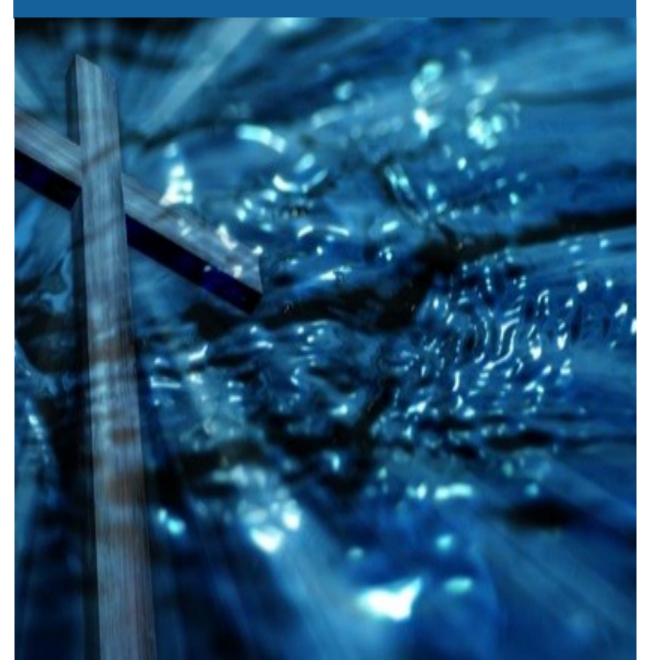
# Christ Lutheran Church

Baptism of our Lord January 12, 2025



# WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF FAITH THAT WELCOMES

All are welcome at Christ Lutheran Church. We emphasize grace, forgiveness, and the reality that God is love. The teachings and example of Jesus call us to love one another and to be an inclusive and affirming community for people of every culture, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, relationship status, family makeup, and spiritual background. No matter what challenges you're facing – physical, mental, spiritual, economic, emotional, moral, or otherwise – we invite you to experience God's grace with us. There is a place for you here.

# THE IN-PERSON CLC ESSENTIALS

**Restrooms** are in the Narthex and in the Education Building.

The **Nursery** is available from 9:15 a.m. through the end of the late service.

**Attendance Registration Cards** are located in the pew racks. We ask everyone in attendance, visitors and members, to fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate as it is passed.

**Audio Receivers** for the hearing impaired are available in the Narthex.

# THE VIRTUAL CLC ESSENTIALS

Please tune in each Sunday for livestream worship at 10:30 a.m. by clicking the YouTube button below.

Online giving is easy! Simply click the Offering button below, and it will take you to the giving page to make your offering when you are ready. You can also use your phone to scan this QR code, and it will take you to our donation page at <a href="https://clcah.org/contact-us/give-online/">https://clcah.org/contact-us/give-online/</a>







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## **GATHERING**

#### **PRELUDE**

Meditation on "Shall We Gather at the River" - Roberson

#### WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.** 

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## **GATHERING HYMN**

Shall We Gather at the River

ELW #423

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**





## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you anointed Jesus as his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

Pew Bible/Old Testament page #672

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17** 

Pew Bible/New Testament page #126

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:30 a.m.)

Director of Faith Formation, Carrie Jowers

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





The holy gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Pew Bible/New Testament page #60

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** Deacon Lisa Diana

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

ELW #304

#### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The congregation is invited to kneel as able.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for those in need, within our own community and throughout the world. We give thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed upon us. Our petitions end with "God of grace," and the congregation responds: "hear our prayer."

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

#### PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

# MEAL-

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** (10:30 a.m.) Zion at the Shining Gates - K Lee School Sanctuary Choir

#### **OFFERING**

Christ Lutheran designates 20% of your Sunday offerings to our benevolence partners who make a direct impact on the lives of people in our world who need it most. See the second page for more information on giving virtually from your phone or go to <u>cleah.org</u> and scroll to the offering button.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #182

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O holy God, Light and Life of the world. In the beginning, your voice flew over the mighty waters. You separated the waters and made the dry land and brought forth life throughout creation. You led your people Israel through the sea and out of bondage, and through the river Jordan into the land of promise. You brought forth streams of water in the wilderness and commanded your children to wash in the water for healing. You have given prophets and seers visions of the river flowing from the heavenly temple as balm and blessing. You sent your prophet John to prepare the way of the Lord, proclaiming a baptism of repentance. And in Jesus, you proclaimed to us a baptism that leads to life, forgiveness, family, and love.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his incarnation in human flesh, his love of those in need, his prayers for his disciples, and his dying and rising, we await the day when all creation rejoices in his light. **Come, Lord Jesus.** 

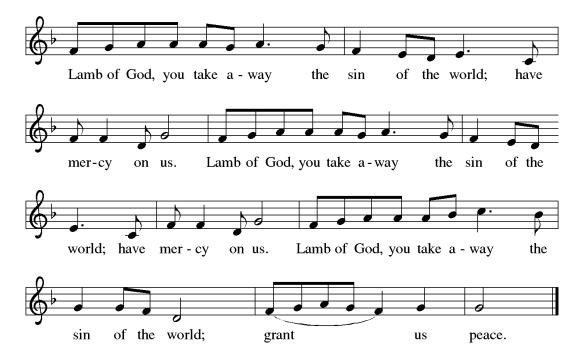
By your spirit bless us and this meal, that it be for us the gift of faith, nourishing and strengthening us for service in your kingdom. **Come, Holy Spirit.** 

We call upon your holy name, as beloved children of the Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to whom be all glory and honor and praise, now and forevermore. **Amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### LAMB OF GOD



## DISTRIBUTION

Two thousand years ago Jesus ate with sinners and those whom others scorned. He still does. None of us is worthy, except by God's grace. No matter what you have done or what your present condition, Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and who seek to live in peace with one another.

The gathered faithful have a choice to commune at the front of the sanctuary by intinction or in their seats with individual communion packets available at the entrance to the sanctuary. With intinction, the bread is placed in your hand for you to dip in the wine. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion from a minister where you are seated. Gluten-free wafers are found on the small table next to the usher stand for anyone who needs them.

**COMMUNION HYMN** 

Crashing Waters at Creation

ELW #455

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation for the sake of the whole world. Amen.

## SENDING-

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.** 

**SENDING HYMN** 

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

ELW #445

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace! Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE** 

Morning Awakenings Finale - Steven's

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Preaching Minister Presiding Ministers

Assisting Ministers

Lectors Acolytes

## 8:30 a.m.

Deacon Lisa Diana Pastor Leslie Price

Pastor Howard Stendahl

Robert Crotteau Celia Crotteau

Leopold Von Durckheim

## 10:30 a.m.

Deacon Lisa Diana Pastor Leslie Price

Pastor Howard Stendahl

Edna Robbins Sharon Wiedemann Ainsley Thompson

## **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

President M
Vice President B
Treasurer Je
Secretary P:

Michael Fischer Bryan Woods Jeff Timm Paul Pfeifer At-Large Member At-Large Member At-Large Member Rhonda Barsalou James Ehler Edna Robbins

**Emily Thompson** 

## **STAFF**

Senior Pastor Pastor

Director of Faith Formation

Director for Day School Ministry Accountant & Office Manager Office Administrator & AV Tech

Minister of Mission & Outreach Director of Music Ministry

Organist

Youth Choir Director

Youth Choir Accompanist

Custodians AV Tech

Event Coordinator

Nursery Attendant

Rev. Leslie Price

Rev. Howard Stendahl

Carrie Jowers
Dana Ferraro
Ainslee Ford
Lori Harris

Deacon Lisa Diana Dr. Daniel Long Jeff Hammack Mary Patino

Sharon Wiedemann

Sam Tenorio & Justin Martin

Jesus Garcia

Carolyn Dufelmeier

Clara Tenorio

## **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Carolyn Dufelmeier, Patti Lynch, Pam Sheffield, Laurie Stiteler, Bobby Stobb, Frank Pennington, Ron Olson, and James Ehler

## **WELCOME TEAM**

Carolyn Dufelmeier, Bob Logan, Mary Lynn Logan - Chair, Bob & Karen Corder, Bill Chavers, Joan Woods, Mary Overstreet, Edna Robbins, Ida Marie Schultz, Ulf Balldin, Heather Rosenquist, Tracy Anderson, Natalie Tate, Kathy Dicke, and Steve Wright

## **THANK YOU**

Our heartfelt thanks to our faithful volunteer, Mary Overstreet, for the new series of banners which adorn our Sanctuary and so beautifully depict our Advent and Christmas theme: A Weary World Rejoices.

## TODAY -

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool 7th Graders meet upstairs in the education building in their designated classroom.
- 9:30 a.m. Faith University Pastor Dianne Garcia from Roca de Refugio church will share news about her ministry with an immigrant church in San Antonio.
- 9:30 a.m. Camp Chrysalis information session, Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Primrose Corner casual Adult Education, Primrose House
- 11:40 a.m. First Communion class, Fellowship Hall

## THIS WEEK-

Monday, January 13	
• 9:00 a.m.	Money Counters, Parlor
• 6:30 p.m.	Mission and Outreach, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, January 14	
• 7:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Group, Bill Miller BBQ
• 9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Primrose House
Wednesday January 15	
• 5:30 p.m.	Gloria Choir, Sanctuary
• 5:30 p.m.	Angelicus Choir, Children's Chapel
• 6:00 p.m.	Conversational Spanish, Parlor
• 6:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinner, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, January 16	
• 12:00 p.m.	Lunch Bunch, Fellowship Hall
• 6:00 p.m.	Visitors and New Members Wine and Cheese, CrossWay

# FAITH UNIVERSITY IN IANUARY AND FEBRUARY

# Today, 9:30 a.m., North Fellowship Hall

Pastor Dianne Garcia from Roca de Refugio church will be speaking during our Adult Education hour. She will share news about her ministry with an immigrant church in San Antonio and Nuevos Vecinos, an organization helping immigrant families settle in San Antonio. We invite you to join us in welcoming and learning from her.

# January 19, 26 and February 2, 9, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Briefly Perfectly Human is a memoir by Alua Arthur, a leading death doula in the United States, that explores how embracing death can lead to a more fulfilling life. Arthur's memoir weaves together her own life experiences with the stories of people she has helped as a death doula. She argues that thinking about death can help people find new potential in their lives and live more authentically. Reviewers have called the book "a poetic, inspiring book", "a beautiful, raw, light-bringing experience", and "a deeply urgent, divinely-inspired memoir." Pastor Leslie will lead us in conversation: part teaching, part discussion, part exploration over this four-week study as we learn how to embrace death so that we may fully live. Books are available in the CrossWay for \$10.00. You may pay via our website, via Venmo @christ-lutheran-3, or via the offering plate.

# CAMP CHRYSALIS INFORMATION SESSION

# Today, 9:30 a.m., South Fellowship Hall

A representative from Camp Chrysalis will visit with our parents of elementary through high school kiddos. Please join us to hear more about Camp Chrysalis and all they have to offer for our children and youth this summer.

# FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

# Today, 11:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

We will make bread, paint chalices and plates, learn about the Sacrament, and have a light lunch.

First Communion Sunday will be **Sunday**, **January 26** at the 10:30 a.m. service, with a brief liturgy during the service and a reception following the service in the CrossWay in honor of the first communicants.

# MISSION AND OUTREACH

# Monday, January 13, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

We will have our first meeting of the new year and all are welcome to join us. Please feel free to contact Deacon Lisa Diana or Paul Pfeifer, co-chairs of the Mission and Outreach Team. Thank you so much for your service to our neighbors in need. Deacon Lisa Diana <a href="mailto:lisa@clcah.org">lisa@clcah.org</a>.

# MEN'S BREAKFAST

Tuesday, January 14, 7:00 a.m., Bill Miller BBQ, 410 and Nacogdoches

Calling all CLC Men! We will meet for a meal and fellowship. Bryan Woods will lead us in a short Bible study. If you have questions or need directions, please call Joe Diana.

# GROWING OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29, Fellowship Hall

This past fall, the parents of our choristers started hosting simple dinners for fun and fellowship on Wednesday nights at 6:15 p.m. Our goal this spring is to continue growing the community of people who gather on Wednesday evenings, now welcoming the entire congregation to join! Each Wednesday, church members will help to prepare the meals. If you would like to help, you can sign up for a January dinner here: <a href="http://bit.ly/4fl4kDO">http://bit.ly/4fl4kDO</a>

Once we have a team signed up for each week, we will reach out to coordinate meal planning for simple meals. Meals are provided on a free will basis. You can bring cash or Venmo the church @christ-lutheran-3. Please join us and be part of the community we are creating on Wednesday nights! If you have any questions, please reach out to Natalie Stone.

# THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, January 16, Noon, Fellowship Hall

Lunch Bunch invites seniors to gather for lunch on the third Thursday of the month where we gather for food and fellowship.

# VISITOR & NEW MEMBER WINE & CHEESE

Thursday, January 16, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., CrossWay

The CLC Welcome Team invites all visitors and new members to a Wine and Cheese gathering for lively conversation in a casual and comfortable setting to get to know one another better. There will also be special activities for the children with Ms. Carrie. Please join us and get to know more about CLC in an evening of fellowship, fun, and food.

# LUCY CIRCLE

Sunday, January 19, 9:30 a.m., Parlor

In January, February, and March, the Lucies will be reading and discussing Anne Lamott's sweet booklet: Help Thanks Wow – The Three Essential Prayers. At our first meeting for 2025, we'll discuss "Help", the first section of her book. You can find the book on Amazon or in a bookstore. If you're lucky, the SA Public Library may have copies available. All are welcome to join our friendly group. - Jan Norris

# LITURGICAL PLANNING TEAM

# Tuesday, January 21, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Do you ever wonder what goes into planning a worship service? Do you wish you could help select the hymns? Do you ever find yourself imagining a creative way to engage the congregation in faith exploration? The Liturgical Planning Team might be for you! This team meets two to four times throughout the year to plan the major church seasons, including Advent/Christmas and Lent/Holy Week. Together we develop the concept, themes, and ideas for implementation that bring the theology of these seasons to life. If you're interested in serving on this team, we will be meeting to plan for Lent and Holy Week. A light dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Leslie or the office to let us know you will be there!

# FAITH STEPPING STONE SPARK BIBLE

# Sunday, February 2, During the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Our 3rd graders will be gifted the Spark Bible to acknowledge their new reading skills and maturity development in this Stepping Stone from the picture Bible. During the 10:30 a.m. worship service, the children and their parents will be invited forward for a special blessing and to receive their Bible.

Third graders and at least one parent are encouraged to attend a Bible Navigation class during the Sunday School hour (9:30 a.m.) on Sunday, February 2. Our class will focus on helping children learn how their Bible is organized, how to look up passages, and how the children on their own, and together with their families, can use the Bible for faith formation.

To make sure we have enough Bibles, RSVP to Ms. Carrie.

# SOLES4SOULS SHOE DRIVE CONTEST

## Sunday February 2 - Sunday February 23

Each year our Sunday School classes compete to see which class can donate the most gently-used and new shoes. Each classroom will have a box labeled Soles4Souls Shoe Donation.

A little background on Soles4Souls: Your old shoes provide new opportunities in your hometown. Did you know there are 46.5 million people living in poverty right here in the United States? Did you know that 16.1 million of these are children? CAM helps people living in poverty gain new dignity, courage and hope. When you donate your used shoes, you are truly helping people get back on their feet. Please donate your new and gently-used shoes during our Soles4Souls Drive.

# HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT: SAVE THE DATE

# February 14 - 16, Camp Chrysalis

The high school students are heading to the 2025 High School Youth Gathering - "True North" at Camp Chrysalis. We will depart Christ Lutheran on Friday, February 14 at 6 p.m., grab a bite at Whataburger and head to Camp Chrysalis. We will return after lunch and worship on Sunday, February 16. The cost is \$125 per camper for the weekend. Scholarships are available. Please ask Ms. Carrie for more information.