

MARCH 17, 2024 | 8AM WORSHIP | FIFTH 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, 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 +

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Please stand, if you are able, as we prepare our hearts to worship God and receive His good gifts.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

OPENING HYMN | LSB 686 | COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; may I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

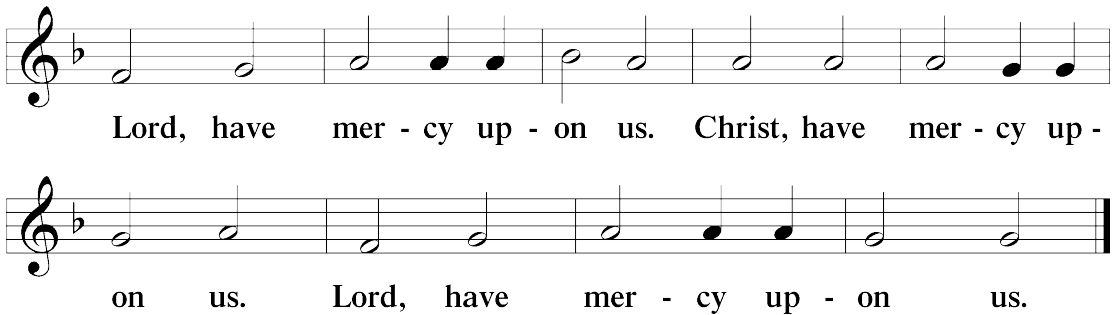
CONFESSION OF SIN | PSALM 32:5; PSALM 51:10; 1 JOHN 1:9; JAMES 5:16

Leader: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins and so prepare ourselves to celebrate God together.

We take a moment for self-reflection as we confess to God our imperfections.

Leader: Almighty God, merciful Father...

All: I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In thoughts, words, and actions, I have offended You, whom I should love above all things. Forgive my sins and lead me to everlasting life.



RECEIVING OF GRACE

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake, forgives you all your sins. Hear this good news: you are forgiven in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

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.

Reader: Our first reading is from Exodus, the thirty-second chapter.

¹ When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, “Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.”

² Aaron answered them, “Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me.” ³ So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, “These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.”

⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, “Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD.” ⁶ So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

⁷ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. ⁸ They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, ‘These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.’

⁹ “I have seen these people,” the LORD said to Moses, “and they are a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses sought the favor of the LORD his God. “LORD,” he said, “why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and

do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.'" ¹⁴ Then the LORD relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL | MATTHEW 5:27-30 | PEW BIBLE PAGE 1379

Leader: To honor the words and works of Jesus, please stand.

All: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed serves as a timeless and foundational expression of the Christian faith, offering a sense of shared identity. We utilize the creed as a statement of belief about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Adults may be seated. Children are invited to come forward for an age-appropriate message.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE HYMN | LSB 496 | HOLY SPIRIT, LIGHT DIVINE

Holy Spirit, light divine, shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away, turn the darkness into day.

Holy Spirit, pow'r divine, cleanse this guilty heart of mine;
In Thy mercy pity me, from sin's bondage set me free.

Holy Spirit, joy divine, cheer this saddened heart of mine;
Yield a sacred, settled peace, let it grow and still increase.

Holy Spirit, all divine, dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down ev'ry idol throne, reign supreme, and reign alone.

HOMILY | DIGGING OURSELVES INTO A HOLE

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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE | LSB 425 | WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

Please stand, if you are able, as we lift up our prayers to God.

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Each petition ends with:

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers, we continue with the Lord's Prayer:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our

trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION | ISAIAH 6:1-8; 2 TIMOTHY 4:22; COLOSSIANS 3:1; MATTHEW 26:26-28

The Sursum Corda (Latin: "Lift up your hearts") is an ancient Christian communion prayer. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we have been raised with Christ and now reign with him in heaven. We end this preface with the Sanctus (Latin: "Holy"). The Sanctus is one of the songs being sung in heaven before God's throne. We join our voices with the angels and those who have gone before us in the faith to give glory to God. After the Sanctus, we embrace the ultimate Mystery of Faith, as bread and wine become, for us, the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

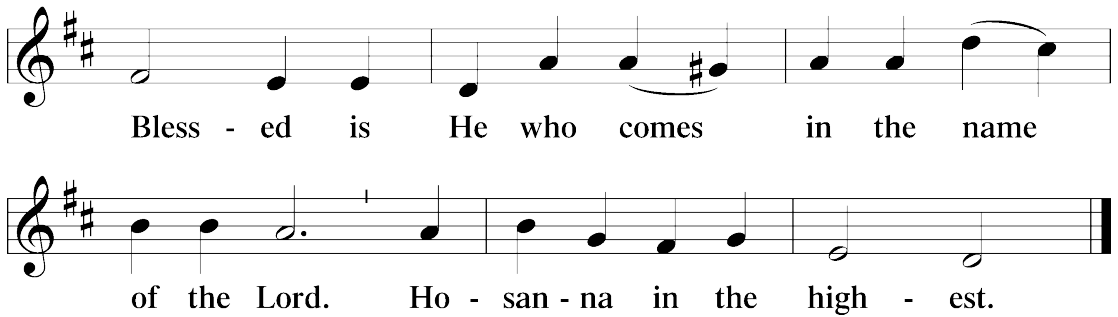
All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly ... evermore praising You and singing:

All:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Pastor: Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed...

SHARING OF THE PEACE | MATTHEW 5:9; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:20

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated, and join in singing the hymns, as you reflect on God's love and prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. You can find what we believe about Communion on the bottom of page 2.

COMMUNION HYMN | LW 507 | HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

COMMUNION HYMN | THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. ***Refrain***

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. ***Refrain***

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN | LSB 819 | SING PRAISE TO GOD, THE HIGHEST GOOD

Sing praise to God, the highest good, the author of creation,
The God of love who understood our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills and ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness and came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord, who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

All who confess Christ's holy name, give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne, for God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

*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 single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run 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 & Reader:** Jordan Chisum **Music Leader:** Kathy Barkett; **Worship Partner:** Mike McGhen; **Communion Assistants:** Phil Lamonica, Kent Schwartz, Michael Welgan, and Dave Wutke; **Livestream, Sound, and Media:** Stuart Garnder, Craig Barkett, and Alex Miller; **Welcome Team:** Dallas Johnson, Joel Voss, Kathy Coe, Jean Geyer, and Nancy Sierra.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Celebrating a birthday this week: Kathy Maass, Christy Holden, Linda Ackerly, Paul Arzillo, Bob Anderson, Gorden Geddes, Lucas Johnson, Jordan Chisum, Joyce Natasha, Joseph Arzillo, and Alex Miller. **Healing:** Carrie Salisbury. **Others:** Pray for Teachers, Directors of Christian Education, Musicians, Pastors, Deacons, Missionaries and Lay Leaders who are committed to serving God and His Church.

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



GATHER + GROW LENT EDITION | 5:30-7:00 PM | GYM – Join us this Wednesday for our final Supper and Study of the season. 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 it’s grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with delicious homemade side dishes and dessert! Scan the QR code for online tickets and donations. Tickets are also available at the door. Proceeds benefit Youth Ministry.



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.



EASTER EGG HUNT | MARCH 23 | HARRY GRIFFEN PARK – Join us this Saturday morning for our annual Easter Egg Hunt for toddlers and children through fourth grade. Registration begins at 9:00am and the hunt begins at 10:00am.



2024 EASTER OFFERING | HELP US PACK 100,000 MEALS – Easter is just around the corner... but millions around the world have difficulty thinking about the joys of Easter because their bellies are growling from hunger. Help us change that this Easter. Our goal is to pack 100,000 meals - and we need your help to do it. Make a difference. Donate to the Easter Offering today! At tinyurl.com/easteroffering2024.



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

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