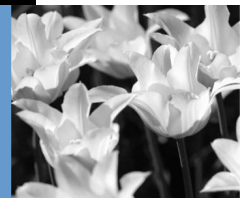




ONE IN CHRIST

Week of December 20 - December 26, 2021

PASTOR'S WORD



Messengers of Hope

This Advent Season, as we await the coming of Christ, we will reflect on the voices of those who waited, 2,000 years ago, for Jesus to come. Each of them longed for the mysterious Spirit of God that would reveal itself to the world in a whole new way in Jesus's birth, life, death, and resurrection. Mary, Zechariah, Elizabeth, and Simeon and Anna prophetically proclaimed the coming of the creator of the universe in the tiny, vulnerable little baby. They knew, and sang for all of creation, the promise that Christ's presence on earth would transform this world. Join us as we take time this Advent season to let these voices resound in our hearts and spirits. For their time, for all time, for us in our time, as they proclaim the truth of God incarnate, they are **Messengers of Hope**.

This week, we reflect on Simeon and Anna, faithful prophets, and their response when they saw the infant Jesus in the Synagogue. Read this passage several times, out loud if you can, and then reflect on the questions below.

Luke 2:22-38

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;^[d] this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.^[e] ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon^[f] came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon^[g] took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ "Master, now you are dismissing your servant^[h] in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon^[i] blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna^[j] the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child^[k] to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Questions for reflection

Where do you hear hope in the words of this messenger?

Where do you feel challenged by these words?

How do you feel invited to carry this message of hope to others?



WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS WEEK 2021

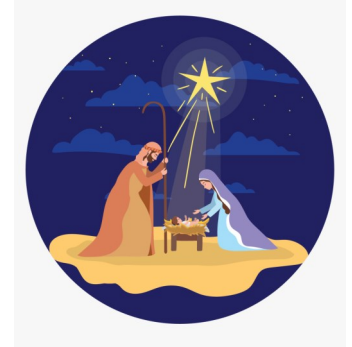
You are invited to join us for worship in-person or on Zoom.

Wednesday, December 22, 6:00 pm Light Supper, 7:00 pm Advent Worship, Holden Evening Prayer.

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

Meeting ID: 883 9051 5821

Passcode: 685325



Friday, December 24, 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion.

[Access Online Bulletin](#)

ZOOM Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81129383729?pwd=d3lYbG9HcmR6eIF6MGhraWI4dDZhUT09>

Meeting ID: 811 2938 3729

Passcode: 290008

Friday, December 24, 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion. **In-Person worship only.**

Saturday, December 25, Merry Christmas! No Services.

Sunday, December 26, First Sunday of Christmas– **In-Person Worship only** in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am.

Holiday/Vacation Hours

The church office will be closed December 27th and January 3rd. The office will be open on Wednesday, December 29. Email and phone messages will be checked and returned December 28-30.

Pastor Meagan will be on vacation December 25-30, please call Carolyn Crowe for pastoral care needs.

Mark Ruff will be on vacation December 26th. Mark Roock, Jon Heerboth, and Jesse Helton will lead worship December 26.

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



Sunday School and Nursery

We plan to start Sunday School in January, and are so excited to welcome the children officially back to the building! We plan to meet during the education hour after 9:30am Worship, and more details will be coming soon.

We recognize that there may be families for whom returning to the building in January will not be the right choice, and want to be sure that we meet the needs of ALL of our children and families. In addition, some parents have asked when nursery will be available again. Please let Jesse and Pastor Meagan know as soon as possible:

Will your child be joining Sunday School in January? If not, how can we best meet their needs?

If nursery is available, will your child attend nursery?



In person Adult Forum will be held in the Fellowship Hall and will also be available on Zoom. If you choose Zoom just stay connected after the Sunday morning service. We anticipate a 10-15 minute break between the end of the postlude and the beginning of Adult Forum.

Upcoming Forums:

December 12-January 2 No Adult Forums

January 9 Adult Forum resumes

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) after the 9pm service. 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 \$_____

Congratulations

Jameson Henry Wagner was born December 11! Congratulations Mike and Colleen! Prayers of gratitude and joy for a healthy baby and mom, and may love surround Mike, Colleen and Jameson!



New Book for the Race Book Group

The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together by Heather McGhee

Please join us for a communitywide book study organized by the Alliance for Interracial Dignity and the Webster Equity Bridge. McGhee's book digs into policy and people's mindsets, arguing the idea that the country has fallen into too much of a zero sum game thinking that if one racial group succeeds too much then another fails. She argues that white people in addition to minorities have suffered due to racist policies and when all races are included and supported in policies, all races benefit.

We will discuss the first set of 5 chapters and the last set of 5 chapters in late January and early February respectively with members of our church via Zoom. The opportunity to join the community discussion is at the Webster Library on February 9th at 6:30 pm.

Contact Kate Hoerchler with any questions or for help acquiring the book. katehoerchler@gmail.com, 314-805-1751.

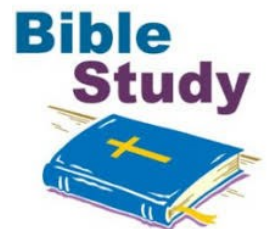
Women's Group

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.



Tuesday Bible Study

There will not be a meeting the rest of December due to Christmas.
Meetings will resume in the parish hall January 11 at 10:15am.



2022 Council Openings

We have several openings for the 2022 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 (the past year through Zoom) to discuss 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 contact Sandy Hoyer at hoyer.sandra60@gmail.com or Kate Hoerchler at katehoerchler@gmail.com.

President: Manage the overall Council process, prepare agendas, deal with larger issues as necessary, helps to recruit volunteers for various positions, and interface with Pastor Meagan.

Secretary: Takes notes at the monthly Council meetings, at the Annual Congregational meeting, and sends out minutes to Council members via e-mail.

Fellowship: Coordinates Christ Lutheran activities and events throughout the year. A few of those events include: Wurstfest, Trunk or Treat, Advent Brunch, Wednesday Advent and Lenten dinners, Easter brunch, 4th of July and various other activities, like Winter Wonderland carriage rides, celebrations (Pastor Meagan's Welcome party), themed parties (St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo), pool parties, etc. While you are the main coordinator, there are plenty of members throughout the congregation willing to serve on committees and offer their time and expertise.

Christian Services: Helps organize and coordinate donation drives that help local non-profits, such as Webster RockHill 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. Some specific drives and activities we have done in the last few years include: school supply donations for WRHM, Adopt-a-Family at Christmas through WRHM, buying gifts for the ladies of the Mary Ryder house at Christmas, helping clean up local Webster Groves parks, donating masks to the Rockwood Retirement Community and participating in the 2019 Crop Hunger Walk.

Stewardship: Stewardship is the judicious management of the time, talents and money that the Lord has given each of us to use for his glory. Our committee plans an annual pledge campaign - usually early in the year to encourage members to pledge and to monetarily contribute toward our benevolences and the mission of our Church. In addition, we encourage each member to volunteer to charities and to use their talents as needed within our Church, our community and the world.

Youth: The Youth Chair is the voice for the youth and their parents, helps with getting information to the youth and families about mission trips, and gathers the money and paperwork that is due for these trips. The Youth Chair has, in the past, lead the youth group on Sunday mornings, joined by Pastor Meagan.

In-Reach: The chair is responsible for ensuring a fulfilling experience at Christ Lutheran for current members, during and outside of the services. This involves making sure people have access to the service and soliciting ideas for possible improvement. In-Reach also provides support to other committees, especially the Fellowship and Worship committees, as there is a fair amount of overlap between them. During COVID, In-Reach has helped coordinate all the technology for the Zoom church services. Other jobs include the following (with Joan O'Brien's help): monthly Anniversary/Birthday cake & balloons in Fellowship Hall (once allowed again); monthly mailings of Anniversary/Birthday/Get well/ Sympathy cards; periodic updates for the printed and web directories; planning welcome parties for new members; and organizing our 4th of July parade involvement (either IN the parade or opening our Church's restrooms for organizers and parade participants; followed by a BBQ rib picnic lunch with pot luck side dishes for church members and friends.

Outreach: The Outreach chair is responsible for helping promote Christ Lutheran Church in the local community, raising awareness and piquing interest with potential new members in the community in CLC services and events. A few common and primary responsibilities of the Outreach Chair include: Assisting with the promotion of CLC Easter and Christmas services, and special events; determining, planning and promoting events such as "Views and Brews" speaker series, Trivia Night, CLC's 120th anniversary, etc.

Need Volunteer Help for Afghani Refugees!!! Meeting on Jan. 2nd at Webster Presbyterian Church

The St. Louis Community is coordinating further to support the arriving Afghan refugees and needs our help. They have formed a coalition of partners in a Refugee Command Center. [Read and listen to the NPR's piece](#) "**As Afghan refugees face a hard landing in St. Louis, nonprofit leaders form Refugee Command Center**". Many of the refugee families are stressed here due to the lack of resources currently available to them on top of the trauma they experienced in Afghanistan.

There will be a **church presentation on January 2nd at 7pm in the sanctuary of Webster Presbyterian** about ways that Webster Presbyterian Church and other church members can support these incoming refugees. **The need for volunteer support is immediate. We would like to get a small group together from CLC who are interested in attending the meeting and helping Afghani families (see examples of volunteering opportunities below through Welcome Neighbor). Please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net if you are interested.**

Welcome Neighbor is one of the Refugee Command center partners clearing volunteers and communicating needs on behalf of the International Institute, which is over-taxed finding housing and securing documentation for incoming families.

If you are able to do any of the following:

- pick up newly arriving families at the airport (background check required)
- visit a family 24 hours after their arrival. (background check required)
- arrange outings for the families.
- tutor in English
- provide food and supplies to individuals experiencing homelessness
- become a family partner with a refugee family (includes visits & helping them navigate their new life) it is a 1 year commitment, min. of 10 hrs of contact per month, \$20 background check required.
- Other. How else would you like to get involved?

[please contact Welcome Neighbor to sign up as a volunteer for specific needs.](#) They will notify volunteers as needs arrive. As a volunteer, you'll be able to respond that you are available or not. Background checks are required for those interacting with families (\$20) and Webster Neighbor will connect you with the background check application.

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!

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), Michael Cooper (Edith Cooper's grandson), Evan Deck, Helga Hayes, John Hoffmann, Elsie Johnson, Gerri Mac (Sharon Hornbeck's aunt), Bev & Al Marcus (friend of John Hoffmann), Doris & Harry Rahlfs (Karen Wood's parents), Edward Ruebeck (Roocks' grand-nephew), Ken Rupp (friend of Mark Roock), Flo Saeger, Sherri Swanson, Shirley Wolf, Mary Stough (Sharon Hornbeck's aunt), and Wayne Wellman (Susanne Reimer-Fey's brother).



IN BLESSED MEMORY: For all of those who have died, especially Edith Cooper, and all of those who grieve at a distance in this time.

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

Choir Practice

All who love to sing are welcome at church Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. There is no practice Dec 22 and Dec 29. You must be fully vaccinated and two weeks past your final vaccine to participate. For questions, I can be contacted at dianedrollinger@gmail.com. Thanks!



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 Ciorba
12/05	Martin Allen
12/07	Michael Bude
12/07	Liz Drollinger
12/10	Catherine Gunther
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
12/30	Pastor Stephanie Doeschot
12/31	Joe Bartek



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



December 2021

Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat

			1 6p Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall 7p Advent worship	2	3	4 2p Women's Advent Tea in Mead Center
5 9:30a Worship 9:15a Adult forum 11:45a Coffee fellowship	6 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 6p Fitness Group	7 10:15a Bible Study- Fellowship hall	8 6p Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall 7p Advent worship 7:30p Choir practice	9 6p Fitness Group	10	11
12 9:30a Worship with Choir Cantata 9:15a Adult Forum 11:45a coffee fellowship	13 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 6p Fitness Group	14 10:15a Bible Study- Fellowship hall 7p Church Council meeting in Conference room	15 6p Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall 7p Advent worship 7:30p Choir practice	16 6p Fitness Group	17	18
19 9:30a Worship, Kids Pageant 9:15a Adult forum 11:45a coffee fellowship	20 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 6p Fitness Group	21 No Bible Study 12p Stephen Ministry Holiday lunch at Laclede Groves 7p Church Council meeting in Conference room	22 6p Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall 7p Advent worship	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:00p Worship 9:00p Worship	25 Christmas Day 
26 9:30a In-Person Worship, No Adult forum	27 12p Sr. Fellowship at Laclede Groves 6p Fitness Group	28 No Bible Study 7p Church Council meeting in Conference room	29	30 6p Fitness Group	31 New Year's Eve	



**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

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

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN
MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE
HOURS: MON-WED, FRI 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.