



ONE IN CHRIST

Week of December 28 2020 - January 3, 2021

PASTOR'S WORD



As you read this, Christmas Eve and Day are over. Family gatherings, such as could happen in Covid, are done. The tree is starting to shed needles at a furious rate. The cookie supply is probably getting down to crumbs. And yet, Christmas as we celebrate it in the church will continue for another couple of weeks yet. Christ has been born, but we know that was only the beginning of the story. There is still much left to notice, and claim, and celebrate, about our God who came to us in Jesus. As you return to normal life (whatever normal means these days!), I commend to you this poem by Howard Thurman, from his book *The Mood of Christmas*. May it inspire you as it does me, with hope for the world our God is bringing into being all around us. And may you have a Merry Christmas!

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among all,
To make music in the heart.*

*Howard Thurman, from *The Mood of Christmas*, p. 23*

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Following Mary and Joseph's Journey of Hope



Luke 2:6-20

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, ¹² the Lord. ¹³ This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a

manger." ¹⁴ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, ¹⁵ praising God and saying, ¹⁶ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁷ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁸ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁹ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ²⁰ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ²¹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²² The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Advent Journal Reflection

The shepherds were among the marginalized of their time. They were poor, lived with their animals, did not have resources, and were not a welcome part of the community. And they were reported to be the first to visit Jesus, the first to whom the angels shared the good news that Jesus had been born. Jesus's birth meant the world was about to change. The hungry would be filled, the lowly lifted up, those in power taken down from their thrones. In response, the angels sing. The shepherds "go with haste" to Bethlehem, and once they have seen Jesus, they make known what they have seen and heard, and glorify and praise God. Mary treasures the mystery of the words and ponders them in her heart. **Reflect on this in the red Advent Journal**

Who are the marginalized today, for whom the news of Jesus' birth is cause for great celebration?

How are you responding to Jesus's presence in the world today? What good news are you celebrating? What promises of God's love and healing are you claiming in this season? What mysteries are you pondering in your heart?

Children's Activities

In the red Advent Journal, draw a picture of a party you remember, or the party you would like to have for Jesus's birth!

Using the small nativity set re-enact the visit of the shepherds to Jesus.

Using the decorations, decorate the stable for Jesus's birth.

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:

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.
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

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! You



Finding a Faithful Response to Racism in our World

The Anti-Racism and Faith group will continue their journey in 2021. All are welcome to join us!

Up Next: Me and White Supremacy by Layla F. Saad

Me and White Supremacy started as a 28 day twitter challenge. After going viral Layla F. Saad turned the challenge into a published book. Each day presents a short reading followed by a few journaling questions to help you digest and respond to the material. While this book can be completed in an intense 28 days, this group will complete 1 week of the book for each meeting spaced 3 weeks apart.

You will need: a copy of Me and White Supremacy and some way to journal (a notebook, word processing program, stone tablet...)

Next Zoom Meeting: January 26, 2021 at 8pm - We will be discussing the introduction (p 1- 26) and the first week of work (p 31 - 74)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84020544259?pwd=dFhjaHVTdWVUcWdUM0U1NG9JcVkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 840 2054 4259

Passcode: 536541

Dial in

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Lutheran School of Theology St Louis is pleased to announce two one-session zoom classes in Epiphany 2021. With **Dr. Clint McCann**, Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Seminary as the instructor for each one, the emphasis will be on theological and biblical interpretation of two critical issues for the church living out its faithful witness today. Beyond exploring the needs, each class will deal with practical means for equipping the church to respond.

Caring for Creation as a Christian Calling will take place on Saturday, **January 16, 2021, 9:00-11:00 am**. Cost: \$20, register by Jan 12 to receive class information.

“I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food” (Matthew 25:35): Addressing Hunger and Food Insecurity in the USA and the World on Saturday, **January 23, 2021, 9:00-11:00 am**. Cost: \$20, register by Jan. 19 to receive class information.

Both classes are available for \$35. To sign up electronically and for more information, see www.lststl.org/courses. Checks may be sent to Lutheran School of Theology, 475 East Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63119, with registrant's name, address, email address for zoom invitation, home church, phone number and name of class unless taking both classes. Contact Stephanie Doeschot at registrar@lststl.org for more information.

Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday December 29th, 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>

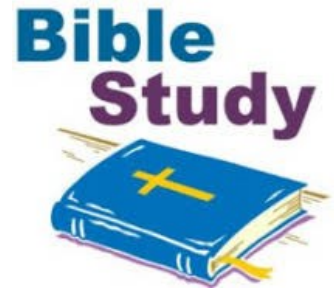
One tap mobile

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

Call in From Any Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421

Password: 127284



Thank you to all who spent so many hours making our Advent and Christmas Worship meaningful! Worship Team (especially Mark, Diane, Jon, and John), Mike, Dave and Marc for all the work on hosting Zoom and preparing videos, Lisette for all the administrative support, the Flower Team for the beautiful altar space. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

WORSHIP

On Sunday, January 3, we will welcome Pastor Kendra Nolde as our guest preacher!

Sunday, January 3, 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



ADULT FORUM

Thank you for sending in your Christmas Stories, we will resume adult forum in the New Year!



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 Congregation,

We have several openings for the 2021 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 (currently via Zoom) to discuss important church issues. Below is a description of all the positions that are open. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net, or Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.



Property Chair: The property Chair coordinates all property-related projects and schedules repair services as needed. The Property Chair also prepares Council Reports that detail any property-related issues.

Out-Reach Chair: The Out-reach chair is responsible for helping promote Christ Lutheran Church in the local community, raising awareness and piquing interest with 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, a few primary responsibilities include assisting with the promotion of CLC Easter and Christmas services, as well as special events. Also determining / planning / promoting events such as “Views & Brews” Speaker Series, Trivia night, CLC’s 120th anniversary community celebration, promotion of Lady Grey’s holiday boutique, etc.

In-Reach Chair: The In-reach chairperson is responsible for ensuring a complete experience for existing parishioners. In-reach solicits feedback from parishioners that can accomplish that goal. In-reach also provides support to the other committees as needed. They also recognize and celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, new members, and other special events.

Christian Education Chair: The Christian Education Chair is the liaison between the adult/youth Christian Ed. programs and the Council. The Christian Ed. chair communicates all youth and adult education activities to the council and approves spending requests, including those for Sunday School and Confirmation curriculum and activities, VBS, Adult Forum, and any other Christian Ed. expenses.

Christian Service Chair: Christian Service helps organize and coordinate donation drives that help local non-profits such as Webster Groves – Rock Hill Ministries. In addition, the chair helps plan congregational activities that bring people together to serve the local community. The Christian Service chair is also responsible for working with the Treasurer and Council to determine which organizations and non-profits receive donations (benevolences) from Christ Lutheran Church.

Worship Chair: The Worship Committee meets monthly to work with Pastor and musicians to help plan worship. The committee administers a budget to support worship. At Christmas the committee members plan to put up Christmas decorations in the nave and decorate the Christmas trees at the altar. They take them down after Epiphany. The committee also schedules the volunteers who assist with worship services on Sunday mornings. The chair attends Council meetings, writes monthly reports to Council, and creates a report for the annual meeting.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

CELEBRATING JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

ANNIVERSARIES:

1/13 Kim & Dave Donermeyer
1/19 Jadee & Steve Lauer

BIRTHDAYS:

1/05 Sharon Hornbeck
1/08 Brian Hornbeck
1/11 Flo Saeger
1/13 Nancy Lissant
1/15 Deanne Bussler
1/15 Carson Glascock
1/15 James Knapp
1/15 Alex Lindquist
1/18 Isaac Helton
1/19 Kate Drollinger
1/20 Christine Heerboth
1/28 Alex Bennett
1/29 Sloane Bartek

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



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!



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Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199**

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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:
LISSETTE 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.