Week of March 1 - March 7, 2021

Pastor's Word



As Lent continues, and we live into our theme Called to Truth, one of the truths I have been thinking about a lot is God's promise to bring life, even out of death. There are so many ways that this can be revealed, and so often in my own life I have noticed that when I am in the middle of death, it can be very hard to see how life might come out of it. Many times in our yard in Minnesota, once the snow was gone, I would look around the yard and wonder if anything would ever grow again, it looked so dead.

In the Gospel from John, Jesus tells us that the temple will be destroyed, and will be rebuilt in three days. At the time, the disciples didn't understand that Jesus was saying he was going to die, and would be raised from the dead on the third day. They certainly didn't get it in the hours following Jesus' death. So much had happened. They were terrified, devastated, and it didn't seem there could be any way to come back from that. Life and hope must have been very hard to find. But, we are told, once Jesus had come back from the dead, they remembered, and understood: death had come first, and as impossible as it may have seemed, life came after, just as Jesus had promised. The promise of life that God gives us in Christ will always prevail!

We have all had these experiences, times when life has emerged in the most surprising ways, and we can store them up, like seeds, to remind us that life is coming. And if you don't have seeds today, ask a friend, or a neighbor, if you can borrow theirs.

Blessing the Seed

I should tell you at the outset: this blessing will require you to do some work.

First you must simply let this blessing fall from your hand,

as if it were a small thing you could easily let slip through your fingers,

as if it were not most precious to you, as if your life did not depend on it.

Next you must trust that this blessing knows where it is going,

that it understands the ways of the dark, that it is wise to seasons and to times.

Then-and I know this blessing has already asked much of you-

it is to be hoped that you will rest and learn that something is at work

when all seems still, seems dormant, seems dead.

I promise you this blessing has not abandoned you.

I promise you this blessing is on its way back to you.

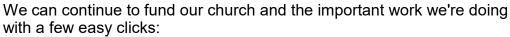
I promise you—when you are least expecting it, when you have given up your last hope this blessing will rise green and whole and new.

• Jan Richardson, Circle of Grace



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.



1. Visit <u>our donation website</u> directly or go to <u>www.christwg.org</u> 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,<u>katehoerchler@gmail.com</u>

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



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





Wednesday, March 3

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 10

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

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Wednesday, March 17

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Wednesday, March 31

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour. Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09</u>

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 815 7375 3121 Passcode: 431398

Information about Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday will be published this month.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Mark your calendars for 2021 Fellowship events!

- Friday, March 19 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, May 22 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, August 28 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Friday, October 1 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, October 30 Trunk or Treat!



We will focus on virtual game nights at this time, but (maybe, hopefully) we can look into other types of Fellowship options for the later dates. Hoping to give us all something to look forward to!

Vacation Bible School 2021 Planning

This year's VBS will take place in early to mid August. If you would like to participate in the planning stage of this event, contact Alena Horn at <u>alena.horn@gmail.com</u>.

Youth Zoom Hangout, March 7 at 12:30 PM

If you have been confirmed and are interested in connecting with other youth, join us for discussion during our normal time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/924665200?pwd=OWYvT0Z5MmdoVG84R3dDUmJXVXd5dz09

Meeting ID: 924 665 200 Password: 271433

One tap mobile +16465588656,,924665200#,,1#,271433# US (New York)

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Bible School

WORSHIP

Sunday, March 7, 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 Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our virtual meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month. **Our first meeting of 2021 will be Thursday, March 11.** We will catch up with each other and jump into some Bible study. Hope to see you there!

Zoom meeting information:

Join Zoom Meeting: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86806779211?</u> pwd=UTBDZG1EcjJtL3NUTmxBa1Z1ZG9ydz09 Meeting ID: 868 0677 9211 Passcode: 989376



Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.

HOW DO I GET VACCINATED?

You must be eligible.

In Missouri, health care workers, emergency responders, people 65 and older and those under 65 with specific underlying health conditions are eligible for vaccination.

If you're eligible, pre-register at several of the local health systems, as well as with

St. Louis County: stlcorona.com/covid19-vaccines St. Louis City: stlouis-mo.gov/covid-19 Statewide Missouri Vaccine Navigator: covidvaccine.mo.gov or MOStopsCovid.com

For those who are unable to pre-register electronically, the following phone numbers could be helpful:

Missouri Vaccine Navigator: 1-877-435-8411 St. Louis County: 314-615-2660 St. Louis City: 314-612-5100 KWMU (local NPR station) Vaccine Hotline: 314-516-6430

SSM Health System is scheduling vaccine appointments by phone for those who are 75 and older: 314-955-9600

Members are invited to confidentially let Pastor Meagan or Carolyn Crowe know if you have received the vaccine or need assistance with pre-registering, to help aid efforts to return to in person worship.

If you have any questions please contact faith community nurse, Carolyn Crowe: 314-277-2164 <u>ccrowe@sbcglobal.net</u> Or Jessica Gunther: jessicalgunther@gmail.com

Creation Care

Last year in anticipation of Earth Day 2020 the Creation Care team was collecting pill bottles. Unfortunately like so many things in 2020, this project was placed on hold due to COVID. The bottles are reused for mission trips by an organization called Matthew 25: Ministries. Our role will be to sort, organize and prepare the pill bottles to be sent to their offices in Ohio. We are hopeful that there will be an opportunity to gather in person to work on preparing the pill bottles to be sent to Matthew 25: Ministries. However, we will wait until closer to Earth Day 2021 - April 22nd to make any definite plans. In the meantime please either continue or start collecting used pill bottles that can be reused for mission trips. They can be either prescription medication bottles or over the counter medication bottles. If you can remove the labels from the prescription bottles that will assist in preparing them and also ensure privacy about any medications prescripted for individuals. There is a basket in the fellowship hall to place the bottles in, or we will have a set day closer to April to request the bottles to be brought to church. Please contact me by email if you have any questions. Thank You on behalf of the Creation Care Team. Sherry <u>Mitchler-s.mitchler@sbcglobal.net</u>

Thanks, Sherry



Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday March 2nd, 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

March 7—Ben Scholle, a professor at Lindenwood University and a local film maker, will discuss his latest production now in process. It is about the communities affected by the epidemic of gun violence in Saint Louis.

March 21—Dr. Fred Niedner—Portrayal of Christ Passion and Resurrection in the Gospels.

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!

LET'S CELEBRATE MARCH ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

03/04	Christine & Dave Austin
03/29	Regina & Bill Wischmeyer

BIRTHDAYS:

03/01	Nadia Roberts
03/04	Aja Hornbeck
03/05	Julia Ely
03/07	Leon Bartek
03/07	Jon Heerboth
03/08	Jeff Bloese
03/10	Dave Ringkor
03/11	Mike Hoyer
03/13	Ellie Zempel
03/14	Alex Hill
03/14	Faith Moore
03/17	Xavier Ruff
03/18	Jerome Egel
03/19	Elsa Hoyer
03/20	Regina Wischmeyer
03/22	Natalie Bruns
03/23	Jack Wood



03/25	Elmer Bibb
03/28	Claire Holmes
03/29	Sophia Bude
03/30	Matt Bender

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





The St. Louis Primary is Tuesday, March 2nd. There is an important Mayoral race in the city of St. Louis. This is also the first time voters across the city will be voting with a non-partisan ballot. Proposition D passed in the city for approval voting. The Mayoral race is an extremely important race for many reasons and we will be engaging with voters in the STL region to inform them of the election and provide any resources needed as far as the Approval voting information to ensure that they are comfortable when casting their ballots on or before the election.

April 6th is the general election for the state. In the county there are many school board elections happening and in the city, there are all the odd wards, school board, the runoff for the top 2 in the Mayoral election and the comptroller for the city government.



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.