



ONE IN CHRIST

Week of February 14-20, 2023

A NOTE FROM PASTOR MEAGAN



Every day, we have choices to make. Sometimes it's as simple as deciding what to have for breakfast, or whether to mow the lawn today, or tomorrow. Other times, it's much more complicated—we are presented with decisions about medical treatments, or employment opportunities, or relationships . . . decisions that have very high stakes. Whether big or little, the decisions we make have an impact on our lives. Sometimes, I just want the decisions to all be made for me . . . but so far, God has not come through on that one!

If we ever had any illusion that living a life of faith would be easy, clearly laid out, no confusion or wondering what is the right thing to do, this week's readings show us the truth: far from providing us with a clear singular path to follow, there are and will continue to be choices for us to make on the journey. Our reading from Deuteronomy tells us that God invites us to choose life—to follow the way of God's love and mercy and justice. And in our humanness, sometimes we do choose life, and sometimes we get lost and put other things ahead of God. None of us are perfect. We will make mistakes.

As our scriptures tell us today, this life of faith isn't about certainty or guarantees, but there is one thing we can count on: God's love and mercy knows no limits. Whether we are choosing our route to work or school, or making decisions on health care, relationships, or employment, we can trust God in the midst of the chaos and uncertainty, knowing that when we put God first, we are being led to a life full of abundance and promise.

For False Choices, Ordinary Blessings

Meta Herrick Carlson

How often I am fooled
by the cavernous divide between
either or
making complexity and compromise
sound impossibly lonely,
my muscles atrophy.

Surely we are made for more than two dimensions
and the simple chronology of this life!

Draw me to the mysteries of
an ever-expanding universe
a redemption that is already and not yet
a God who keeps bending time and space toward

both + and,
the possibility of more than false choices.

We are resuscitated, wild and holy
wherever life and death blur
beyond neat categories revealing
more truth than our canyons can bear.

I flex with tenacity and fervor,
My strength and hope guiding me toward
new dimensions.



WE WORSHIP....



Sunday, February 19, 10:00am Worship

Access Online Bulletin

Join us for Worship in the Sanctuary. Childcare will be provided in the nursery each 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 Worship Virtually (via Zoom) → <http://tiny.cc/clcworship>

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, visit: <http://tiny.cc/worshipsignup>

For more info visit the Children's Google Drive: <http://tiny.cc/children-drive>

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 MINISTER:

Please contact Mark Roock.

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



Lenten Observance at Christ Lutheran Church

Wednesday, February 22, Ash Wednesday Service, In-Person and on Zoom

Join us for a Pancake Supper at 6:00pm!

7:00pm Worship with communion and distribution of ashes.

[Join Ash Wednesday Service Online](http://tiny.cc/CLCashwed) — <http://tiny.cc/CLCashwed>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 886 7660 7211 **Passcode:** 63119

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service, In-Person and on Zoom

6:00pm Dinner and 7:00pm evening prayer will be held each week shown below:

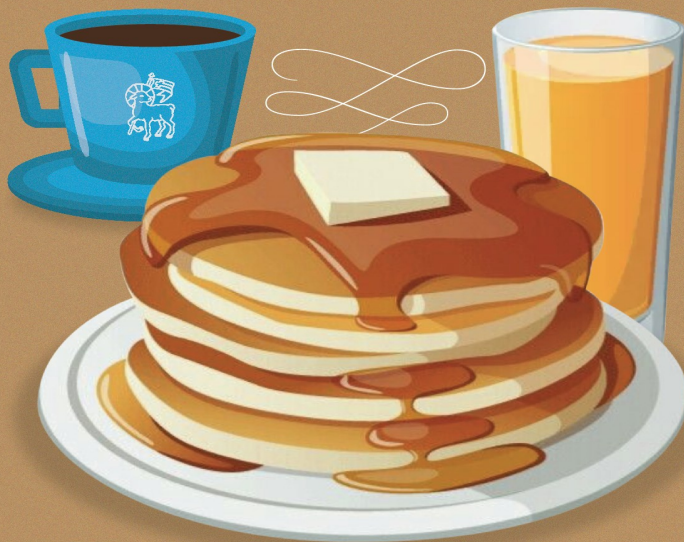
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

[Join Wednesday Evening Prayer Online](http://tiny.cc/CLCwedprayer) — <http://tiny.cc/CLCwedprayer>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 873 2098 3074 **Passcode:** 233122

Interested in providing a Lenten Wednesday evening dinner? Please contact Dave Fey at davefey@me.com

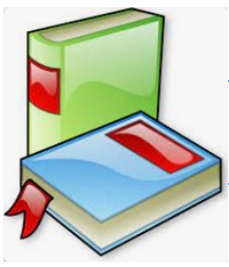
Lenten Dinners 2023



Our annual Wednesday night Lenten Dinners begin on February 22 and go through April 5 – hope you're able to join us in fellowship.

Wednesdays 6:00pm

If you're interested in volunteering to bring a dinner or to help with setup and cleanup please contact Dave Fey – davefey@me.com



AND LEARN....

Bible Study

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet each Tuesday morning at 10:30am, in the fellowship hall. All are welcomed to join us!



Women's Group

Come join in a time of fellowship, discussion, and sharing at 11am on the First Sunday of each month. Grab a cup of coffee and head upstairs to the "Sunday Cool" room - location subject to change depending on the group size.



Adult Forum meets on Sundays at 9am, in the Conference Room or on Zoom. We hope you can join us!

February 19 — Roger Rose will tell a story from the Hebrew Bible
February 26 — a panel of Christ Lutheran members discuss how families deal with Mental Illness

Recap from 2/12/23 — We reviewed the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-11 and compared them to the challenges outlined in a paraphrase of the section of scripture by Steve Givens from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in 2018.

For example, Matthew 5:3 reads, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Steve Givens wrote, "We're in the right place if we are standing and embracing our poverty and that of others, for one day we will stand very close to God. Maybe we are already standing there."

We are challenged to stand close to God. That means we need to stand with the people Jesus came to serve.



SO WE CAN WELCOME....

Refreshment Volunteers Needed!



We're looking for refreshment volunteers to help provide food and snacks after church services. You may use the [online sign up form](http://tiny.cc/refreshments) to choose the date(s) you'd like to volunteer. We have dates available now through June! To sign up, just visit:

<http://tiny.cc/refreshments>



AND SERVE !

February is Black History Month!

Take time this month to learn about Black history, grow in understanding of racism and race relations in the US, and celebrate Black culture.

Read *Beloved* or *The Bluest Eyes* - Toni Morrison; *The Water Dancer* - Ta-Nehisi Coates; *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* - Maya Angelo; *The Black Christ* - Kelly Brown Douglas; *Homegoing* - Yaa Gyasi; *An American Marriage* - Tayari Jones; *Stamped From the Beginning* - Ibram X. Kendi

- Anything by Toni Morrison, James Baldwin, Maya Angelo, Langston Hughes, or Ta-Nehisi Coates

Watch Movies *BlackKkKlansman*; *Selma*; *Drumline*; *Just Mercy*

Documentaries Available on Netflix *Amend*; *Who We Are: A Chronical of Racism in America*; *13th*; *High on the Hog*, hosted by Stephen Satterfield

Vigil for Black Lives!

Fridays, 6:00-6:30pm

Been meaning to join the Vigil on Fridays? Join us and people from Emmanuel, Peace, and other Lockwood congregations to stand for Black lives during Black History Month!

Pillars of Community: A Celebration of Local Black History

Join Alliance for Interracial Dignity on February 26, 2023, for a multi-faceted Black History Month event focusing on local Black history.

The event will feature local history buffs, Kita Quinn and Ed Johnson, who will share stories of two Pillars of Community — Walter Rusan, founder of the North Webster YMCA in the 1940's, and the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, whose local legacy lives on in the same YMCA building.

There will be music from local legend, Michelle Sargent, along with a glimpse at the work the high school is doing to teach others about Black history in Webster Groves.

This is a family-friendly event. The event will start with an optional kid-friendly miniature scavenger hunt at 1pm. Then, at 2pm, the main event will convene with live music, snacks, and a panel of multi-generational speakers.



LET US PRAY

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 Roocks), 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), Shirley Wolf, and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother), Kerry Munger (son of Donna Munger).



IN BLESSED MEMORY: Jeff Schmid, and 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.

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 FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

02/14 – Robert & Joan Rivas
02/14 – Mari & Travis Roberts

BIRTHDAYS:

02/01 – Calvin Ciorba
02/01 – Shirley Wolf
02/02 – Helga Hayes
02/03 – Kevin Drollinger
02/03 – Larry Hill
02/04 – Aishlyn McCarty
02/06 – Kathy Kuziel
02/07 – Sarah Keifer
02/09 – Carol Brockelmeyer
02/09 – Patty Hopper
02/10 – Hanna Lauer
02/10 – Mark Roock
02/13 – Sylvia Rogers
02/13 – Julia Wood



02/19 – Christine Austin
02/19 – Henry Knapp
02/20 – Bob Crowe
02/20 – Elisabeth Long
02/25 – Caitlin McMullen
02/28 – Sally Wachtman

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

Staff Out of Office

Mark Ruff, our Organist, will be attending conferences in Germany for the next several weeks. We will have music prerecorded by Mark, and Jesse Helton on guitar, and the Christ Choir, for Worship until Mark's return, February 22.

February 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| | | | 1 7:30p Choir Practice | 2 4p Fitness Group | 3 6p Vigil for Black Lives | 4 |
| 5 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship | 6 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group | 7 | 8 7:30p Choir Practice | 9 4p Fitness Group | 10 6p Vigil for Black Lives | 11 |
| 12 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship | 13 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group | 14 | 15 7:30p Choir Practice | 16 4p Fitness Group | 17 6p Vigil for Black Lives | 18 |
| 19 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:Worship | 20 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group | 21 7p Church Council meeting via Zoom | 22 Ash Wednesday 6p Dinner 7p Worship | 23 4p Fitness Group | 24 6p Vigil for Black Lives | 25 |
| 26 9:00a Adult forum, Sunday School 10:00a Worship | 27 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 4p Fitness group | 28 | | | | |

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.

2023 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, 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.

REV. 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:
MAHLIK GOOD

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.