



ONE IN CHRIST

Week of December 19-25, 2022

Reflection for the Fourth Week of Advent



As we enter into the final week of Advent, as the busy-ness of all the last-minute things swirls around us, let us remind ourselves and each other of what we are expecting this season. Mary and Elizabeth show us how to do this, guest and host embracing each other in hope, joy, and love. Receive the blessing of Mary and Elizabeth, as they come together to share their expectation of love incarnate.

A Blessing Called Sanctuary

You hardly knew how hungry you were to be gathered in,
to receive the welcome that invited you to enter entirely—
nothing of you found foreign or strange,
nothing of your life that you were asked to leave behind
or to carry in silence or in shame.

Tentative steps became settling in,
leaning into the blessing that enfolded you,
taking your place in the circle
that stunned you with its unimagined grace.

You began to breathe again,
to move without fear,
to speak with abandon the words you carried in your bones,
that echoed in your being.

You learned to sing.

But the deal with this blessing is that it will not leave you alone,
will not let you linger in safety, in stasis.

The time will come when this blessing will ask you to leave,
not because it has tired of you
but because it desires for you to become the sanctuary that you have found—
to speak your word into the world,
to tell what you have heard with your own ears,
seen with your own eyes,
known in your own heart:

that you are beloved,
precious child of God,
beautiful to behold,*
and you are welcome
and more than welcome
here.

—Jan Richardson
from *Circle of Grace*



WE WORSHIP....



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2022 Great Expectations

You are invited to join us for online and in-person services.

Wednesday, December 21

6:00 pm Light Supper

7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpiemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

Saturday, December 24

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87260843758?pwd=UEUrY2VzcVZleGFoR0s4cEY0bXVZZz09>

Meeting ID: 872 6084 3758

Passcode: 583152

Saturday, December 24

9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89493390358?pwd=NEE1eUJyL0h6aTJsNklwTW96ckoyQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 9339 0358

Passcode: 301758

Sunday, December 25, Merry Christmas!

10:00 am Worship.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09>

Meeting ID: 278 217 453

Password: 971744

Sunday, January 1

First Sunday of Christmas, *In-Person worship only*

10:00 am Worship.

Sunday, December 25, 10:00 am Worship

Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare will not be available in the nursery this week.

OR

You may also attend virtually using the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

Masks are optional to enter the building, and will be available at entrances if needed. If you feel unwell, please care for yourself and others by staying home, and we will be happy to see you when you return. Thank you for your commitment to caring for one another!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09>

One tap mobile

+13126266799,278217453#,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453

Password: 971744



Worship Signup

At Christ Lutheran, our children and youth are part of our church, and we encourage people of all ages to take on leadership roles during our worship service. If you would like the opportunity to serve in worship. For more info visit the children's goggle drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1a7BegZgymOcyHDqKM_fSZBZrZs7po-iV?usp=share_link

TO SERVE AS ACOLYTE:

Please visit <https://bit.ly/CLCacolytes> Contact Kersten Horn (horn.kersten@gmail.com) if your child needs acolyte training.

TO SIGN UP AS A LECTOR OR ASSISTING MINSTER:

Please contact Mark Roock.

TO LEAD A PRAYER OR OTHER PARTS OF WORSHIP:

Please visit <https://bit.ly/CLCworship>

Please reach out with questions and suggestions you have about the children and youth ministries at Christ Lutheran. Peace, Katie Gregston

Staffing Transition for Christ Lutheran

Lisette Kreidler, our Admin for the last several years, has taken a new position, and will be leaving Christ Lutheran December 20. I want to thank Lisette for her commitment, flexibility and adaptability through Covid, and all of the work she has done to provide bulletins, newsletters, mailings, and reports, over the time she has been with us! We will miss her!

Please welcome Corona Williams, she will be taking over basic responsibilities in the office. She will be working from home Monday and Tuesday and in the office Wednesday and Thursday 8:30-4pm. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding during this time of transition!

Thank you CLC!

Thank you CLC for letting me be part of your community the last few years! I will cherish my time here and am grateful to have gotten to know you all! I know the new year will bring wonderful things to CLC!

Many wishes for a happy Holiday Season,
Lisette Kreidler



Please contact Lynnae Ruff for potluck sign-up details. ladygreybeads@gmail.com

Stewardship & Offerings

We have just begun our fall stewardship invitation. Please see the pledge form at the back of the newsletter and contact Katie Ciorba with any questions.

We can continue to fund our church and the important work we're doing with a few easy clicks:

1. Visit [our donation website](#) directly or go to www.christwg.org and scroll down to the 'Give Now' button.
2. You may make a one time or recurring gift. There are NO FEES to withdraw directly from your bank account. Fees do apply for debit/credit card transactions.
3. Optional: set up a profile to be able to change your recurring gifts at any time or view your giving history.

If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.



POINSETTIAS ON SALE FOR CHRISTMAS

This year we again have beautiful multi-bloom poinsettias, in six-inch pots, for sale. You can purchase one or more plants for \$7.50 each, which the church will use for decorating the altar on Christmas Eve (Friday, Dec. 24). You may take home your plant(s) on Sunday the 25th. Or, you can give your plants to our homebound members, to be distributed during Christmas week. Return this form to the office with your payment by Dec 22nd.



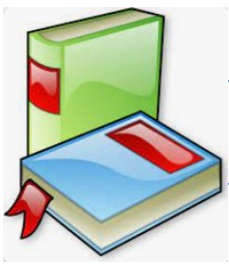
Your name: _____ Number of poinsettias: _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

I will be taking _____ home with me. I will be leaving _____ for the homebound.

Cost \$7.50 per plant TOTAL \$_____



AND LEARN....

Justice Group Update

Kate Dopuch, Kate Hoerchler, Pr. Meagan, Sherry Mitchler, and Janet Roock met on November 14 and had a vibrant discussion around updating the RIC Welcome Statement, planning a visit from author Elle Dowd in the spring, the next selection for the Race Book Group, and imagery around the church. We are looking to hold a congregation wide meeting to delve into updating the RIC welcome statement in mid January, so be on the lookout for more information. Also, as we discussed how to add more diverse, inclusive and thought provoking imagery in the church, we noted how few of us know much about where our existing artwork came from. It could be a nice exercise for the congregation to come together and share stories about the artwork we have now especially as we look forward to renovation and new spaces.



Adult Forum will now meet at 9 am in the Conference Room

December 18 - Christmas Carols and the legends behind them

December 25 and January 1 - No adult forums

January 8 Pastor Roger Ruff—A look at the Gospel of Matthew

January 15 Marc Horn—Christianity in Africa.

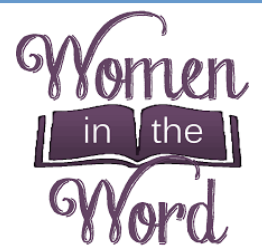
Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible Study will not meet for the remainder of December but will resume in January.



Women's Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. More details to come!
Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.





SO WE CAN WELCOME....

Refreshment Team Volunteers

Please volunteer for refreshments in December and January using the sign up genius refreshment link below.

This is a fun and easy way to be of service to our church family. Store bought or homemade food is loved. Refreshment volunteers bring and serve snacks with water. Lemonade mix is provided by the church.

Clean up involves cleaning the kitchen countertops and any dishes used to serve.

Leaving the service early to set up or setting up before the service starts is part of the commitment.

Time commitment is 45-60 minutes depending on the Sunday. Register as a family, individual, with a friend or group.

Dec 18th is not on the list because it is sponsored by Sunday School families in celebration of the Christmas program.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d44a8a92aa31-refreshments>

Advent Wednesday Services

Wednesday, December 21, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Join us for worship in-person or on Zoom at 7pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890808743?pwd=WkJVbldhaHpjemgwckVrTHY5TUdVQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 9080 8743

Passcode: 348827

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88390515821#,,, *685325# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)





AND SERVE !

2023 Council Openings: We Need You!

We have a few openings for the 2023 Church Council, which will begin meeting in late January. We would love for you to consider being a part of this special group! Each chair serves a two-year term and meets once a month with the rest of Council to discuss and decide important church issues. Below is a description of all the positions that are open. We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining the Council in continuing the good works at Christ Lutheran Church. **If you are interested, please send Lisette an email or call the office!**

Inreach: Responsible for ensuring a fulfilling experience at Christ Lutheran for current members, during and outside of the service. This involves making sure people have access to the service and soliciting ideas for possible improvement. Inreach also provides support to other committees, especially the Fellowship and Worship committees, as there is a fair amount of overlap between them. During COVID, Inreach has helped coordinate all the technology for the Zoom church services. Other jobs include planning the 4th of July festivities, welcome and birthday parties.

Outreach: Responsible for helping promote Christ Lutheran Church in the local community, raising awareness and piquing the interest of potential new members/the community in CLC services, events, etc. While each outreach chair is empowered to work with their committee to determine a plan and initiatives for their work, a few common, primary responsibilities include planning and promoting holiday services and other events open to the community.

Worship (co-chair with John Hoffman): Work with Worship committee and musicians to help to plan worship, including scheduling worship volunteers who assist with services on Sunday mornings.

Properties: Coordinate all property-related projects. Schedule repair services as needed.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include the following people in your prayer life during this week.

ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS: Those who are suffering from chronic pain & diseases, Shelly Madden, Linda Armstrong, Gege Brightman, Christine Austin, Kate and Brian Bates (John Hoffmann's sister and brother-in-law), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, Joan (friend of the Rooks), John Hoffmann, Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Michael McMullen (Greg McMullen's brother), Anna McIntyre, Donna Munger, Betsy Nielson (Nancy Lissant's sister), Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Jeff Schmid (Judy Koepke's husband), Joyce Traxler (Friend of Susan DeBusk), Shirley Wolf, and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother).



IN BLESSED MEMORY: For all of those who have died and all of those who grieve, that they may know the presence of God who grieves with us.

IN MILITARY SERVICE: Josh Duncan, Chris Hudson, Jesse Proctor, Scott Warr.

Vigil For Black Lives

Every Friday from 6:00-6:30, congregations on Lockwood join together to stand for black lives, in our community and beyond. We take a short half an hour each week to be visible on Lockwood with signs of solidarity with our black siblings. It is a small way for us to make it known that we stand against racism in all the ways it impacts all of us. Please join us!



CLC Suggestion Box

Have an idea for how Christ Lutheran Church can make your experience better? Submit an anonymous note at <http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/stwuunh> and we will do our best to help!



ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

LET'S CELEBRATE DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations and Best Wishes! Christ
Lutheran family wants to celebrate you!

ANNIVERSARIES:

12/26 Robert & Joan O'Brien

BIRTHDAYS:

12/02	Luther Giorba
12/05	Martin Allen
12/07	Michael Bude
12/07	Liz Drollinger
12/10	Catherine Gunther
12/11	Jameson Wagner
12/13	Paige Meadows
12/17	James Gilliland
12/17	Rachel Helton
12/18	Linda Elkin
12/19	Brett Bussler
12/20	Jeffrey Kuziel
12/22	Christopher Lindquist
12/24	Lynnae Tanner Ruff
12/24	Loralie Blaser
12/24	Jodi McCarty
12/25	Jesse Wood
12/28	Caroline Ruchalski
12/30	Pastor Stephanie Doeschot
12/31	Joe Bartek

Our apologies if we missed anybody! Please
let us know if we did.





December 2022

Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat

				1 4p Fitness group	2	3 2pm Women's Advent Tea , fellowship hall
4 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship	5 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	6	7 6p Worship team meeting 7:40p Choir Practice	8 4p Fitness group	9	10 8:30a Choir Practice
11 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 9:45a & 11:15 BP Screening 10:00a Worship with Cantata	12 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	13 12p Stephen Minis- ter Christmas party at Laclede Groves 7p Church Council meeting in Confer- ence room	14	15 4p Fitness group	16	17
18 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship and children's program	19 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group	20	21	22 4p Fitness group	23	24 5:00p & 9:00p Worship
25 10:00a Worship, no adult forum	26 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves	27	28	29 4p Fitness group	30	31

2023 Pledge Card: Stewarding Our Gifts

Thankful for God's abundance and continuing to worship and serve with fellow members of Christ Lutheran Church, we pledge to use our spiritual gifts to be stewards of God's love.

Print name(s): _____

I/We celebrate our spiritual gifts of

Skills/Knowledge:

Passion:

And, therefore, pledge to be stewards in the following ways :

Including, joyfully planning to give \$ _____ in calendar year 2023

Date: _____ Contact info: _____

☐ Check here if you'd like to continue receiving paper offering envelopes.

Please return your pledge card by 12/18/2022.

You may mail this pledge card to the church office, put it in the offering basket or email your pledge form to office@christwg.org



Keep this portion for your records as reminder of your planned giving.

2022 Pledge for Christ Lutheran Church

I/we plan to give a total of \$ _____ by December 31, 2023, to support our Lord's mission and ministry through Christ Lutheran Church, Webster Groves, Missouri and to be stewards in the following ways:



Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL:
OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE:
WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN
MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE
HOURS: MON-WED, FRI 8:30-
4:30
APPTS BY
ARRANGEMENT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
JESSICA GUNTHER

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR
ADULT MINISTRIES AND
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE:
CAROLYN CROWE

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS:
DIANE DROLLINGER

ORGANIST:
MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
LISETTE KREITLER

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
TAMMY PRYOR

WEBMASTER:
MIKE WAGNER/STEPHANIE
LENHART

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Deepening people's connection to Christ,
Bringing meaning to daily life, and
Making a difference in our community.