# PASTOR'S WORD



#### Visioning Reflection Invitation from the Central States Synod Council

John 4:19-26<sub>19</sub>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." 21Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." 25The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." 26Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

#### Allow some silence to reflect on the text and then discuss the following questions:

- 1. In what ways has your congregation worshipped in the past?
- 2. In what ways has the pandemic and focus on racial justice in our country changed how you view and offer worship experiences?
- 3. How might God be calling us to worship in the future?

#### Close with the following prayer:

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in Spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen





In an effort to make at home worship easier for those who prefer a hardcopy, please contact the office if you would like to have the ELW hymnal delivered to you, or a weekly bulletin mailed out.

#### **Christmas Stories**

I remember as a child standing at the window in my bedroom, looking out at the trees and lights in our neighborhood. My Great Aunt Margaret would always stay with us on Christmas Eve, and one year she came and joined me at the window, and suddenly pointed out a small red light in the distance, and said, "Look!! It's Rudolph! Santa is coming!" My breath caught, and I strained to see if I could notice the light moving closer as the sleigh came our way. Part of me knew it was the light on the top of the water tower in the nearby parking lot, but that didn't take away the awe I felt. It was a magical Christmas moment that still makes me feel anticipation and joy.

We all have those stories, stories of family gathering, late night Christmas Eve services, adding Jesus to the Nativity on Christmas Eve, so many other things. This year, we want to gather those stories together so we can share them with one another.

Please share your story! Please write a memory down from Christmases years ago, or just last year, and send them to me. Or, you can call me and tell the story if you prefer. With your permission, we will compile the stories and share them with the congregation.

Peace to you, Pastor Meagan



### **Advent Gift Bag Surprises are Coming**

In anticipation of Advent each household will be receiving a gift bag, if an adult child will not be home please let us know and we will arrange to mail it.

**Drivers needed!** If you are available to do some no-contact deliveries between November 22 and November 28, please let Pastor Meagan know!" Thank you!

# Thanksgiving Service

Joint Thanksgiving Day Zoom Worship Service, 9:30 am will be held online at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 S. Bompart Ave, Webster Groves. An email with the zoom link will be sent to CLC members.

An offering of non-perishable food items will be collected to supply the needs of our hungry neighbors.

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever." Psalm 118:29



# Stewardship & Offerings

We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways than we're traditionally accustomed. Staff and members are reaching out proactively to make sure everyone in our congregation is cared for, and connected, as much as possible. We are re-imagining ministry! Now more than ever, it takes all of us to make that happen.

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



- 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.
- 4. Want to walk through the steps with someone? Contact Kate Hoerchler, 314-805-1751,katehoerchler@gmail.com

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

Joan O'Brien and Lynnae Ruff, Stewardship Chairs

## Volunteer needed to help with remote worship services

We need someone to join the rotation, every 3 weeks, to help with Sunday zoom services. Some proficiency with Zoom required. Please reach out to Pastor Meagan, Becca Jordan or Mike Wagner if interested.

# **CLC Suggestion Box**

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



# Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am "David was a man after God's own heart."

What does it mean to be someone "after God's own heart"? David, Old Testament shepherd, king and psalmist, offers an answer in the shape of his own life.



The Tuesday morning Bible study group is using a study guide by Charles R. Swindoll, "David: A Man of Passion & Destiny." We meet at 10 am via Zoom each Tuesday. The long-time participants in this group have each received a copy of the book, and if others would like to join us for this discussion, please let us know so that additional books can be ordered. All are welcome to join us!

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643945421?pwd=V3dxdWY0YkZsRFptWkE2dDBCM3VLUT09

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82643945421#,,1#,127284# US (Chicago)

**Call in From Any Phone:** 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421

**Password**: 127284

#### ADULT FORUM

Sunday, November 22, our Forum will be led by Pastor Meagan. Starting November 29, the first Sunday in Advent, we will be entering a new church year, and many of our Gospel readings will come from the Gospel of Mark. Next Sunday after Worship, we will talk about some of the background and unique characteristics of this Gospel. The writer of Mark is a great storyteller, so if you can, read through the whole Gospel (it's the shortest one!) before next Sunday!



# WORSHIP

Sunday, November 22, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship

**Access Online Bulletin** 

Follow the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us! **OR** 

Join Zoom Meeting

One tap mobile

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

**Call in From Any Phone:** 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453 Password: 971744



#### **Women's Advent Brunch**

Saturday, December 5 at 10:00 am

We are going virtual! There won't be any delicious food to eat or dishes to wash, but we will still have readings, prayers, songs, and a guest speaker to be enjoyed in the comfort of your own home.

There will be no cost but donations will be collected for Saint Louis Crisis Nursery via CLC PayPal, check, and in-person collection. Donations can include any of the following: snacks (individually wrapped packaged crackers, cookies, etc.), canned fruit or individually packaged applesauce, LEGOs, Gel dishwasher detergent, large black trash bags, toilet paper, tissue, paper towels and Clorox wipes.

More details to come!





You are invited to join us for online Zoom services. Please be sure Lisette, our Administrator (at <u>office@christwg.org</u>) has your correct e-mail address to receive our Zoom invitations. Please contact Mike Wagner at 937-416-2429 or <u>clc.inreach@gmail.com</u> if you have technical questions.

Sunday, November 29, First Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

**Wednesday, December 2**, 5:30 pm prayer around the nativity in the church yard. 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

**Saturday, December 5**, 10:00 am Women's Zoom Advent Brunch

Sunday, December 6, Second Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

**Wednesday, December 9,** 5:30 pm prayer around the nativity in the church yard. 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

**Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent-** 9:30 am Worship, and the Children's Christmas Pageant.

**Wednesday, December 16,** 5:30 pm prayer around the nativity in the church yard. 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent - 9:30 am Worship.

**Wednesday, December 23,** 5:30 pm prayer around the nativity in the church yard. 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

**Thursday, December 24,** 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service in the parking lot with Holy Communion.

Friday, December 25, Merry Christmas! No Services.

Sunday, December 27, First Sunday of Christmas- Worship at 9:30 am.

Friday, January 1, Happy New Year! No Services.

#### **Hello CLC Congregation!**

We are kicking off the holiday giving season with two opportunities to share our Christmas spirit and help out both the local community and greater St. Louis community. If you are able to contribute in any way during this time, that would be amazing! Please see below for specific details.



#### Giving Opportunity #1

We are excited to share that for the holiday season we are adopting a family through Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Please look for a Sign-up-Genius to be sent via e-mail where you can sign up to buy gift cards for the individual family members, and/or help contribute money toward their Christmas dinner. We need all gift cards to be sent or delivered to the Church office no later than Tuesday, December 1st. In addition each gift card needs to be enclosed in a Christmas card labeled with the recipient's name on the envelope. Thank you so much for your help! If you have any questions please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net

#### **Giving Opportunity #2**

Last year CLC bought lanyard wallets for the ladies of Mary Ryder House, which is a residential care facility for women in the St. Louis area. They loved and used our gifts so much that they did not last as long as we hoped! We would be so happy to give the 57 ladies a brand new wallet to open on Christmas day. Because of COVID, the easiest way to do this is to attach links to Amazon where the lanyard wallets can be found and purchased (wallets are about \$10-15 apiece, so if you are able to buy a couple, that would be great!). Please wrap your wallets (if doing option "b"). **Deadline is Friday, December 4th.** Thank you and the Amazon links and steps are below!

1. GOX Cell Phone Bag, Travel Neck Wallet With RFID Blocking, Travel Document Holder (multiple colors)

https://www.amazon.com/gp/slredirect/picassoRedirect.html/ref=pa\_sp\_btf\_fashion\_sr\_pg1\_1?
ie=UTF8&adId=A08343332MAX8P7ARTRLO&url=%2FGOX-Blocking-Passport-Organizer-Turquoise%
2Fdp%2FB071GNKLQQ%2Fref%3Dsr\_1\_55\_sspa%3Fdchild%3D1%26keywords%3DTravel%2Bneck%
2BWallets%2Bfor%2Bwomen%26qid%3D1604686128%26refinements%3Dp\_36%253A2661612011%
26rnid%3D2661611011%26s%3Dapparel%26sr%3D1-55-spons%26psc%
3D1&qualifier=1604686139&id=6481253769793182&widgetName=sp\_btf

2. Horscrite Phone Bag Purse Wallet Crossbody Bag Lightweight Roomy Pockets Smartphone Sports Armband for Men and Women

https://www.amazon.com/Houdor-Crossbody-Lightweight-Pockets-Smartphone/dp/B07P6GL79S/ref=sr\_1\_18

#### From here you can either:

- a) Buy the wallet through Amazon and ship it directly to Erin Eftink. Her Address is: 1405 Oakhall Manor Ct. Ballwin, MO 63021
- b) Buy the wallet through Amazon and ship it to you. Then please wrap it and deliver the wallet to the Mitchler's home at 320 Elm Valley Dr. Webster Groves, MO 63119 (there will be a collection bin on the porch).
- c) If it is easier, you can send a monetary contribution to the CLC office, which will then be used to buy the wallets. Please put Mary Ryder House-Erin Eftink in the Memo and on the envelope please write Attn: Tammy Pryor, Christ Lutheran Church, 1 Selma Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119

Sorry for the complex directions! If you have any questions please contact Erin Eftink at <a href="mailto:erineftink@sbcglobal.net">erineftink@sbcglobal.net</a>



## **Praising God with Flowers**

Since Pr. Meagan is presiding over Sunday services from the sanctuary now, we will resume decorating the altar. The following chart is a schedule of the remaining Sunday services for 2020, and we would like to encourage members to donate flowers and sign up for a Sunday. Please select an available date listed below and return the provided form to the office or email Lisette with your selection and date. You can specify a reason for the contribution if you wish.

<u>Date</u>	Name	Small (\$25)/Large (\$40) Arrangement
November 1, 2020	Nancy Lissant	Large Arrgmnt
November 8, 2020	Ann Steinbrueck	Small
November 15, 2020		
November 22, 2020	C. Lange	
November 29, 2020	Carolyn Crowe	
December 6, 2020	Mark and Janet Roock	
December 13, 2020		
December 20, 2020		
December 27, 2020	Nancy Lissant	2 arrangements

#### ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP FORM

Name
Date donating flowers:
Reason (How it will appear in bulletin):

Please attach a check for \$25 for a small arrangement or \$40 for a large arrangement, made payable to Christ Lutheran Church with "Flower Fund" in the memo. Payments should be mailed to the church office.

## **Crop Walk**

Although CLC did not participate as a congregational group this year, if you are interested in joining individually or donating to the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk, please see the information below as the deadline has been extended to December 2nd.



Dear Friends of CROP Walk/Church World Service:

I am writing you one final time to thank those of you who participated in any way in the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk and Concert -- thank you! Church World Service had set a goal of \$16,000.00 for the St. Louis Walk, and our current total of funds raised is \$20,535.00, so we have exceeded the goal by over 25%. Given the ongoing need created by the economic fallout of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are especially grateful for this response.

Given the ongoing need, Church World Service has also extended the fall CROP Walk season through December 2 -- what it calls "Go the Second Mile." This means that it is still possible to walk virtually and/or donate to the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk. If you would like to walk and/or donate, you can do so at the following:

http://www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo

# Finding A Faithful Response to Racism in Our World

Christ Lutheran's small group finished reading & discussing the book, Stand Your Ground by Kelly Brown Douglas. Our zoom gatherings fostered personal & meaningful discussions of the intersection of faith & race.

The group decided to take a different approach during the next several weeks. Each participant will watch the movie, BlackkKlansman\* and meet via Zoom on Dec. 10 at 8:00 pm. Anyone who wants to join the discussion is welcome to participate. More info will follow and questions can be directed to Pastor Meagan.

\* a Spike Lee film set in Colorado Springs in 1970s & based on actual undercover events to infiltrate the white supremacist group (rated R).

#### Fall and Winter In Community

As the weather turns and opportunities for outdoor gatherings are reduced, we want to invite us all to be creative about how we can stay connected and continue to be in community through the winter months. If you would like to be matched with another household or two to be in intentional connection, if you have ideas for online activities, if you have ideas for outdoor winter activities, or any other thoughts about how we can stay connected, let Pastor Meagan or Council know!

# ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

# CELEBRATING NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

#### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

11/09 Gregory & Caitlin McMullen

11/15 Mike & Colleen Wagner

11/16 Robert & Sherri Swanson

11/30 Rev. Meagan & Karen McLaughlin

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

11/03 Dianne Deck

11/03 Ellen Mead

11/05 Thelda Bertram

11/05 Josh Bruns

11/09 Alena Horn

11/10 Katherine Uy

11/12 Brenda Asen

11/12 Donna Munger

11/13 Alicia Lewis

11/14 Kirsten Glascock

11/16 Jack Joern

11/17 Graham Hoerchler

11/17 Brent Wood

11/18 Rich Walker

11/18 Ruthie Helton

11/19 Helen Hedderig

11/20 Karen Bruns

11/20 John Joern

11/20 Robert Rivas

11/22 Gale Nunn

11/24 Tess Rogers

11/25 Matthew Lindquist

11/25 Melba Thomsen

11/25 Perry Yee

11/27 Tore Stole



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

#### **Stephen Ministers Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Zoom, December 3, 2020 at 10am.





### Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA 1 Selma Avenue at Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL: OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE HOURS: MON-THUR 8:30-4:30 APPTS BY ARRANGEMENT

> COUNCIL PRESIDENT: KEVIN DROLLINGER

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

CUSTODIAN: KELLY LAKIES

WEBMASTER: PERRY YEE

# **Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

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