrative Professionals; Attorneys and Judges

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2024 WOMEN'S RETREAT – You are invited to join the women of Christ Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool for Never Alone, an overnight retreat. The retreat will take place at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center (approx. 45 minutes from La Mesa) from Friday, March 15, 2024, to Saturday, March 16, 2024. Come connect and restore with us! Reserve your spot online at christlamesa.org/retreat.



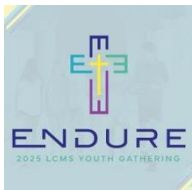
GATHER + GROW PARENT EDUCATION ON FEBRUARY 4 FROM 3:30-5:00 PM – Guest Speaker, Katey McPherson will share with us practical and evidence based tips to manage & supervise your child's screen time. Childcare is available for children 0-11 years old by registering at tinyurl.com/ggchildcare.



TEACH ME TO PRAY: FEBRUARY 18 – The Sticky Faith Team is pleased to announce the introduction of a new faith milestone at Christ Lutheran. The 4–6-year-old children will be presenting the Lord's Prayer at the 8 am at 10:30 am service. All are welcome to attend the service that works best for their family. Questions can be directed to Cheri Selander at cselander@christlamesa.org.



PARENT EDUCATION SESSION: FEBRUARY 18– The Sticky Faith Team is presenting a parent education session on how to pray at home with your children. This is in partnership with the Teach Me to Pray milestone. The Parent Education will take place on the 3rd level of the CLS building during education hour on Feb 18. Coffee and muffins will also be provided. All parents are welcome to come but we are targeting parents of Preschool - 1st grade, especially.



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING AMBASSADOR PROGRAM – If you are 26 years or older, help serve the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering by applying to be a Gathering Ambassador. Ambassadors are servant leaders and trusted voices, helping youth participants and their leaders have a safe and remarkable experience. For more information, contact Elisabeth Heath at elig_23@hotmail.com or go to lcmsgathering.com/volunteer to apply.

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