

**FEBRUARY 18, 2024 | 10:30AM WORSHIP | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**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 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.

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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 | THE WAY**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

## **SONG OF RESPONSE | GOD YOU ARE**

*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 3:1-14 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 80**

## **SECOND READING | PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1675**

## **GOSPEL READING | MATTHEW 20:20-28 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1404**

## **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.*

## **TEACH ME TO PRAY MILESTONE**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **HOMILY | HOW GOD CHANGES US**

## **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 | NO LONGER SLAVES**

## **PRAYERS**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING SONG | I THANK GOD**

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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).*

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# THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**Celebrant and Preacher:** Pastor Travis Ferguson; **Liturgist:** Deacon Jacob Sitze; **Children’s Message:** Cheri Selander; **Acolyte:** Elise Ramos; **Reader:** Bill Roan; **Music Leader:** CLC Youth Band; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Mark Arzillo, Joseph Arzillo, and Zachary Brenner; **Welcome Team:** Rick Fiege, Tim Ripke, and Sandy Zeilinger

# IN OUR PRAYERS

**Celebrating a birthday this week:** Jack Callanan, Jocey Nachant, Trevor Voss, Hannah Chisum, Pam Gangwisch, Peggy Wendel, and Laurie Rickards. **Healing:** Betty Prestage (after fall), John Fetherlin (bronchitis), Ruth Molnar (bronchitis), Gunnar Shalin (pneumonia). **Others:** All parents who strive to raise God-fearing and God-loving children.

# 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



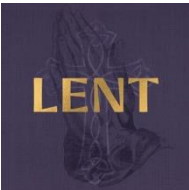
Kim Voss  
Administrative Assistant

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**HOLY COMMUNION FAMILY CLASS | MARCH 3 | 1:00-3:30 PM | LUCAS HALL** – This is a parent/student class that helps baptized students from 5th to 8th grade to understand the significance of the Lord’s Supper and what it means for them as a follower of Christ. Students who go through this class will partake in their First Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship service on the evening of March 28. Scan the QR code to sign up.



**GATHER + GROW LENT EDITION | SUPPER AND STUDY | 5:30-7:00 PM | GYM**

On Wednesday evenings through Lent we will **Gather** to enjoy a meal together and **Grow** as we dive into a study series called “Love in Chaos” by Bob Goff. This week’s supper will feature a variety of delicious soups, salad, and dessert. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets or donate online. Tickets will also be available at the door. All proceeds benefit Youth Ministry.



**PREGNANCY CARE CLINIC WALK FOR LIFE | MARCH 2 | 8:00AM** – The PCC will hold their annual Walk for Life event in Downtown El Cajon in the Prescott Promenade (201 E. Main Street, El Cajon). Recording artist Michael Sanchez will also be performing. Please contact Phil Lamonica (prlamonica@cox.net) for more information or to make a pledge.



**THE 2024 MEXICO HOUSEBUILD** – Join us on four Saturdays beginning April 13. As a church we partner with AMOR Ministries to build a home for one family over four Saturdays, April 13, 27, May 11, and 18. Anyone over 8 years old with a valid passport may come to serve on a build Saturday. Friends and family are welcome to join. For more information and Sign-ups will begin in March

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